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Virgen Island National Park News Release

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National Park Service to Release Findings of Caneel Bay Environmental Investigation, Seek Public Input

Public Commenting Runs June 10-July 9, 2021

ST. JOHN, U.S. Virgin Islands – The National Park Service (NPS) will release the Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) draft report on environmental conditions at Caneel Bay Resort on June 10, 2021 and begin a 30-day comment period to receive public input on the report and findings to date.

The EE/CA — <u>initiated at Virgin Islands National Park in February</u> — includes the collection, survey and inspection of soil and groundwater samples, buried waste and building materials present in the designated study area, and a analysis conducted by an independent, accredited laboratory. The resulting draft report covers the methodology, results and findings, alternatives to address any risks identified as unacceptable to human health or the environment, and recommended cleanup actions.

A public Notice of Availability of the EE/CA report will be published in the Virgin Islands Daily News and on the project website at https://parkplanning.nps.gov/CaneelBayAssessment.

The public is encouraged to review the draft report and offer feedback_during the public comment period, which will run from June 10 – July 9, 2021. During this time, the NPS will hold two virtual public meetings on the EE/CA report, including:

- A *Community_Learning Session* on June 10 at 5:30 pm for NPS officials to provide attendees an overview of the draft report and findings, and
- A *NPS Listening Session* on June 24 at 5:30 pm where the public will have an opportunity to provide oral comments on the draft report.

The public may join our virtual Microsoft Teams meeting by <u>clicking here</u> on their computer or mobile app. Or by calling (audio only) +1 202-640-1187, phone conference ID is 872 808 560#

Comments may also be submitted electronically through the <u>project website</u>. The 30-day public comment period will be extended for an additional 15 days upon timely request.

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Once the comment period ends, the NPS will provide responses to significant public comments and inform the public and stakeholders of its decision in an Action Memorandum, which will be made available to the public in the Site administrative record file.
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