

*TOM/ Caroline***NINILCHIK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL**

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November 6, 2000

Division Chief, Marine Mammal Division
Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

The Ninilchik Traditional Council requests more data collection through observations before restrictions of any kind are placed on Beluga harvest. More data collection will also be advantageous in creating appropriate regulatory harvest limits for user groups which whale hunt.

As local Tribal representatives we also have to take into consideration the need for a viable food source, which is also a priority.

I believe we can do this without making 'shooting from the hip', 'knee jerk' decisions.

Sincerely,

dlc/f/
Jack Kvasnikoff, Jr.

Jack Kvasnikoff, Jr.
President/Chairman

C: J. James, CIMMC
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