

**The Conservation Fund**

2727 HILAND ROAD

EAGLE RIVER, ALASKA 99577

ANCHORAGE  
AK 995

28 DEC 2016  
PM 11



FOREVER

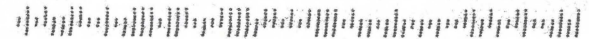


BLM Alaska  
Coastal Plain EIS  
222 West 7th Ave  
STOP #13

Anchorage AK 99513-7504

*Partners in land and water conservation*

99513-750413



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THE  
CONSERVATION FUND

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December 27, 2018

Nicole Hayes  
BLM Alaska  
Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS  
222 West 7th Avenue, Stop #13  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513 -7504

RE: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge EIS

Dear Nicole,

I am writing to provide comment on the draft EIS.

First, you should know that during Christmas week your comment website has been malfunctioning. After twice attempting to submit lengthy comments that were ultimately lost because of a faulty weblink, I have given up and am submitting comment in letter form.

Second, it is unfortunate that you opted to release the EIS on the Friday before Christmas, which is the worst piece of political chicanery in the spirit of Scrooge. Those of us who truly care about the Refuge are put in the awkward position of choosing to be with our families or caring for a dying loved one (the Refuge). Shame on you.

Third, we are being given the choice of what color death shroud to lay over our Mother after you have killed her. Do we want a 1-mile river setback shroud or do we want the attractive 4-mile river setback shroud? There is no way to dress up what you propose to do here as anything other than assault on that which we hold dearest.

The only reasonable alternative is Alternative A. As I sit here with 35 books on my table about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, all of them extolling the beauty of the Refuge, I am left wondering "What part of "NO" don't you understand?" For 40 years the majority of Americans have been saying "NO" to this and yet you keep coming back until by the thinnest margin and the slimiest maneuver you

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peek out a win after losing every other time. There ought to be a statute of limitations that says if you win 5 times it's a settled matter.

"Energy dominance" you say. Actually, it is energy that is dominating us, controlling us, reducing us to cogs in a dumb machine that is going off a cliff. The EIS discusses unavoidable impacts blithely without pondering why we are doing this to ourselves? Will we ever be satisfied? What sacred place is next? Do we start burning our heirloom furniture because we are too lazy to close the windows?

This whole farce should be stopped before another dollar is spent. I'm hopeful the House Oversight committee <sup>will</sup> get to the bottom of this.



Brad Meiklejohn