From: nivilica@comcast.net
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: 2008 Makah DEIS
Date: Thursday, June 05, 2008 9:28:33 AM

Dear Ms. Darm:

After much thought, it is my opinion that the gray whales should be left in peace. I am against the Makah renewing their "traditions" and "rituals" to feel "pride and self esteem and as a distraction from drugs and alcohol consumption". If all of our subcultures within our culture were permitted to return to their rituals and traditions there would have to be legal cock fighting, bullfighting, dog fighting, even animal sacrifice, and slavery. During the 70 year moratorium on hunting gray whales, scientists and animal behavorists have taught us so much about the incredible social aspects of whale pod and family ties and the intelligence of this magnificent creature, referred to as our human counterparts in the sea. American citizens have come to appreciate our kinship with whales through whale watching and many documentaries over recent years. Our history of killing whales is shameful to most. We now have substitutes for every product the whale used to provide.
I believe to allow the immense suffering of these great animals to appease a misguided belief that it will restore a sense of "pride", is just wrong. It is wrong and everyone knows it is wrong.
Thank you.
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