



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Please reconsider Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing1 message

Matthew Kline <1mrkline@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 4:52 PM

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

To The Bureau of Land Management of the State of Alaska,

I am deeply troubled that once again, in the year 2018, the BLM is considering oil and gas leasing in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Honestly, I am disappointed by the lack of vision. Please stand up for OUR PUBLIC LANDS against the special interest oil and gas industry and the politicians who bow down for their dirty money. I would argue that the vast majority of lands that fall under BLM jurisdiction are incredibly important, but the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is a given, ANWR is iconic. Countless wildlife species are already facing severe declines in populations around the world, biodiversity is not winning! Salmon species from the Beaufort Sea to California are struggling, hundreds of bird species are struggling in North America, including species that rely on a healthy ANWR for nesting habitat. Caribou will not win in the face of oil and gas; calving grounds would be irreparably harmed. In the meantime, the oil and gas industry has already won; they have already cut up and divided and conquered and destroyed how many places? Last time I checked the Gulf of Mexico wasn't in the healthiest state. Last time I checked they had how many spills a month in the lower 48 states! Imagine the worst case scenario... and then prepare for the worst case scenario, because if you open ANWR up to oil and gas, it's only a matter of time. My comments are meant to be alarming for I am deeply troubled by what I am seeing when it comes to our lack of foresight, humility, empathy and care for our planet, especially in the very sanctuaries that have been set aside as parks, refuges, forest and such. Opening ANWR to oil and gas would be another tragic step in the wrong direction... Thank you for considering my comments.

Matthew Kline