



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

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**[EXTERNAL] Arctic National Wildlife Refuge drilling**1 message

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**Collette** <collette\_maclean@hotmail.com>

Sun, Jun 3, 2018 at 12:54 PM

To: "blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov" &lt;blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov&gt;

Dear BLM,

I strongly oppose the plan to lease land within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) Coastal Plain for oil and gas exploration. This is a short-sighted plan that over-estimates the benefits and does not adequately consider the effects on Coastal Plain wildlife or the native Alaskan people.

I am one of the lucky few that have had the privilege to visit the ANWR coastal plain, and I have seen what is at stake. This is the last unspoiled section of the north coast of Alaska and is home to many wildlife species. It is the calving area of the Porcupine Caribou herd. I have traveled to natural areas all over the world but have never seen anything like the sight (and sound, and smell!) of 10,000 caribou in one place. This is a stunning ecosystem, and is the only remaining place of it's kind in the world. While it is located in Alaska, as a National wildlife refuge it belongs to all U.S. citizens and deserves to be protected.

Oil and gas drilling in this pristine area will disrupt the migration and calving areas of the caribou, as well as put these and other animal and plant species at risk from oil and chemical spills. The construction of roads and other infrastructure will have irreversible impacts on this landscape. In addition, the native people that rely on the caribou for their livelihoods will be put at risk.

The oil industry currently has a surplus of oil and gas leases, and opening up the ANWR Coastal Plain is not justified by demand at this time. I urge you not to allow oil and gas leasing in the ANWR Coastal Plain.

Sincerely,  
Collette MacLean  
Seattle, WA