

DAP – STT/STJ

CHAIRMAN MPA'S REPORT

TERRITORIAL | FEDERAL WATERS

VI Coral Reef National Monument

- Anchoring Prohibited
- All Fishing Prohibited
- Just Bait Fish & Blue Runner (Hardnose) fishing permitted at Hurricane Hole and Cabritte Horn Point with license from National Park

Concerns/Issues

- Studies have proven corals are more healthy outside Monument than inside.
- Lionfish / Seagrass / Groupers
- Enforcement
- Studies / Reports

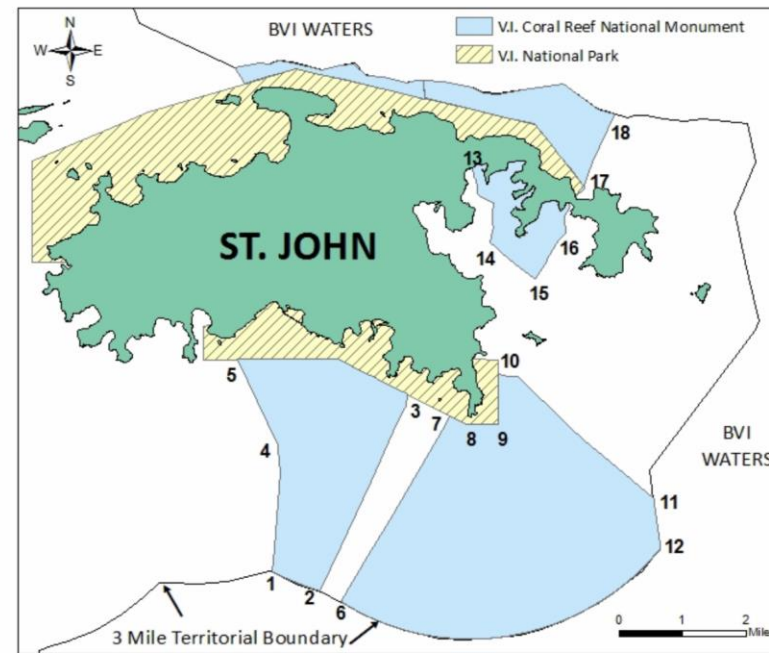
VI National Park

- Commercial Fishing Prohibited
- Some Recreational Fishing Permitted

Concerns / Issues

- Lionfish | Seagrass
- Studies | Reports
- Boating Activity
- National Park Service (they do a lot of patrolling) in-shore

Reef National Monument are different from those of the VI National Park waters (see #7 below).



Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	18°15.799'N	64°44.878'W
2	18°15.532'N	64°44.235'W
3	18°18.178'N	64°43.036'W
4	18°17.504'N	64°44.819'W
5	18°18.692'N	64°45.354'W
6	18°15.413'N	64°43.947'W
7	18°17.899'N	64°42.451'W
8	18°17.781'N	64°42.243'W
9	18°17.791'N	64°41.808'W
10	18°18.474'N	64°41.540'W
11	18°16.790'N	64°39.678'W
12	18°16.097'N	64°39.579'W
13	18°20.772'N	64°41.877'W
14	18°20.287'N	64°41.916'W
15	18°19.762'N	64°41.292'W
16	18°20.386'N	64°40.876'W
17	18°21.070'N	64°40.629'W
18	18°21.961'N	64°40.242'W

Figure 1. Virgin Islands National Park and the V.I. Coral Reef National Monument, St. John

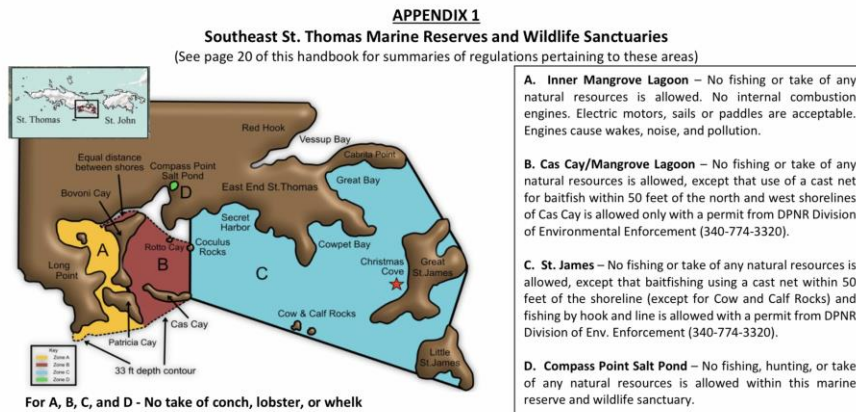
South East St. Thomas Marine and Wildlife Sanctuaries

also known as St. Thomas East END Reserve (STEER)

- No Commercial Fishing
- Bait Fishing by cast net only with permit from DPNR

Concerns | Issues

- Boat Activity***
- No Pump Out Station***
- No Enforcement
- Lots of Illegal Activity
- Lionfish | Seagrass
- Anchoring | Partying etc.



Grammanik Bank Seasonal Closure

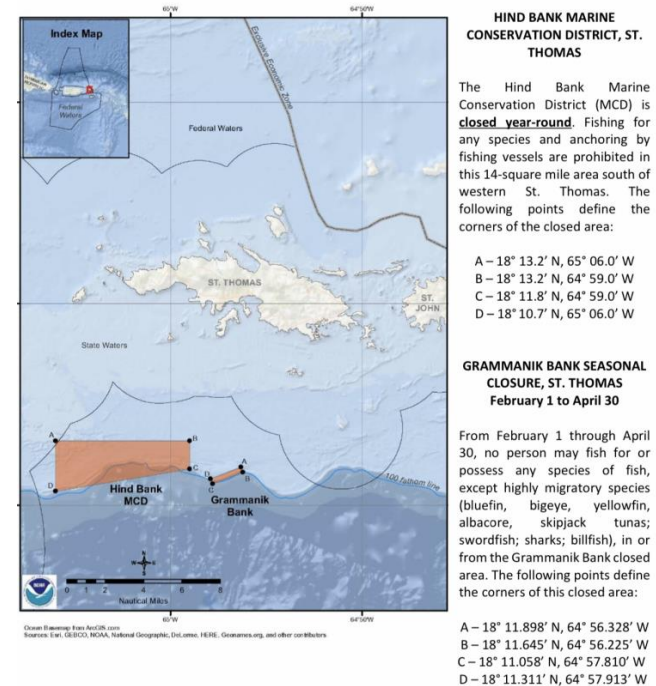
St. Thomas February 1 to April 30

- Protection of spawning of several species of groupers/ snappers/ queen trigger fish etc.
- No fishing permitted from February 1st to April 30th annual
- No Bottom Gear Allowed Year Round

Concerns / Issues / Comments

- Lionfish
- Large Groupers
- Studies | Reports
- Closed for 18 yrs
- Protection of many species

APPENDIX 6 – HIND BANK MCD AND GRAMMANIK BANK CLOSURES, ST. THOMAS



Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gillnets, or trammel nets is prohibited year-round in both Hind Bank Marine Conservation District and Grammanik Bank Seasonal Closure.

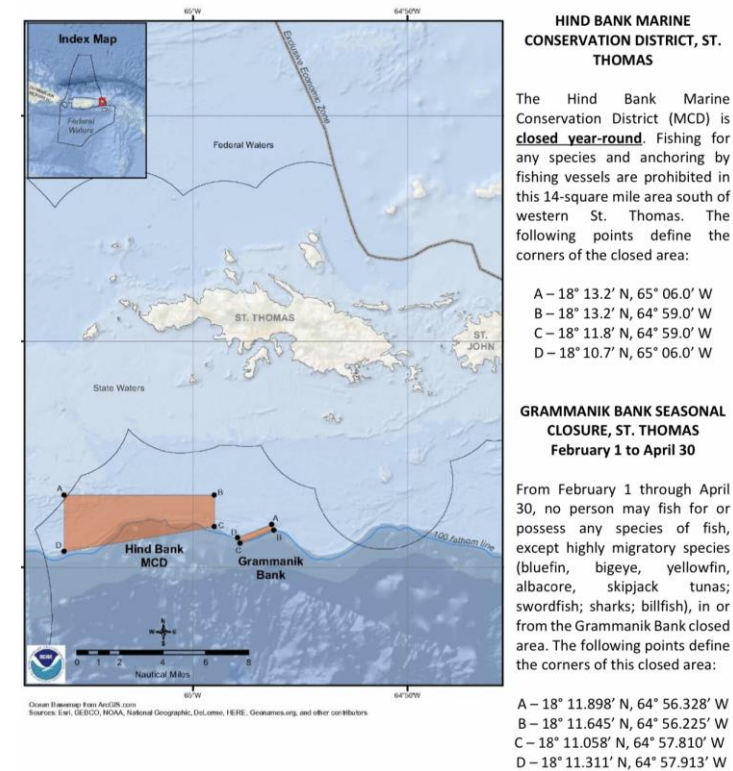
Hind Bank MED

- Closed year round 14 Square Miles
- All fishing and anchoring prohibited within 14 square mile closure

Issues | Concerns

- Lionfish | Groupers
- Studies | Reports
- Enforcement only during spawning season
- Protection of all species

APPENDIX 6 – HIND BANK MCD AND GRAMMANIK BANK CLOSURES, ST. THOMAS



*Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gillnets, or trammel nets is prohibited **year-round** in both Hind Bank Marine Conservation District and Grammanik Bank Seasonal Closure.*

Conclusion

- Are closures actually working??? Yes | No
- Are we creating more damage than protection Yes | No
- Too many studies in some cases being done and reports always saying that more studies are needed. More presentations are needed at the CFMC meetings on studies that are taking place.
- Do we need more MPA's? Yes | No (Honestly speaking No)
- What needs to happen in the issues that are taking place within the MPA's needs to be addressed sooner rather than later.

This presentation was solely on the fisheries MPA's St. Thomas and St. John. The wildlife MPA's will be reported by the Division of Fish and Wildlife.