



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] NO oil and gas leasing within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge1 message

Holly Carter <holcarter@gmail.com>
To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

Mon, Jun 18, 2018 at 12:33 PM

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for reading my comment on this issue. I am 100% opposed to the proposed oil and gas leasing programs within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The following information is nicely summarized in a Popular Science article on June 18, 2018 - "*Yes, a tax bill can-and likely will-spoil America's most pristine wildlife refuge*".

As you know, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is the largest area of undeveloped land in the USA, and has been protected by law until the recent, irresponsible "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017" was passed.

ANWR protects a large number of arctic and sub-arctic habitats that are unparalleled in North America, including a large number of animal and bird species - 42 fish, 37 land mammals, 8 marine mammals, and over 200 resident and migratory bird species - even polar bears! One of the few caribou herds left in the world, inhabits this area.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife have reported that due to the sensitivity of these herds, highways, pipelines and road systems may deflect caribou movements and reduce their chances for survival. The Alaska Department of Fish and Wildlife reports that oil field development may result in virtual abandonment of calving areas.

As an environmental scientist (MS Plant and Soil Science, University of Tennessee, 1994) who spends half of my existence cleaning up messes that humans have created - I strongly urge you NOT to allow the proposed oil and gas leasing.

Thank you,

Holly Carter
San Diego, California