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DPNR Offering Five Grants Worth Up to \$10,000 Each to Active Members of Recreational Boating Industry

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Fast speedboat racing along the open sea By. GETTY IMAGES

The V.I. Department of Planning and Natural has announced that the Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) is currently offering five grants of up to \$10,000 each to be awarded to active members of the recreational boating industry.

According to Allied Market Research, recreational boating is a leisurely activity of traveling on water in a boat. Recreational boating includes many activities such as boat racing, sailing, campaigning, fishing, and other water sports game such as powerboat racing, sports fishing, kayaking, and others.

“This project is the first of its kind, offering small grant awards to Virgin Islanders engaged in recreational activities near our waterways. The program has the potential to transform public access to our pristine marine resources,” said Dr. Nicole Angeli, Director of DFW in a release from DPNR Monday.

According to DPNR, the types of projects available through the USFWS funded Boating Access Grants program includes, but is not limited: to reimbursement for materials and supplies related to the construction or repairs of public docks, ramps, piers, bulkheads, parking lots, or moorings; instillation of fish cleaning tables; maintenance, nuisance or hazard mitigation; installation of first aid stations, telephones, Wi-Fi, restrooms, or vessel pump-out stations at recreational boating access sites, or for recreational boaters.

A full list of eligible projects can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/policy/e1517fw7.html>.

Proposals should include the following and be submitted via email to DFWelectronic@usvi.onmicrosoft.com:

1. applicant’s contact information
2. project description
3. budget with existing matching funds
4. map of the project’s location
5. completion timeline.

All proposals must be received by June 1, 2022, DPNR said. Proposals not funded in this funding cycle are eligible to re-apply in subsequent funding cycles.