



CoastalPlain\_EIS, BLM\_AK &lt;blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_eis@blm.gov&gt;

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**[EXTERNAL] Drilling in the coastal plain**

1 message

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To: Blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov

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Drilling in the Coastal Plain—the sacred place where life begins--would violate Gwich'in traditional practices and, at a particularly sensitive time in their life cycle, disrupt the caribou upon which Gwich'in People depend. Drilling would deprive the Gwich'in People of their right to continue their own way of life, and endanger their very future.

As the current Gwich'in Steering Committee Chair, Bernadette Demientieff, wrote in an April 24 *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* Op-Ed:

"Drilling in the Arctic Refuge will slice through the heart of these sacred lands, the heart of my people. The push to drill in the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge is a direct threat to my people. It is an attack on our culture and way of life.

How can such a thing be considered? Have we not learned from history? From modern technology? Using an antiquated fuel system that will create such permanent damage to people present now - and in the future - seems so so wrong.

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Lisa Frederic