

## PROPOSAL BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The governments of the Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the United States of America jointly submit this amendment to the Schedule to enable our respective indigenous peoples to continue meeting their aboriginal subsistence needs. The proposal extends the present catch limits, previously approved by the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in 2007, through the year 2018. This 6-year period would be consistent with the proposed biennial meeting schedule for the IWC. Since this amendment has been circulated in accord with IWC's Rule of Procedure J.1, it therefore is available prior to the annual meeting of the Scientific Committee. Accordingly, the co-sponsors may propose changes after considering the advice of the Scientific Committee, but we would not increase the catches above the current levels.

Text proposed to be deleted is shown in ~~strike through~~ and text proposed to be added is shown in underline and bold.

### DRAFT SCHEDULE AMENDMENT

#### **Baleen Whale Catch Limits**

13. . . .

(b) Catch limits for aboriginal subsistence whaling are as follows:

(1) The taking of bowhead whales from the Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas stock by aborigines is permitted, but only when the meat and products of such whales are to be used exclusively for local consumption by the aborigines and further provided that:

(i) For the years ~~2008, 2009, 2010, 2011~~ **2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017** and ~~2012~~ **2018**, the number of bowhead whales landed shall not exceed ~~280~~ **336**. For each of these years the number of bowhead whales struck shall not exceed 67, except that any unused portion of a strike quota from any year (including 15 unused strikes from the ~~2003-2007~~ **2008-2012** quota) shall be carried forward and added to the strike quotas of any subsequent years, provided that no more than 15 strikes shall be added to the strike quota for any one year.

(ii) This provision shall be reviewed annually by the Commission in light of the advice of the Scientific Committee.

(2) The taking of gray whales from the Eastern stock in the North Pacific is permitted, but only by aborigines or a Contracting Government on behalf of aborigines, and then only when the meat and products of such whales are to be used exclusively for local consumption by the aborigines.

(i) For the years ~~2008, 2009, 2010, 2011~~ **2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017** and ~~2012~~ **2018**, the number of gray whales taken in accordance with this sub-paragraph shall not exceed ~~620~~ **744**, provided that the number of gray whales taken in any one of the years ~~2008, 2009, 2010, 2011~~ **2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017** and ~~2012~~ **2018** shall not exceed 140.

(ii) This provision shall be reviewed annually by the Commission in light of the advice of the Scientific Committee.

(4) For the seasons ~~2008-2012~~ **2013-2018** the number of humpback whales to be taken by the Bequians of St. Vincent and The Grenadines shall not exceed ~~20~~ **24**. The meat and products of such whales are to be used exclusively for local consumption in St. Vincent and The Grenadines.