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National Park Units on St. Croix Closed Due to Tropical Storm Ernesto

Safety measures implemented to protect visitors and staff amid approaching storm

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Fort Christianvaern.

CHRISTIANSTED, ST. CROIX — In anticipation of Tropical Storm Ernesto, officials from the Christiansted National Historic Site have announced the closure of all National Park Units on St. Croix. This includes Buck Island Reef National Monument, Christiansted National Historic Site, and Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve.

The closures will be effective immediately and will remain in place until further notice.

Visitors currently in these parks are being instructed to leave and find a safe location to ride out the storm. Tourists are advised to contact their lodging or airline professionals for guidance on the best course of action.

Superintendent Angelita Alvino emphasized the importance of taking proactive measures to ensure safety. "With Tropical Storm Ernesto in the Caribbean, and it possibly taking aim at the island of St. Croix, we must begin safeguarding human life and park assets now. The safety of our guests, staff, and neighbors is my top priority, and closing the parks is the first step to ensuring that as we implement our storm plans," Alvino stated.

Concession operations within the parks will also cease until further notice. The National Parks of St. Croix will remain closed until the storm passes and staff have an opportunity to assess impacts, mitigate hazards resulting from the storm, and safely support the return of staff and guests.

The public is urged to stay informed about weather updates and follow any additional instructions from local authorities to ensure their safety during this time.

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