



# Have you seen me lately? (lionfish)

The Indo-Pacific **lionfish** (*Pterois volitans*) was introduced to Atlantic waters in the early 1990's and has been sighted from along the Atlantic seaboard down to the Caribbean. The problem is – they don't belong here!

It is only a matter of time before they make their way into the BVI as they have already been reported in St. Croix and Puerto Rico. These invasive fish eat just about everything that gets in their way, a disaster for our local fisheries. Please help us take control of their population growth by notifying the Conservation & Fisheries Department (494-3429) if you see one.

**These fish are venomous** and can cause a very painful sting and other potential health concerns. **If you are stung – place the affected area in the hottest water you can handle**, and call VISAR (dialing either 767, 999, 911 or 494-4357; a distress call on VHF Channel 16).

# Alert! lionfish



I'm pretty **but poisonous**

