From: Howard Hockenbury
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: 2008 Makah DEIS
Date: Saturday, May 10, 2008 10:24:03 AM

To whom it may concern;

I wish to hereby weigh-in on the proposal to allow the Makah Indian Nation to hunt Pacific gray whales off the Washington coast, in the affirmative. This is a proposal that has been too long in coming, and it is time that this Indian Nation be allowed to pursue it's 1855 treaty rights to whaling. It is my opinion that the tribe could take at least 5 whales per year without harm to the whale population, other wildlife species and the general environment.

As reported by Brian Gorman, a fisheries service spokesman in Seattle, the total population of gray whales, "...seems to be stable... it is considered a healthy population."

Considering the positive economic, ceremonial, subsistence and cultural impacts to the tribe, I recommend that approval for resumed hunting of the gray whale by the Makah Indian Nation be approved as soon as possible in respect of the 1855 Treaty with the Makahs.

Yours Very Truly,
Howard A. Hockenbury
Seattle, WA

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