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**From:** Hayes, Miriam (Nicole) <mnhayes@blm.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 7:58 AM  
**To:** coastalplainAR; Sean Cottle  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Please protect the coastal plain

**Nicole Hayes**

Project Coordinator  
Bureau of Land Management  
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Miho Aida** <[aidamiho@gmail.com](mailto:aidamiho@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Mar 8, 2019 at 11:21 AM  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please protect the coastal plain  
To: <[mnhayes@blm.gov](mailto:mnhayes@blm.gov)>

Dear Ms Hayes,

My name is Miho Aida. I am a filmmaker of the movie called The Sacred Place Where Life Begins - Gwich'in Women Speak. I am here to put a comment along with my community members' comments to oppose seismic testing and drilling in the Coastal Plain. Please take a moment to hear the voice of the Gwich'in women whose sacred land is the coastal plain and that place provides spiritual, cultural and physical needs of the people. The 20-minute short film link is here:

<https://www.wearethearctic.org/action/sacred-place-where-life-begins-gwichin-women-speak>

We must protect this place so that we won't repeat our history of colonization and genocide of indigenous people.

Thank you,

Miho

Reesha Katcher

What will you tell your children?

When they ask, <sup>why do those</sup>  
"why did those kids lose <sup>children have</sup>  
their sacred space?" <sup>no hope?</sup>  
will your face flush in ~~warm~~  
shame?

Will you tell your children  
about the suicides of the  
parents of  
a neglected nation?

Will you tell your children  
about the ash in the

This decision to drill in the Arctic Wildlife  
Refuge has huge, devastating impacts on  
people, animals, water, land, and our planet.  
How do you plan on living with this decision?  
Can you explain this to your children? To  
your spouse? Your spiritual leader? You've  
decided to take the food away from an entire  
nation. You've decided to uproot a culture that  
has stewarded this land for thousands of years.  
This decision increases the pain and  
suffering for people and this planet. But  
it's not too late, you have the power to  
do what is right, ~~what~~ will you do?

I oppose leasing the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge to drill for  
oil. I imagine the place where you live, where you the place you depend upon  
for your food, for the future of your children suddenly opened up for drilling -  
you. It is time to forgo our dependence on fossil fuels in the name of  
protecting culture, protecting people, protecting children, protecting animals, protecting  
wilderness. We get to choose what we value, what we deem to be important.  
I urge you to be on the side of nature, of humans, including children and  
their future. I stand with the Gwich'in, I stand with wilderness, I stand  
with the pre-pink carbon.

Ang Osborne  
San Jose, CA

PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR  
ACTION AS AN ATTACK ON  
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE'S LIVELIHOOD,  
IDENTITY, AND SPIRITUALITY. HOW  
WOULD YOU FEEL IF THE WEIGHT  
IS UPON YOU? TAKE A MOMENT TO  
CONSIDER THEM.



I look at photos of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and I see a beautiful wilderness area abundant in life. The Refuge is home to 42 fish species, 37 land mammals, 8 marine mammals, and more than 200 migratory and resident bird species. By drilling for oil on this land, not only are you tearing apart their habitat but you're also tearing apart the lives of the Gwich'in people. Think about all of the lives you would affect in horrible ways. -Jennifer Baca

of human destruction. We have many other means of energy. We do not need to continue drilling more land for oil. Our over-consumption of non-renewable resources is destroying our planet. For all life - Protect the Arctic!

mouths of Caribou, choking on  
broken promises?

Will you tell your children  
about the poisoned water and  
the stench of death?

Will you tell your children  
about the children with no  
future, stolen by the sound  
of coins in your pocket?

Or will you look in your children's  
eyes, and feel their glow of  
pride as you tell them—

"I kept my promise. <sup>will keep you safe.</sup>  
~~I kept my promise.~~  
I made this land safe for me and you."

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Refuge has huge, devastating impacts on  
people, animals, water, land, and our planet.  
How do you plan on living with this decision?  
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your spouse? Your spiritual leader? You've  
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nation. You've decided to uproot a culture that  
has stewarded this land for thousands of years.  
This decision increases the pain and  
suffering for people and this planet. But  
it's not too late, you have the power to  
do what is right, ~~whether~~ will you do?

I apprise the proposed drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife refuge. It is disappointing that despite the impact it will have on the

Gwich'in people and the land that people

continue to support this bill. It's clear that

as ~~the~~ <sup>an</sup> American culture we are unwilling to

learn from the past, from our mistakes, and from

one another. My hope ~~for~~ is that that originally

in support of this bill keep an open mind

and try to see from another's point of view.

Let us protect this the little planet we have

and the people we share it with.

-evanly

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