

Website Comment 183937

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From: KayWoods
Affiliation:
Address: 14021 N Palm Ridge Dr W
Sun City, Arizona, 85351

Comment: New Drilling Proposals Threaten America's Arctic:
Please do not support this proposal

Dear Bureau of Land Management:

1

Please do not support the new proposal by the Bush administration that would open previously protected special places within the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska to oil and gas leasing. The Teshekpuk Lake region of America's Western Arctic with its vast network of coastal lagoons to deep lakes, wet sedge grass meadows and numerous river deltas, the area is prime habitat for caribou, lemmings, snowy owls, Arctic fox and the spectacled eider, a threatened sea duck must be protected from oil and/or gas exploration and drilling.

002
Threatened

3

Having met with representatives of the peoples most affected by such drilling, I stand with them in requesting that the BLM not permit any exploration or drilling in this or any other area of Alaska. To allow such activity would have a devastating and permanent negative impact on as many as 60,000 geese and the Inupiat Eskimos' subsistence lifestyle.

004
Socio-cultural

005
Special Designation

In 1977, the Interior Department designated the Teshekpuk Lake Special Area as one of three "Special Areas" within the petroleum reserve requiring "maximum protection" because of their significant natural values. Take all steps necessary to continue to preserve this pristine area that is largely unmarred by roads, oil rigs and other signs of development.

6

Please say NO to the Bush administration's new proposal that would permit up to 96 percent of the Reserve's northeast region, including much of the Teshekpuk Lake Special Area, to be opened to oil and gas development.

Respectfully,

Kay H. Woods
Sun City AZ

Attached: None