



GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Cyril E.
St.

Office of the Commissioner

Telephone:

Fax:

August 11, 2017

Erika Kellerhals, Esq.
Kellerhals Ferguson Kroplin PLLC

**SUBJECT: Removal of Sargassum Seaweed
Great St. James, Virgin Islands**

Dear Attorney Kellerhals:

This is in response to your request for authorization to remove Sargasso seaweed that has blanketed the shorelines of Great St. James, Virgin Islands.

The proposed scope of work has been reviewed and it has been determined that the request is consistent with the Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Management Act. The Division of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) discourages the use of vehicles utilizing tracks on the shorelines of the Virgin Islands; therefore, CZM requires that only rubber-tired equipment be used to remove the seaweed.

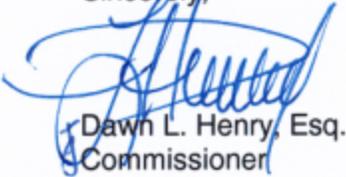
Based on this determination, you are authorized to remove the seaweed with the following conditions:

- 1) Work is limited to the removal of the seaweed from the shorelines of Great St. James Virgin Islands. No in-water removal is permitted;
- 2) CZM must be notified at least 72 hours prior to commencement of work;
- 3) Prior to commencement of work you are required to have staff from the Division of Fish and Wildlife conduct a walk-thru of the affected areas in order to examine the seaweed and ensure that no endangered species will be harmed;
- 4) Only rubber-tired (no tracks) backhoes, bob carts, etc. may be used to remove the seaweed. Use of any other type of heavy equipment must first be approved by CZM;
- 5) Authorization granted by this letter is valid for a period of no more than ninety (90) days from the date of this letter; and

6) No other work is allowed.

Please be advised that any work performed outside the scope of the authorized activities will constitute a violation of the CZM Act. If we can be of further assistance to you during your project, please contact Mr. Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, Director of CZM, at ([REDACTED]) or by email at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Dawn L. Henry, Esq.
Commissioner