

I'm writing to urge you and the BLM to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and shine a bright light on the many harms that oil and gas development would bring to this area. This plan is the single-most destructive attack on a refuge in modern history. The public is counting on your environmental review to be done right. If oil companies are allowed to drill on the coastal plain, the environmental damage to the Arctic refuge will be irreversible. The impacts from oil and gas will extend far beyond the footprint of the well pad and harm the wildlife, water and other values the Arctic refuge was set aside to protect. Specifically, you must consider all harms that oil and gas activities will have on polar bears and other endangered Arctic wildlife, as well as caribou and migratory birds. You must also take into account the full impacts this plan will have on subsistence resources and our global climate. For all these reasons, I urge you to do the right thing and keep this place a haven for wildlife. The only acceptable option to avoid destruction of the Arctic refuge is to prevent oil and gas development altogether.