

SAVE THE WHALES DAY

On May 23rd we will be holding simultaneous demonstrations in all coastal counties of California to protest the IWC proposal to remove the current moratorium on commercial whaling and allow the resumption of whaling. We will be gathering signatures on a petition to the President asking him to keep his promise to oppose whaling and direct the US delegation to the IWC to support the continuation of the moratorium

Date: May 23rd

Time: 10am

Location: Check to see where in your County by going to
www.wanconservancy.org/whales/

History:

On April 15th the U.S. announced that it was leading an effort to broker an agreement that would allow commercial hunting of whales for the first time since a moratorium was enacted in 1986. This proposal would legalize commercial whaling and would leave enforcement of quotas to the same nations that have been in violation of the current moratorium- Japan, Iceland and Norway- and allow the killing of whales in the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary. This commercial whaling would be legalized for 10 years, presumably because the IWC has been unsuccessful in preventing illegal whaling. However, the proposal is fatally flawed in many ways, particularly because it fails to provide adequate compliance mechanisms or sufficient deterrents for violations since the whaling nations, not the IWC will have primary authority to punish violations.

It also ties the current quotas on Gray Whales to the commercial quotas. Even though we know that the Gray whale population may be experiencing problems because the calf counts have been down for the past four years and dead emaciated grays are washing up on shore, these quotas would also set for 10 years without the ability to periodically review those quotas and without current population data.



Photo by
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For more information call: 323-345-1555