From: Dickrusl@aol.com
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: 2008 Makah DEIS
Date: Sunday, August 03, 2008 8:42:24 AM

I am the author of "Eye of the Whale" and in the course of researching my book, paid several visits to the Makah reservation. I strongly believe that what happened this past year - the illegal hunt undertaken by tribal members - should preclude any further consideration by NOAA toward authorizing further gray whale hunting by the Makah. I uncovered evidence indicating that Japanese interests, intent upon undermining the American role at the IWC, had visited the reservation at one time and urged (if not "bribed") members to seek renewal of a hunt under their alleged "treaty right."
Given that hunting gray whales is NOT necessary for subsistence of the Makah tribe (a very different situation than that faced by the native peoples of Chukotka for example), again I would like to go on record opposing this practice. Thank you.
Dick Russell

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