



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Docket No. DOI-BLM-AK-0000-2018-0002-EIS1 message

Jim Steitz <jimsteitz@mac.com>
Reply-To: jimsteitz@mac.com
To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

Wed, May 23, 2018 at 3:22 PM

***The directive from Congress to destroy the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is a profane expression of unmitigated, undiluted greed and rejection of our sacred trust toward our Planet Earth, our children who are entitled to this birthright, and the Alaskan indigenous people who would be the receiving end of this gross violation of human rights. The only moral and ethical decision that BLM can make is to ignore the legislation, and leave it upon the ash heap of historical wickedness, where our children will rightly classify it.

This tapestry of land, water, and ice, and the vibrant populations of iconic wildlife that depend on it, is of infinitely greater intrinsic worth than any amount of oil that could be extracted from it. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is the biological nexus for a large swath of the bird life of the Northern Hemisphere, a critical organ in a planetary wildlife migration wheel that knows nothing of the morally pathetic, narcissistic claims of oil companies upon this land.

Compounding this evil is the explicit object of such an enterprise of destruction, which is the temporary extension of a fossil fuel addiction that is already endangering our own climate and survival. I urge you to reject this recurring outbreak of greed, and to instead leave the Refuge's coastal plain in its infinitely more valuable condition as a high-latitude Eden, created by God for the brief summer reproduction of so many creatures. Our nation must never again flirt dangerously near the desecration of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.***

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of the greatest truly wild places left on Earth. It's sanctuary to some of the most diverse and magnificent wildlife in Alaska -- polar bears, wolves, musk oxen and vast herds of caribou -- and the oil and gas industry should not be allowed to trample its amazing landscapes and foul its pristine air and water.

The environmental impacts from all stages of oil and gas development, including seismic activities, leasing, exploration drilling and development must be fully considered. I urge the Department of the Interior to uphold all protections for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Sincerely,

Jim Steitz
849 Glades Road Apt. 1203
Gatlinburg, TN 37738