From: D Handa
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: 2008 Makah DEIS
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In January 1995 I visited Guerrero Negro bay in Baja California specifically to see grey whales up close. While they are large animals I don't see any difference between whales any other large mammal like cattle, elk or moose. The bottom line is the Makah have a treaty right to harvest these whales. They are whalers. Through the treaty with the U.S. government their ancestors wanted to ensure their descendents would be able to continue their way of life. The Makah voluntarily stopped hunting the whales long ago due to over harvest by other peoples. Now that the whales have recovered in number the Makah deserve and have a legal right to resume whaling through a limited harvest of a few whales a year. The United States must honor the treaty rights of the Makah.

Sincerely,

D. Handa