From: Mark Langley
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: 2008 Makah DEIS
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2008 4:59:54 PM

Dear Mr. Stone and the NOAA Fisheries Service:

Thank you for accepting public opinion on the Makah Indian Tribe's appeal to hunt Pacific gray whales in coastal waters off of Washington State. I am writing to ask that you deny their request to kill these whales.

No human being needs whale meat to survive, the Makah Nation has long existed without the hunting of whales, and "culture" never justifies the horribly cruel slaughter of animals. When the Makah whalers illegally shot and harpooned a gray whale in 2007, the animal took nine hours to expire. The Makah Nation predictably dismissed all charges.

There is no rationale for "ceremonial and subsistence" whaling in the contemporary world. Laws must change to reflect social norms and increased understanding of other animals. Please deny the Makah Nation's proposal to legally kill whales under their treaty.

Thank you,

Mark Langley