



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Office of the Commissioner

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Thursday, May 30, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

QUEEN CONCH CLOSED TO FISHING
JUNE 1, 2024, UNTIL OCTOBER 31, 2024
AS PER V.I. CODE TITLE 12, CHAPTER 9A, SECTIONS 304 and 316

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources announces that the annual queen conch seasonal closure commences on Saturday, June 1, 2024, for both the St. Croix and St. Thomas/St. John Districts, as established by regulation effective July 1, 2008.

HARVESTING OF QUEEN CONCH IS PROHIBITED FROM JUNE 1, 2024, THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2024.
POSSESSION OF QUEEN CONCH IS PROHIBITED FROM JUNE 15, 2024, THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2024.

Seasonal harvest closures conserve fished populations and help sustain and improve the fisheries of the Virgin Islands. The conch season will reopen on November 1, 2024, and will remain open until midnight, May 31, 2025, or until the 50,000 lb. quota per district is reached, whichever comes first.

COMMISSIONER ORIOL ALSO REMINDS THE PUBLIC THAT HARVESTING AND/OR POSSESSION OF MUTTON AND LANE SNAPPER ARE PROHIBITED TERRITORY-WIDE FROM APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024.

“We ask for everyone’s cooperation to protect Virgin Islands resources for the present and future benefit of the people of the Virgin Islands,” said Commissioner Oriol.

For more information about queen conch or other fishing regulations, please contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife at 773-1082 on St. Croix and 775-6762 on St. Thomas or the Division of Environmental Enforcement at 773-5774 on St. Croix and 774-3320 on St. Thomas.