

Website Comment **183854**

183854

From: AnnaJacus

Affiliation:

Address: 1106-B N. Stiles St.
Linden, New Jersey, 07036

001
General

Comment: As a citizen who cares about protecting America's Arctic, I would like to submit the following comments on the proposed amendment to the oil and gas leasing plan for the northeast section of the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (the Reserve). I strongly believe that, at the very least, you should adopt Alternative A, the no action alternative. Additionally, I believe that you should go beyond Alternative A by providing the essential protections needed to maintain the area's extraordinary wildlife values.

2

The Reserve is the largest expanse of federally protected public lands left in the United States. As someone who enjoys the outdoors, I am very concerned about the preferred plan's emphasis on further development and the affect that this plan will have, not only on the abundant wildlife that lives year-round in the Reserve, but also on the migratory wildlife from my region and around the world that rely on the Reserve as its critical molting, staging, and breeding area.

003
General

Instead of turning more of our nation's wilderness areas over to oil and gas drilling we need to take a hard look at our nation's energy policy overall. While I am not against drilling in the Reserve, I strongly believe that the Northeast Planning Area should be managed to represent a balance of competing extraction and conservation values as was mandated when the Reserve was transferred to the Department of the Interior. At a minimum, I urge that BLM retain the current protections in place for Teshekpuk Lake, from the 1998 Northeast Plan. Ultimately, I request that permanent protections be put in place for the areas of most significant habitat, including the Teshekpuk Lake and the Coleville River Special Areas, to ensure that the area's critical wildlife will be available for generations to come.

Attached: None