## Ottawa

Room 518, Confederation Building Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Tel.: 613-996-1119

Fax.: 613-996-0850

Constituency

Tel.: 250-657-2000

Fax.: 250-657-2004

9711 Fourth Street Suite 1

Sidney, British Columbia V8L 2Y8



Pièce 518, Édifice de la Confédération Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0A6

> Tél.: 613-996-1119 Téléc.: 613-996-0850

> > **Circonscription**

9711, rue Fourth Bureau 1

Tél.: 250-657-2000 Téléc.: 250-657-2004

Sidney (Colombie-Britannique) V8L 2Y8

Elizabeth May

Member of Parliament / Députée Saanich—Gulf Islands / Saanich—Gulf Islands

His Excellency, Bruce Alan Heyman Ambassador of the United States PO Box 866, Station B Ottawa, ON K1P 5T1

January 27, 2015

Dear Ambassador

I am writing to share the concerns of many constituents in Saanich-Gulf Islands regarding the proposed increase of aircraft based out of the Whidbey Island U.S. Naval Air Station. The Whidbey Island base is immediately adjacent to Saanich, British Columbia.

My constituents have raised concerns about considerable noise from the jets, which can be disruptive. They would like the residential impacts on nearby Canadian communities to be taken into account in evaluating the proposal. Could the flights be re-routed to avoid residential areas?

In addition, many are concerned that noise from the jets, as well as the sonar activity that would result from a proposed increase of acoustic surveillance devices in the region, may have adverse environmental impacts on marine life, including the endangered South Resident Orca whale population and Leatherback turtles.

My constituents would like their concerns to be considered by the U.S. Navy in evaluating these proposals. I would be grateful if you could intervene to ensure that the impacts of these proposals on nearby Canadian communities are taken into account.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth May, O.C., M.P.

Member of Parliament for Saanich-Gulf Islands

Leader of the Green Party of Canada

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elizabeth.may@parl.gc.ca www.elizabethmaymp.ca