June 15, 2018.

Dear BLM,

I am opposed to the opening of the 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for two reasons. (1) Native people rely on the great caribou herds, not only for subsistence (food!) but for spiritual and cultural enrichment. The Central herd, which calves in the 1002 area, numbers 212,000.  1002 is a very narrow strip of land between the mountains and the Arctic ocean.  Caribou calve there each spring for a reason, mainly to escape mosquitoes, bot flies, and predators.  So where will they go if the oil well pads displace them? I do not believe that this has been properly addressed. The EIS should take this into account. (2) ANWR is a continuous, intact and undisturbed wilderness ecosystem. I think it should remain that way, especially in light of strong evidence that the planet is warming at a rapid rate due to the burning of fossil fuels. I do not believe that the trade-off is wise; the human race loses a great wilderness for oil that exacerbates global warming. The EIS should account for the cost to humans, both in terms of global warming and local impact to the Native Americans (Gwitch’n).

Sincerely,

Tom Green

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