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Be Kind to Animals

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BLM, Alaska State Office
Attention - Coastal Plain EIS
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FOREVER / USA

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THOM BEACH CT

Comments on Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Draft EIS

- Oil leasing and development would destroy the wild quality of both the Coastal Plain and adjacent designated Wilderness lands in the Arctic Refuge. The DEIS fails to truthfully explain what would be lost by opening the Arctic Refuge to oil leasing and development.
- The DEIS does not describe how oil leasing and development would destroy the Arctic Refuge's ecological integrity.
- The DEIS fails to adequately assess the impacts oil leasing and development would have on caribou, particularly during calving and raising young.
- Oil leasing and development on the Coastal Plain would significantly impact caribou populations, which would decline significantly resulting in drastic effects over enormous areas of Alaska and Canada. The DEIS fails to address this ecological impact on innumerable species as well as the negative consequences on the indigenous people.
- The DEIS significantly underestimates the amount of carbon pollution that oil leasing and development would add to the atmosphere, and fails to truthfully address the implications of exacerbating the climate crisis.
- Fresh water is relatively limited on the Refuge Coastal Plain, however the DEIS does not adequately evaluate the negative effects that industry's water use would have on fish and wildlife.
- The DEIS does not thoroughly assess the cumulative effects of oil leasing and development within the Refuge and with current and expanding development across the North Slope and offshore in the Arctic region.

The DEIS fails to fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and therefore BLM cannot authorize leasing.