



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

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**[EXTERNAL] Submission on DOI scoping consultation for Arctic Refuge**1 message

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**ertattersall@gmail.com** <ertattersall@gmail.com>

Tue, Apr 24, 2018 at 9:22 AM

To: blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov

Cc: catherine.mckenna@parl.gc.ca, justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca, chrystia.freeland@international.gc.ca, eactivist@cpawsyukon.org

I am a graduate student at the University of British Columbia. In my studies, I research how industrial disturbances from the oil and gas industry in northern Alberta impact caribou and other large mammals in the boreal forest. Across Canada, caribou (both woodland and barren-ground) are experiencing unsustainable population declines that can be directly linked back to human land transformation and natural resource extraction. In many areas, this further influences how the mammal community as a whole survives and thrives, ultimately causing harm to many of the iconic species that the North has become infamous for.

Not only would drilling in the Porcupine caribou range expose one of the last healthy caribou herds to fatal disturbances, it could also lead to irreversible and rapid change to the greater natural community. Further, it would violate the rights of the Gwich'in peoples to live and sustain themselves on their ancestral lands.

I urge the US and Canadian governments to take these factors into consideration before valuing short-term profit over long-term environmental and cultural damage.

Kind regards,  
Erin Tattersall  
V6R 2Z9

cc: Hon. Catherine McKenna  
House of Commons

cc: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

cc: Minister Chrystia Freeland

cc: Ms. Nadine Sander-Green