From: beesbiz@comcast.net
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: 2008 Makah DEIS
Date: Monday, August 11, 2008 11:42:22 AM

Knowing that my voice is miniscule in the process of either granting or not a waiver for the Makah to kill resident whales in a marine mammal sanctuary, my intention is to speak for those who cannot. Also, I wish to express the killing of the 1st whale and the rogue whaling sent me to a place of grief beyond description. Surely it is not in my heart to deny anyone's rights as long as those rights don't infringe upon my rights to live happily in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. When the Makah Treaty was set forth, people needed to kill the whales for subsistance. Were the treaty writer's visionaries?Probably not. Did they know whales were actually sentient beings, capable of feelings? Probably not. Did they know that man would destroy the earth in his quest to have whatever he wanted? Probably not. Did they know man would come to a place where, eventually, he learned he needed to respect an d protect his environment or it would be gone forever? Probably not. But that time is here now. The Makah tribe's contention they need whales to subsist doesn't make sense - they have subsisted quite nicely without whale whale meat for decades. To kill a beautiful creature for a ceremony is not conducive to one's consideration of one's environment either. Who knows what the future will be? Will offshore drilling begin and furthur destroy the whales habitat? We can only circumspect what the future holds but we are NOW visionaries and it is time protect what little we haven't already destroyed. It is in your hands now, to make the decision that this country doesn't grant a waiver to take away protection to that which is protected in a marine sanctuary, no matter what!

"What is man without the beasts? If all the beasts were gone, man would die from great loneliness of spirit. For whatever happens to the beasts, soon happens to man. All things are connected."

Chief Seattle

Respectfully,

Rebecca McEnerney
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