Dear Dr. Wells,

We would like to thank you and the reviewers for your helpful review of our submission materials and your quick and helpful reply to our clarification request. The comments and suggestions provided have truly improved the paper and we are grateful for your perspective.

In the separate “Response to Reviewers” document we copy each reviewer comment and address them individually in the order they were received. Our responses are provided below each bolded comment. Line numbers referring to the revised draft are provided where each change or section can be found.

In addition to responding to reviewer comments, we made changes to the title and the author names. The new title, as suggested by reviewer #2, is “Entanglement rates and haulout abundance trends of Steller (*Eumetopias jubatus*) and California (*Zalophus californianus*) sea lions on the north coast of Washington state”. Both Jonathan Joseph Scordino and Elizabeth Marina Allyn would also like to include their middle names in the publication.

As requested, we have also included the revised Competing Interest Statement below:

“EMA and JJS both work for the Makah Fisheries Management Department of the Makah Tribe. Funding for this project was provided by the Species Recovery Grant to Tribes that is administered by the National Marine Fisheries Service. EMA and JJS also receive funding from the Bonneville Power Administration Tribal Capacity Building Grant, the National Science Foundation through a subaward granted to the University of Chicago, and the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant administered by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Author JJS has also received funding support through the Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program, the Bycatch Reduction Engineering Program, the Preserve America Grant, and a NOAA Cooperative Research Grant which are all administered by the National Marine Fisheries Service; the Bureau of Indian Affairs; Washington SeaGrant; and the North Pacific Coast Marine Resource Committee. Funders played no role in the development, implementation, or analysis of the work completed for this manuscript. This does not alter our adherence to PLOS ONE policies on sharing data and materials.”

Thank you again for putting your time and effort into this review. We appreciate your help in improving this manuscript and hopefully readying it for publication.

Elizabeth Marina Allyn and Jonathan Joseph Scordino

Marine Mammal Program, Makah Tribe