
From: Hayes, Miriam (Nicole) <mnhayes@blm.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 24, 2019 10:01 AM
To: coastalplainAR; Sean Cottle
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] The Arctic Wildlife Refuge

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Nicole Hayes

Project Coordinator
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From: **Eileen Hynes** <eileen@lakeandparkschool.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 7:12 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Arctic Wildlife Refuge
To: <mnhayes@blm.gov>

Dear Ms Hayes,

My name is Eileen Hynes. I am a teacher in Seattle Washington. I've been to the Arctic, a place where it is easy to feel the interconnectedness of all living things.

The coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of America's greatest wilderness. This area is the birthing and nursing ground for the Porcupine Caribou Herd, on which the Gwich'in people who are native to this region have physically, culturally and spiritually depended for millennia. In their language, they call this land "The Sacred Place Where Life Begins."

Drilling would irreversibly damage this fragile ecosystem and the Gwich'in way of life. I stand with the Gwich'in people and speak on behalf of the future generations to oppose opening the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge for oil drilling. And I ask you to do the same to protect the basic human rights of the Gwich'in and for our future generations yet to come.

Additionally, the earth is at the tipping point and we need to stop using fossil fuels. Your job is to manage and protect our lands, not give them away to the powerful gas companies.

Thank you,
Eileen Hynes
206-678-3723