



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Leave the Arctic Refuge Intact and Protected

1 message

Hyphae Consulting <hyphaeconsulting@gmail.com>
To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

Mon, Jun 18, 2018 at 2:10 PM

Dear Secretary Zinke,

I am writing to express my heartfelt opposition to any and all oil development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I have visited this national treasure many times over the last decade as a citizen recreationist, scientific researcher, and educational volunteer in the Arctic Village community. This pristine landscape is an iconic piece of American wilderness that should be protected for future generations. While most of the North Slope Borough is already open to oil and gas development, the Refuge remains the last bastion of protected wilderness. Conservation is essential to the Porcupine Caribou herd's migratory path, on which resident communities depend for subsistence. In addition, the sensitive wetland ecosystem is a global hotspot for millions of migratory birds who arrive at these breeding grounds each summer to foster a new generation. There is no other protected area like this in America or the planet. Do not sacrifice this place to appease the temporary demands of developers who seek to enhance only the short-term wealth of the already wealthy. Instead, put America first and commit to protect this pristine landscape, it's people, wildlife, and wildness, for generations to come. Should you choose, your children and your children's children will congratulate your wisdom in the face of great challenge. Please consider the outcomes and try to understand what is at stake. Leave the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge intact and protected. Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Brendan O'Brien

Brendan O'Brien
Biologist
Hyphae Consulting
[9396 Main Rd.](#)
[Huntington, VT 05462](#)