From: catherineharper8@wavecable.com
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: Makah Whaling
Date: Thursday, August 14, 2008 11:50:19 AM

I am writing as a private citizen interested in preserving the population of whales in the Northwest. We have a small group of whales who are at home in these waters, and they should not be harassed in any way. Chasing them, hunting them, shooting at them should all be considered harassment.

The Makah are no longer a tribe making a subsistence living from whaling and gathering. They are a modern people, living in the modern world, and do not need to kill whales. While I appreciate their desire to keep some of their ancient customs alive, this is not an appropriate way to do that.

The whale that was illegally killed at Neah Bay was chased with modern boats, shot at with high-powered weapons, harpooned and left to suffer and die over a period of many hours. This was inexcusable, by any people, at any time.

Please do not give in to "political correctness" and make a decision that endangers our precious fellow earth dwellers so that a group of people can make a point -- we all get the point already, and more suffering in the world is only going to make the Makahs disliked.