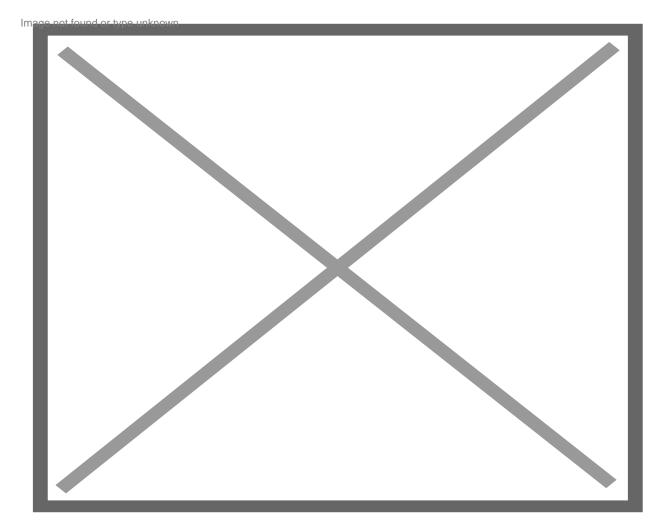
Fire Service Contains Massive Blaze on Frederiksted Agricultural Land; Hotspots Being Monitored

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V.I. Fire Service responds to a substantial fire on agricultural land between Mahogany Road and Estate Prosperity. By. V.I. CONSORTIUM

ST. CROIX — The V.I. Fire and Emergency Medical Services FEMS responded to a substantial fire that erupted on agricultural land in Frederiksted around 3:01 p.m. on Sunday, according to the V.I. Police Department.

The fire, which burned on land between Mahogany Road and Estate Prosperity, has now been brought under control, but emergency response teams remain on site to extinguish any remaining hotspots fully.

Due to dry weather conditions and strong winds, the blaze that broke out earlier in the afternoon posed a significant threat to the area, including nearby homes, according to video footage of the blaze viewed by the Consortium. The quick and coordinated response by FEMS and the VIPD teams successfully established containment lines, preventing further spread of the fire.

Fire Chief Klebert Titus emphasized the ongoing efforts, stating, "While the fire is now contained, our work is not yet complete. Our response crews are diligently assessing the area, identifying and extinguishing any remaining hotspots to ensure the safety and well-being of our community."

FEMS urges residents to stay alert and report any signs of smoke or fire to the authorities via 911 dispatchers promptly. The department expressed gratitude for the community's support and cooperation throughout the challenging incident and called for continued vigilance.

Further updates on the situation will be provided as necessary. In light of the persistent dry weather conditions, FEMS also reminded residents and visitors that the territorial burn ban, <u>issued</u> on April 11, remains in effect.

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