



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGĀTÑA, GUAM 96910
U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2008- 02

RELATIVE TO DECLARING A CONTINUING STATE OF EMERGENCY TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CONTROL THE RECENTLY INTRODUCED COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE, WHICH POSES SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC THREATS TO THE PEOPLE OF GUAM

WHEREAS, the Organic Act of Guam provides that *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, is tasked with the responsibility of overseeing the health and safety of the people of Guam; and

WHEREAS, introduced species comprise a grave threat to the environment, public health and the economy, and such introduced pests are best controlled when experts take management measures quickly after their introduction is discovered; and

WHEREAS, the coconut rhinoceros beetle, *Oryctes rhinoceros*, was first noticed near the old Fujita Hotel site in Tumon Bay, Guam, in September 2007. This insect is a serious pest of coconut and other palms, including the betel nut palm that is of major cultural and economic significance on Guam; and

WHEREAS, agriculture inspectors have found the coconut rhinoceros beetle only in area of about 500 hectares, limited to the Tumon Bay and Faifai Beach areas. A quarantine for these areas was established by the Department of Agriculture on October 5, 2007, in an effort to prevent the movement of palms and other plants that may host the beetle, as well as compost material and other products that may contain this pest; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the University of Guam, other local agencies, regional organizations and other partners has developed a response plan to control the further spread of the coconut rhinoceros beetle on Guam and to attempt the eradication of this pest from the Tumon Bay and Faifai Beach areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, I Maga'lahaen Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do order:

Declaration of State of Emergency. A state of emergency is hereby declared and continues to exist to assist the Department of Agriculture and cooperating agencies to control the spread of the coconut rhinoceros beetle, *Oryctes rhinoceros*, to attempt the eradication of this pest from the areas of the island where it has been found, and to prevent threats to the environment and the economy of Guam.

1. Emergency procurement and Emergency Expenses. Pursuant to 5 G.C.A. §5215, authorizing emergency procurement upon executive order, the Department of Agriculture may use emergency procurement guidelines for projects to manage the coconut rhinoceros beetle. Such expenses may include, but are not limited to, the purchase of traps, enforcement of quarantine provisions, and other activities designed to halt the spread of the beetle or effect its eradication.



2. **Documentation of expenses.** The Department of Agriculture is hereby instructed to keep appropriate documentation on all emergency procurement for inspection by the Executive and Legislative Branches and by the Public Auditor of Guam.

3. **Purpose of emergency procurement.** Emergency procurement may be used for procurement of any services relative to the control and eradication of the coconut rhinoceros beetle on Guam

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 23 day of January, 2008.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "F. Camacho".

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga' Låhen Guåhan
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael W. Cruz".

MICHAEL W. CRUZ, M.D.
I Segundu Maga' Låhen Guåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

