
From: Hayes, Miriam (Nicole) <mnhayes@blm.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 1:25 PM
To: coastalplainAR; Sean Cottle
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Comments - ANWR Coastal Plan EIS

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Nicole Hayes

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From: **K&W** <klm.wms@comcast.net>
Date: Wed, Mar 13, 2019 at 12:14 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments - ANWR Coastal Plan EIS
To: <mnhayes@blm.gov>

To: Nicole, Hayes, Project Coordinator,

In 1988, I worked in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, conducting bird surveys and water quality assessments there, along with bird surveys in and around the Kuparuk oil fields. The contrast between ANWR and the Kuparuk oil fields was profound. Whereas the coastal plain in ANWR was teeming with life - bird, mammal, and insects (think abundant mosquitos!!), the area around Kuparuk was dusty and relatively devoid of bird and animal life. Our planet has too few places left where nature is given free reign, and it would be an incredible mistake to open ANWR's coastal plain to seismic exploration. Once damaged or destroyed, we cannot bring back these fragile ecosystems.

Furthermore, as a scientist holding a PhD in Ecology, I still actually believe in science and there is a strong consensus from scientists that we have a very short time window to transition away from fossil fuels (i.e IPCC report). It is abundantly clear that we need to stop developing new oil and gas reserves if we are to avoid the most devastating impacts of global climate change.

For the people and wildlife who make their home in or rely upon the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge AND for all the residents of this earth who are threatened by our warming climate, I am writing in strong opposition to holding an oil and gas lease sale and conducting seismic exploration in the 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

We should be actively transitioning to renewable energy sources, rather than continuing to line the pockets of fossil fuel companies and investors at the expense of our planet.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Katherine Muller