

Dear Mr. Payne,

On behalf of the Pacific Whale Watch Association (PWWA) I would like to comment

on the proposed satellite tagging permit NMFS File # 724-1824-01.

To be clear no one would like to know where the SRKW go in the winter more than our members. However, since the methods used to tag are still too invasive and since whatever findings would not directly affect their survival, we respectfully object to attaching satellite transmitters in this manner.

Our members observe and report on the condition of the SRKW daily in the months of April through October. We do not believe our members or the thousands of passengers we educate per year would agree to this invasive procedure.

There is quite simply “no upside” worth the risks to this group of endangered whales.

Please spend the funds on salmon restoration as we believe this is the key to long term survival of our SRKW.

I have attached our recent white paper which emphasizes salmon restoration for y

our review.

Thank you for efforts to protect our local orca population.

Bill Wright

Pres. PWWA