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May 1, 2019

By Certified Mail

Mr. Barry Thom
Regional Administrator
NMFS, West Coast Region
1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232

Re: Dkt. No. 19-NMFS-0001; Makah Indian Tribe's Notice of Participation in Hearing

Dear Mr. Thom,

Pursuant to 50 C.F.R. 228.5 and 84 Fed. Reg. 13639 (Apr. 5, 2019), the Makah Indian Tribe (Tribe) hereby provides notice of its desire to participate as a party in the hearing scheduled to begin on August 12, 2019 in the above-captioned matter.

In February 2005, the Tribe submitted a request to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) seeking a partial waiver of the take moratorium imposed by the Marine Mammal Protection Act so that it could conduct a ceremonial and subsistence hunt of gray whales from the Eastern North Pacific stock under the Tribe's "right of . . . whaling" in the 1855 Treaty of Neah Bay. The proposed waiver and regulations that NMFS published in the Federal Register on April 5, 2019 and which will be the subject of the hearing are in response to the Tribe's request. Accordingly, the Tribe has a strong interest in participating as a party in the hearing.

Sincerely yours,

ZIONTZ CHESTNUT



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Cc (by email): Hon. George J. Jordan (aljseattle@uscg.mil)

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