



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

María del Mar López or María.Lopez@noaa.gov
727-824-5305, FAX 727-824-5308

February 23, 2016
FB16-010

Annual Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation Seasonal Area Closure in Federal Waters off St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands Begins on March 1, 2016, at 12:01 a.m., Local Time

Annual Seasonal Area Closure

NOAA Fisheries reminds the public that commercial and recreational fishing is prohibited in federal waters of the mutton snapper spawning aggregation area in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands (see Figure 1) from 12:01 a.m., local time, March 1 through June 30, 2016.

U.S. Caribbean federal waters off the U.S. Virgin Islands extend from the three nautical mile seaward boundary of the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands out to 200 nautical miles offshore.

The area closure is bounded by rhumb lines connecting, in order, the following coordinates:

- A 17°37.8' N 64°53.0' W
- B 17°39.0' N 64°53.0' W
- C 17°39.0' N 64°50.5' W
- D 17°38.1' N 64°50.5' W
- E 17°37.8' N 64°52.5' W
- A 17°37.8' N 64°53.0' W

Year-Round Fishing Prohibitions in the Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation Area, U.S. Virgin Islands

Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gillnets or trammel nets is prohibited within federal waters of the mutton snapper spawning aggregation area year-round.

This bulletin provides only a summary of the information regarding the existing regulations. Any discrepancies between this bulletin and the regulations as published in the *Federal Register* will be resolved in favor of the *Federal Register*.

To receive fishery bulletins via e-mail, please sign up through Constant Contact at <http://bit.ly/HQDUEU>. You may also sign up for Constant Contact by visiting our Web site <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov> (sign-up option is located on the left side of the page). The electronic copy of the bulletin will be delivered to you faster than the paper copy, is in color, features informational links, and reduces paper use.

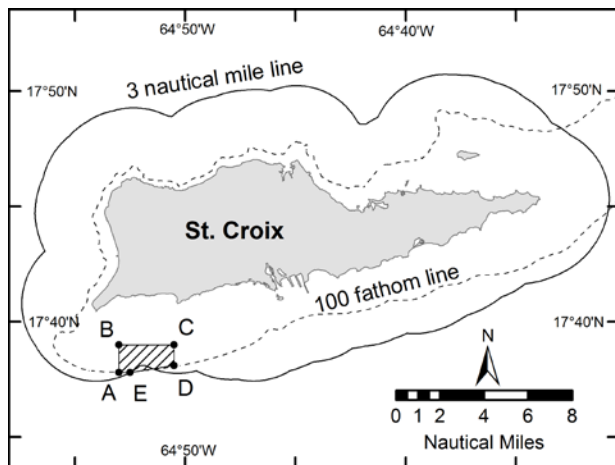


Figure 1. Map showing the mutton snapper spawning aggregation area off St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.