



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

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**[EXTERNAL] Coastal Plain EIS: NO**

1 message

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**Jenny Cunningham** <larkspurbirdy@gmail.com>  
To: blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov

Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 8:15 PM

I am writing to urge the Bureau of Land Management NOT to implement an oil and gas leasing program within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain.

As a wildlife biologist, I spent four years working on the Arctic Coastal Plain around Prudhoe Bay and Barrow. This is a unique, pristine, precious wilderness, and I feel that opening the area to oil exploration sets a dangerous precedent as it erodes the integrity of any National Wildlife Refuge. These lands are national treasures for their intrinsic value, and speak volumes to the character of a country that values natural beauty and animal, plant, and human health and life over monetary gains.

Furthermore, I am extremely skeptical about the promise of "responsible" resource exploration and extraction. In Prudhoe Bay I witnessed abandoned gravel roads and pads and monstrous derelict oil rigs rusting away, as it was cheaper for oil companies to pay fines than to remove their infrastructure. The land will never return to its prior state.

Please preserve the sanctity of our beautiful Arctic wilderness.

Sincerely,  
Jenny Cunningham