



MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

3 May 2019

Mr. Barry A. Thom
Regional Administrator
West Coast Region
National Marine Fisheries Service
1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232

ATTN: Steve Stone

Dear Mr. Thom:

On 5 April 2019, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) published a proposed rule to waive the taking moratorium under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) "to authorize the Makah Indian Tribe to resume limited treaty-based hunting of eastern North Pacific gray whales for a 10-year period" (84 Fed. Reg. 13604). NMFS also published a notice of a hearing (84 Fed. Reg. 13639) to consider the proposed rule, inviting any interested person to notify NMFS of its intention to participate as a party to the rulemaking.

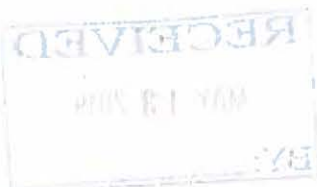
This letter serves as the Marine Mammal Commission's notice that it intends to be a party to the rulemaking. As a federal agency, the Commission constitutes a "person" under the MMPA's definition of that term (16 U.S.C. § 1362(10)).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Gosliner".

Michael L. Gosliner
General Counsel

cc: aljseattle@uscg.mil
Mr. Steve Stone, West Coast Regional Office, National Marine Fisheries Service



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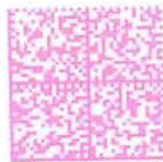


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MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

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Mr. Barry A. Thom, Regional Administrator
West Coast Regional Office
ATTN: Mr. Steve Stone
National Marine Fisheries Service
1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232

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