

Sample Letter to the Bush Administration:

Here is a sample letter that you can hand-write and mail in separate envelopes to the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, and President Bush. We encourage you to put this in your own words.

Our plan is to send hundreds of letters from across the country, to demonstrate support for U.S. action to save the whales. Can you think of anyone else you could get to write a letter? Your family members or friends? A group you belong to? Maybe you could hold a letter-writing party, or set up a table with extra pens, paper, and envelopes at an event? Be creative!

SAMPLE LETTER

The Hon. Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Hon. Carlos Gutierrez, Secretary of Commerce
US Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Madam Secretary/ Mr. Secretary/ Mr. President,

For more than three decades, the United States led international efforts to protect the world's whales from commercial whaling. This led to the commercial whaling moratorium of 1986, which was both a victory for whale conservation and a milestone for U.S. environmental diplomacy. But the U.S. government seems to have forgotten about the whales and the huge amount of support that there is for whale conservation among the American public.

Since 1986, more than 25,000 whales have been killed. Of these, 9,220 whales were killed under the guise of 'scientific research' by the Fisheries Agency of Japan's 'scientific' whaling fleet, including nearly 8000 whales within the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary. In 2006/07, the same fleet plans to kill another 1325 whales in the Southern and North Pacific Oceans, including endangered fin, sperm and even humpback whales. A growing number of whales are also being killed commercially by Norway and Iceland.

The whales clearly need the U.S.

In May of this year, the IWC will take place on U.S. soil. Please stand up and lead the way in defending the whales so that whale hunting for commercial purposes under whatever guise is stopped, calm returns to the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary, and the government of the United States can stand up with its citizens for the whales and the oceans that give them life.

Sincerely,