From: Paris Finley
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: Attn: 2008 Makah DEIS
Date: Sunday, May 11, 2008 5:18:11 AM

For Steve Stone, NOAA Fisheries Northwest Region
Dear Mr. Stone:

I am opposed to permitting whale hunting for any purpose including "cultural preservation."

The species of this entire planet are under assault by human activity, with unprecedented impact. No one can safely predict, in the current tumultuous period of global changes, what constitutes "healthy" populations. The polar bears were considered "healthy".

Furthermore, there is growing evidence that whales are among the earth's most intelligent and sensitive species.

I lived among the Yup'ik people for six years. They found effective ways to continue their traditions, preserving what was important to their identity, without returning to practices that endangered populations or awoke global political strife. It can be done.

The United States has led the way in helping whales. Approval will only undermine the pressure against Japanese and Norwegian whaling.

Sincerely,

Paris Finley & Linda Jones
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