



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

1 message

Dave Swarthout <daveswarthout@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 14, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Reply-To: daveswarthout@gmail.com

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

I'm writing to protest the opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil exploration and drilling. I am not in favor of expanding our opportunities to take oil from this pristine Alaska reserve when there are viable alternatives to fossil fuel that are being developed every day. There is no way to properly assess or evaluate the effect these activities will have on the wildlife in the area WHICH IS, AFTER ALL, a refuge for wildlife. It was intended to be a refuge and a refuge it should stay.

Also, as the climate warms permafrost will melt and make working on the North Slope very difficult indeed. Roads and other infrastructure will require many tons of gravel pads and base. The face of the refuge will change forever. Forever. The Gwich'in people have been depending on the caribou that live in the refuge for millennia. If the caribou are negatively impacted, so will the subsistence lifestyle of the Gwich'in.

This opening is a mistake on so many levels.

—

Dave Swarthout

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Travel Blog at <http://dswarthout.blogspot.com>