



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Comments on Alaskan Wildlife Refuge Drilling

1 message

Michelle McCoskey <michellemccoskey@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 15, 2018 at 5:27 PM

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my extreme disagreement with the plans to drill in the Alaskan Wildlife Refuge. As an environmental educator and sustainable art instructor, I am particularly concerned with the damaging effects these plans would have on myself, my colleagues, my students, and my community.

Through my research, I have discovered the immense destruction this project would have on the habitat of numerous migratory birds that visit my home state of Michigan each year. Birds like, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Common Merganser, Common Loon, Osprey, Sandhill Crane, Killdeer, Snowy Owl, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Black-capped Chickadee, just to name a few, would all be at risk. Observations and studies of these birds are an incredibly important tool for teaching my students about healthy eco-systems and natural cycles, and helping them to build environmental connections and understanding. These students have learned that respecting nature is the only way to ensure the health of our planet and our communities. A drop in population for any of these species would be a huge loss, not only for the earth's ecosystem as a whole, but for the young minds of our children, eager to engage with a natural world full of beauty and bio diversity.

I strongly urge you to abandon the plans to drill in the Alaskan Wildlife Refuge and to refocus efforts and funds on renewable energy sources that are sustainable and will ensure the health and prosperity of all living creatures for endless generations to come. When it comes to the decision of moving forward with drilling, I ask that you choose "planet over profit."

Thank you for your time,

Michelle McCoskey

Rochester, MI