



# Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

## Drilling is Not the Answer

**Drilling in the Arctic Refuge would serve as a distraction from America's energy problems and high gas prices . . . not a solution**

- \* Over the past three years, increased conservation and the use of alternative technologies have cut the projected need for imported oil between now and 2050 by more than 100 billion barrels—ten times more oil than what we might be able to get in a decade from the Arctic Refuge.
- \* When oil discovered in the Arctic Refuge would be near peak production in 2027, **the savings at the gas pump would only be a few pennies per gallon.**
- \* Investing in new technology and clean energy like alternative fuels, and solar and wind technologies will reinvigorate the American economy and create jobs now and into the future.



The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Northeastern Alaska is one of the wildest most pristine places in the United States. The 1.5 million acres of its coastal plain proposed for oil exploration is the most biologically productive part of the Refuge and the heart of its wildlife activity. Some places are just too special to drill, and the Arctic Refuge is one of them.

**Let's stop giving handouts to oil companies and start using our know-how and technology to break our oil addiction once and for all. That's the American way.**

- \* Since 2001, the major oil companies have amassed close to \$600 billion in profits. They have used those excessive profits to purchase approximately \$185 billion on stock buybacks rather than making serious and significant investments in clean alternative fuels, new refinery capacity and utilization and renewable forms of electricity.
- \* Furthermore, the oil industry is by no means suffering from a lack of access to our nation's resources – in fact, there are 45.5 million acres of federal lands leased to oil and gas companies but the companies have not started producing any oil or gas on 31 million of those acres. Giving the oil industry even more land to use as a savings account for their future profits sends the wrong message to Americans about our nation's energy future.

**There is no “clean” or “safe” way to drill the Refuge and therefore some places are just too special to drill. The Arctic Refuge is one of them.**

- \* Drilling advocates have attached a phony 2,000-acre limitation on Arctic Refuge development. In fact, drilling bills would allow a spider web of wells, pipelines, processing plants, airstrips and other facilities that would cast a net over the entire 1.5 million acre Coastal Plain.
- \* To recover the accepted estimates of oil beneath the Arctic Refuge (10.4 billion barrels) it would be necessary to **drill more than 800 production wells.**

For more information or for sources of facts the above facts please contact Steve Kline or Cindy Shogan at Alaska Wilderness League, 202-544-5205