



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

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**[EXTERNAL] Comments on the Coastal Plan Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS**1 message

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**Brian Napier** <bnapier\_ak@hotmail.com>

Tue, May 29, 2018 at 10:41 PM

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

To whom it may concern,

I am commenting on the coastal plan leasing proposed.

I am a Alaska rural resident, living in the interior of Alaska. I have traveled in the Arctic Wildlife Refuge, and my wife has participated in successful sanctioned hunts in both the Refuge and surrounding areas on numerous occasions. Though the 1002 area was set aside for consideration of development, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to me is a both an emotionally special place, but also a tremendously important and sensitive biological area.

As you study the possible impacts of opening leasing in the 1002 areas of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, I hope to see substantive answers to the following questions:

- After thorough review of subsistence use and resources: what are the short term and long term effects?
- How local disturbance will affect habitat connectivity throughout the refuge, not just the local impacts in 1002 area?
- Impact to permafrost: erosion and carbon release due to melting?
- Polar bears per the US Fish and Wildlife Service have been denning more and more in the 1002 area in recent years: what are the impacts to the polar bear, a threatened species?
- Where will the gravel sources be and the impacts to the broader area: short term and long term?
- How transport of materials, including new road building will affect the surrounding areas: short term and long term? Habitat fragmentation?
- Oil and gas development are water intensive, where will the water come from, what are the impacts to water resources? How will standards be maintained?
- Though not required: It would be helpful to see what the economic impact really would be in a already saturated oil market. What is the long term viability of these deposits? How will development improve job prospects for Alaskans? For how long could development be sustained/provide jobs?
- A thorough review of spill response in an remote area: feasibility, effectiveness and prevention capabilities?

I appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on what the EIS should include in order to gain the publics trust that this is a necessary and low impact lease of public lands, our collective lands.

Sincerely,

Brian Napier

Healy, AK