

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DPNR TO PROVIDE FREE ICE FOR COMMERCIAL PORT SAMPLING PROGRAM

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources announces that the Division of Fish and Wildlife is now able to provide ice to commercial fishers in both the St. Thomas-St. John and St. Croix districts when conducting port samples.

Commissioner Oriol thanks the commercial fishing community for their patience in awaiting this much anticipated need that is essential for a productive port sampling program.

The Division reminds all commercial fishers, as a stipulation of their commercial fishing license, that they must complete one (1) port sample per quarter, for a total of four (4) port samples for the fishing year. If you have not completed any of your port samples, please contact the Division or the Port Sampler in your district to do so. A 24-hour notice is required when making an appointment for a port sample.

For more information or questions, please contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife at <u>DFWelectronic@usvi.onmicrosoft.com</u> or 340-773-1082 (STX Office) or 340-775-6762 (STT Office).