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23 August 2009

The Hon. Freundel J. Stuart
Minister of Home Affairs
General Post Office Building
Cheapside, St. Michael
Barbados

Subject: Request to Enforce Law
Graeme Hall Nature Sanctuary, Inc.

Dear Hon. Minister Stuart,

I am a Canadian citizen who owns Graeme Hall Nature Sanctuary, Inc. within the Graeme Hall Wetland in Barbados.

On Saturday, August 15, 2009, a group of about 15 illegal fishermen were found in the Sanctuary fishing for some of the rarest tarpon known in the Caribbean. Five were caught by Police and our security personnel and questioned.

Another incident like this happened in late March of this year. In both instances Police were called, but there was no immediate response, and insistent follow-up requests by Sanctuary staff had to be made before they came. No arrests have been made, and no charges have been filed in either case.

The Sanctuary's value and the integrity of my investment depend on enforced protections of wildlife inventory, and enforcement of Barbados' pollution and other environmental laws within the Graeme Hall wetland and contiguous lands.

In addition, these breaches are not just an issue of criminal property trespass, nor poaching of inventory from the Sanctuary. It is also an issue of protecting the last remaining biological reserves of your nation. This wildlife is part of Barbados' natural heritage within the OS2 Natural Heritage Conservation Area, and is part of the international Convention on Wetlands Multilateral Environmental Agreement (RAMSAR) to which Barbados is a party.

Therefore, to protect my investment I formally request that immediate criminal trespass, theft, and related environmental poaching charges be brought against all future violators and the ringleaders of the last trespass be immediately notified of this proposed action.

Your assistance is very much appreciated.

Yours truly,

Peter A. Allard
Chairman
Graeme Hall Nature Sanctuary, Inc.

cc: Dr. The Hon. Denis S. Lowe, Minister, Ministry of Environment, Water Resources and Drainage (Barbados)
The Hon. Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs (Canada)
Mr. David Marshall, Canadian High Commissioner
Mr. Darwin Dottin, Commissioner, Royal Barbados Police Force