From: Jeff Hnilo
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: 2008 Makah DEIS
Date: Monday, July 07, 2008 10:02:53 AM

To Whom it May Concern;

We vehemently oppose allowing the Makah to hunt whales. It is inhumane, immoral, cruel and illegal. Do the Tribes now get to pick and choose which laws they want to adhere to? It's bad enough that they are allowed to practice gill netting and selling dangerous fireworks. What's next?

Allowing this slaughter to proceed in the name of preserving cultural heritage is disingenuous at best. The survival of the tribe's culture is not dependent on killing whales. Many human ancestors committed what would now be considered atrocities as part of "heritage," including blood sacrifice, cannabilism, slavery, etc. Is this allowed to continue? Of course not - it's inhumane, immoral, cruel and illegal.

Further, if this really had to do with preserving a primitive part of their heritage, then one would think that the use of modern boats and weaponry would not be included in the proposal.

In light of the changes in the ocean's temperature and chemical composition due to global warming, we don't know what the effect on whale populations might be. Allowing hunting of them is irresponsible.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hnilo
Kim Lehmberg