

Such activity in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge would destroy a unique and unparalleled part of the heritage of the United States. I urge you to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge before we lose it. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of America's last great wild places and should not be open to oil and gas development.

Developing this land for oil and gas threatens irreversible damage to Arctic wildlife, stands to destroy the way of life for local communities, and would desecrate one of our national treasures.

This unique land is home to a stunning array of biological diversity -- 700 kinds of plants, 200 bird species, 47 different species of mammals, and 42 fish species. Caribou, muskoxen, wolverines, polar bears, Arctic foxes, birds that migrate from as far as the Amazon, Patagonia and Bangladesh -- these species are just a handful of the wildlife whose lives depend on this unspoiled habitat.

Prudhoe Bay is a warning sign of what the Refuge could become -- a vast morass of roads, rigs, and pipelines. Spills of oil and chemicals, large and small, take place each year.