

The Virgin Islands Consortium

The Boat Parade and Fireworks Event Back on St. Croix This Evening

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A collage of the 2015 boat parade and fireworks event on St. Croix. By. ERNICE GILBERT/ V.I. CONSORTIUM

The popular boat parade and fireworks event is back on St. Croix this evening after a yearslong Covid-19 induced hiatus, and organizers have said the event will move forward after marine conditions had called into question safety concerns.

According to Willard John, a member of the organizing team, the boat parade is a go for tonight as the latest forecast predicted improving marine conditions today and Sunday.

It will start and 6:30 p.m., with vendors lining the stretch alongside the Caravelle Hotel in Christiansted.

According to the National Weather Service's Puerto Rico office, "very hazardous marine and coastal conditions will continue into late [Friday]", and a "slight improvement is expected for this weekend, especially Sunday, but conditions will remain hazardous for beachgoers and small craft."

Marine conditions affect the boat parade because the sea has to be suitable for the activity. Additionally, waves were seen crashing onto the Christiansted Boardwalk on Friday, where most people gather to enjoy the parade and fireworks.

NWS said another strong northerly swell is expected on Monday or Tuesday, and marine conditions could become very hazardous again, with the potential for additional coastal flooding.