



AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY

CONSERVING WILD BIRDS AND THEIR HABITATS THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS

5 January 2007

Isadore Sharp,
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Kathleen Taylor
President and Chief Operating Officer

Jim FitzGibbon
President, Worldwide Hotel Operations

Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts Limited
1165 Leslie Street
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M3C 2K8

Dear Mr. Sharp,

It has come to our attention that Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts intends to work with the Grenadian government to dismantle one of the Caribbean's most important National Parks and convert much of it into a sprawling and poorly conceived Four Seasons Resort.

Established in 1994, the Mt. Hartman National Park comprises 154 ha of the 429 ha, government-owned Mt. Hartman Estate. The fact the Grenadian government now intends to remove the park's status as a protected area and sell off the entire Mt. Hartman Estate to the developer Michael Pemberton to make way for the Four Seasons' resort is shocking and demonstrates the government's disregard for Grenada's natural heritage.

As you are aware, Mt. Hartman National Park contains the most important population of the Critically Endangered Grenada Dove, and the park was specifically created to safeguard the dove and its habitat. There is no other remaining area of undeveloped dry forest habitat of comparable size anywhere on Grenada and the present total population of the dove is no more than 100 birds.

Mt. Hartman is recognized by the Alliance for Zero Extinction, an alliance of the world's conservation NGOs including American Bird Conservancy, BirdLife International, The Nature Conservancy, and World Wildlife Fund, as one of the most important sites in the world for the prevention of imminent species extinctions. The site is further recognized as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International, and the Grenada Dove is Grenada's national bird. The footprint of the proposed 150 room hotel, 300 luxury villas, golf course, marina and conference center will encroach upon and destroy, degrade, and further fragment the core remaining Grenada Dove habitat, particularly within the existing National Park. Because the Mt. Hartman population of the Grenada Dove is the largest and only viable population, the planned development will no doubt cause the extinction of the species. The claims to the contrary by Mr. Pemberton and his Grenadian environmental consultant, Valma Jessamy, are both false and misleading.

P.O. BOX 249 • THE PLAINS, VA • 20198
PHONE: 540-253-5780 • FAX: 540-253-5782 • E-MAIL: ABC@ABCIBIRDS.ORG
WWW.ABCIBIRDS.ORG

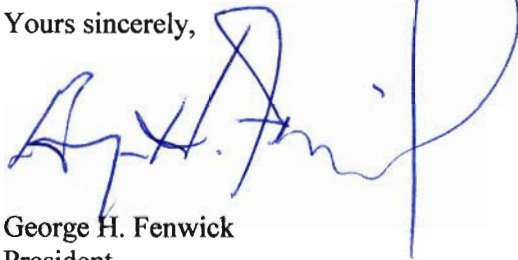


American Bird Conservancy believes that Four Seasons has two clear alternatives: 1. To withdraw from the planned development entirely; or 2. To drastically reduce the footprint of the proposed development in a way that will preserve all areas currently used by Grenada Doves and provide adequate buffer zones and corridors for movement of the birds, which are strictly confined to forest. Ideally, the boundaries of the Mt. Hartman National Park would be re-defined to include key additional areas of Grenada Dove habitat that are now part of the Mt. Hartman Estate, but not the National Park. Leaving the golf course out of the resort proposal would free up land that could be restored as Grenada Dove habitat, thereby enhancing the species' long-term survival prospects. Four Seasons could agree to pay for the ongoing costs of protection, management, and monitoring of the National Park. This could be formalized as a co-management agreement between the Grenada Forestry and National Parks Department, Four Seasons, and conservation NGOs. Such an agreement, once assessed for its biological, technical, legal, institutional, and budgetary merits, could serve as environmental mitigation for the development.

In the event that Four Seasons and the Government of Grenada decide to go ahead with their current development plans, Four Seasons will have the dubious distinction of directly causing the extinction of Grenada's national bird, the splendid Grenada Dove, and destroying a natural jewel of the Caribbean, the Mt. Hartman National Park. We believe this would be a deplorable outcome. It would be an environmental calamity and would damage the reputations of Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts and the country of Grenada. It is also an avoidable outcome.

We are committed to taking every step necessary to prevent this global-scale environmental disaster.

Yours sincerely,



George H. Fenwick
President

American Bird Conservancy (ABC, www.abcbirds.org) is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, whose mission is to conserve native wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. We are the only U.S.-based, group dedicated solely to overcoming the greatest threats facing birds in the Western Hemisphere. ABC believes adequate resources exist to overcome these threats, and that unifying people, organizations, agencies and corporations around common approaches to priority issues is the key to success.