



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] artic refuge Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing EIS comment

1 message

Therese Eby <thereseby@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 2:03 PM

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

The Beaufort Sea and coastline are important birding and wildlife nursery areas, which I, and I believe most Americans and world citizens, value higher than the jobs provided by oil development. The Interior Dept has a mandate to manage the NPRA to provide "maximum protection" for what the law termed "surface values," to include "significant subsistence, recreational, fish and wildlife, or historical or scenic value." Maximum protection should put this biologically rich area off limits for development.

I am especially concerned with the birds I enjoy watching during their migration. Audubon will tell you, with [data](#), that bird populations use the area of these leases to rest while molting, to raise young. Polar bears den here. Caribou use the area, and indigenous citizens hunt the caribou. The wildlife is more valuable than the underground mineral deposits.

There are too many pressures on wildlife from increasing human population. Climate change is especially hard on the artic environment. Leave the oil in the ground and keep this reproductive powerhouse road-free. Keep our national treasure wild.

Therese Eby
[16103 Gulf Blvd](#)
[Redington Beach, FL](#)
(425) 802-2281