



**Help Oppose Commercial Whaling**  
**Attend your local protest rally**  
**May 23rd, 10am**  
**Location:**

**The International Whaling Commission is proposing to allow commercial hunting of whales for the first time since a moratorium was enacted in 1986. The proposal would leave enforcement of catch quotas to the same nations that have been killing whales as “scientific research” - Japan, Iceland and Norway- and allow the killing of whales in the Southern Ocean Sanctuary. This would be allowed for 10 years but with no real end date. The proposal fails to provide adequate compliance mechanisms or sufficient deterrents for violations.**

**In 2008 Obama said in his campaign that he would oppose whaling by the Japanese but now the US is spearheading this proposal. We are asking that President Obama keep his promise to “ensure that the U.S. provides leadership in enforcing international wildlife protection agreements, including strengthening the international moratorium on International whaling. Allowing Japan to continue commercial whaling is unacceptable”. The nations who have been illegally whaling have sought relentlessly to evade or end the moratorium and they will not stop with this agreement, which has no teeth, no real enforcement or implementation. It will simply result in wholesale legal slaughter of whales. We are asking the President to keep his promise and to instruct the U.S.. delegation to the IWC to oppose any weakening of the moratorium. Whales are important to the ocean ecosystem and to millions of humans who enjoy them.**

**For more information go to [www.wanconservancy.org/whales/](http://www.wanconservancy.org/whales/)**

