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To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: 2008 Makah DEIS
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Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have great respect for the whaling traditions of the Makah tribe in Neah Bay, but I feel at this time it is more important to protect the lives and well-being of the gray whales.

First, I think whaling should not be allowed at all. We can't regulate the actions of, for instance, Japan, but we can show the world the U.S. is serious about banning whale hunting. The Makah's hunting methods seem to be rather cruel and cause extended suffering to the animals. I know there are Makah tribal members who have called for an end to whale hunting.

Second, however, I think the U.S. needs to make more of an effort to provide the Makah with alternate means of making a living. If the Makah could live a decent life and support their children, maybe they could limit their traditions to the arts, and leave the actual killing of whales in the past.

I know you can't do anything about the second problem, but please consider an end to whaling in the U.S. that might provide hope to the Makah.

Nancy Boggs