



Ms. Lynn Larsen  
1231 Sundance Loop  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

ALASKAN FRONTIER

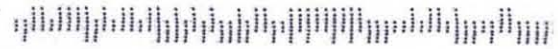
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Attn: Coastal Plain Oil & Gas Leasing Program  
222 West 7th Avenue, Stop #13  
Anchorage, Alaska 955313

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1231 Sundance Loop

Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

April 29, 2018

Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS

222 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Stop# 13

Anchorage, Alaska 995313

To Whom It May Concern:

Do not allow oil and gas leases in the 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

I first visited the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in 1988 and the 1002 area in 1989. Since then I have spent over forty days in the 1002 area and about 140 days total in the Arctic Refuge. In 1989 I was rafting a river on the North Slope and to get picked up by our plane, I had to cross the Coastal Plain to the Beaufort Sea. Thinking the 1002 area was a flat, barren, ugly region, I did not expect to like that part of the trip. At the time I had no strong opinions about oil development in the area, since the photos made the area look dismal. Unfortunately, the pictures and literature I had read about the 1002 area had been released by ARCO, and oddly enough, what I saw and experienced on the Coastal Plain in 1989 did not fit the image they had presented. I felt as if they had lied to me.

The 1002 area is magnificent. For me, the untouched land, wildlife, birds, and circling sun was, and still is, a spiritual experience, bringing me closer to our Creator, our God: a place where the land has been allowed to proceed without corporations' intervention. Camping on a river delta and hearing the cacophony of birds with the sun casting a golden glow over everything is a very special experience. As Ginny Wood said, "The ethic, spiritual, recreational, and educational values of such an area are those one cannot put a price tag on any more than one can on a sunset, a piece of poetry, a symphony, or a friendship." Visiting the 1002 area renews one's spirit and brings one closer to God. **DEVELOPING THIS AREA MEANS LOOSING AN AREA OF THE UNITED STATES THAT RENEWS PEOPLE'S SOULS AND SPIRITS.** Some people complain about financial loss with tourism; I am upset about the spiritual loss.

Before we, as a country, drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, senators, presidents and others with a vote should camp and raft on the Coastal Plain: and not just for a few hours or a day, but for at least three days and possibly more. Being on the Coastal Plain for several days might help them understand what the total cost of drilling would be. For Alaskans who love the Coastal Plain of the Refuge, losing the Refuge to development is a devastating loss; ironically a loss made by people who have spent little to no time there (And the little time spent there probably also includes our US Congressman and Senators from Alaska.)

**WE SHOULD NOT BE DRILLING IN THE CORE CALFING AREA OF THE PORCUPINE CARIBOU HERD.**

Every time I was on the Coastal Plain in June, the caribou herd was in the 1002 area. The migration of this herd is the most magnificent migration in Alaska, maybe one of the best in the world, and therefore, the United States Government should do nothing that has even a slight chance of interfering with this migration.

Alaskans need jobs, and we still need oil. **It possible to find our oil and gas on state land and areas of the National Petroleum Reserve.** Oil development should stay west of the Canning River.

Polls have shown that the majority of Americans favor protecting the 1002 area, and as national refuge, **it is protected for all Americans.**

**Lastly, the last management plan for the Arctic Refuge, one which took years to develop and allowed for much public input, recommended a wilderness designation for the 1002 area. Gas and oil development in the 1002 shows complete disregard this plan.**

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lynn Larsen".

Lynn Larsen