



CoastalPlain\_EIS, BLM\_AK &lt;blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_eis@blm.gov&gt;

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**[EXTERNAL] Submission on DOI scoping consultation for Arctic Refuge**1 message

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**cocnwt@gmail.com** <cocnwt@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 25, 2018 at 10:04 AM

To: blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov

Cc: catherine.mckenna@parl.gc.ca, justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca, chrystia.freeland@international.gc.ca, eactivist@cpawsyukon.org

The NWT Chapter of the Council of Canadians works for social and environmental justice and the health of our democracy. There is no justice and no democracy in opening ANWR for drilling. Not only will this move compromise the biodiversity of an ecosystem that has sustained Arctic peoples for hundreds of decades but the decision to drill and indeed fast-track drilling will directly and immediately impact on the Porcupine caribou herd. As the calving grounds of the herd, ANWR is a sacred place for the life that it sustains. But this life and the lives of the Porcupine caribou are fragile and cannot be disturbed by industrial activity as research around the circumpolar world has shown.

Caribou herds the world over are under threat and some are ceasing to exist. For instance, the Selkirk caribou that range between the US and Canada now number only three animals. The Porcupine Caribou herd is a healthy herd at the moment and we have a responsibility to keep it this way if this planet is to maintain the biodiversity necessary to our existence. ANWR is no place for fossil fuel development. No leases for development in the Refuge must be granted.

The Bureau of Land Management must respect the 1987 treaty between Canada and the United States that requires both governments to "take appropriate action to conserve the Porcupine caribou herd and its habitat." It must ban fossil fuel activities in ANWR.

cc: Hon. Catherine McKenna  
House of Commons

cc: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

cc: Minister Chrystia Freeland

cc: Ms. Nadine Sander-Green