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[EXTERNAL] No gas & oil drilling in the Arctic refuge1 message

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To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

The sensitive communities and ecosystems of the Arctic Refuge are under threat by oil and gas drilling! I support preservation of these lands and the way of life they sustain!

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of the most biodiverse regions on Earth. It is home to polar, grizzly, and black bears, over 200 species of birds, 8 marine mammal species, hundreds of thousands of caribou, wolves, muskoxen, moose, and more. Many of these species need the specific habitat found in the Arctic Refuge to survive and flourish. Dwindling populations of polar bears make their dens here, the largest herd of caribou – the Porcupine Caribou herd – uses the coastal plain as their calving grounds each year, and migrating birds found in the arctic disperse to all of the lower 48 states as part of their life cycles. Moreover, these animals are essential to the sustenance lifestyles of the Alaska Native Tribes who have lived in this area for thousands of years. It is currently one of the largest unspoiled, intact ecosystems left on the planet today!! There's a reason its protection has been largely bipartisanly supported since 1960. The federal administration is pushing to open this sensitive area, particularly the Coastal Plain – the calving grounds of the Porcupine Caribou – to oil and gas drilling. I want to preserve this delicate region for future generations.

Since 1980, Alaska Conservation Foundation has been a critical player on Arctic issues. Alaska Conservation Foundation was the fiscal sponsor of the successful multi-million dollar Arctic Coalition national campaign to stop drilling in the Arctic Refuge.