



ARCTIC TRUTH

Celebrating 50 Years of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

~ April 23, 2010 ~

Each week leading up to the **Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's 50th Anniversary** on December 6, 2010, we will be sending you an Arctic Truth newsletter highlighting an **Arctic Hero** – someone who has gone above and beyond to protect the natural treasures of the Arctic Refuge, an **Arctic bird** that migrates from the Refuge to other states in the US, and other news about why the Arctic Refuge deserves the strongest possible protections.

Arctic Hero



Representative **Ed Markey** (D-MA) has been a longtime champion for the Arctic Refuge. He has been the lead sponsor of the Arctic Refuge wilderness bill, H.R. 39, since 2001. He has also been a leader on other critical environmental issues, particularly climate change legislation. Over the past decade, Rep. Markey has successfully fended off numerous efforts to open the Arctic Refuge to drilling - including attempts to insert Arctic Refuge drilling into controversial budget reconciliation language and a military-funding bill during a time of war. Rep. Markey's continued efforts on behalf of the Arctic Refuge have made him a true Arctic Hero. You can hear more about why he cares so much about this one-of-a-kind place at the Arctic Refuge 50th anniversary press conference on April 29th (see details below).

Arctic Bird

Sharp-shinned hawks visit the Arctic Refuge before migrating to lowa and many other states. You might see a Sharp-shinned hawk at your bird-feeder — not looking for seeds, but for a bird to eat! As more birdfeeders are going up across the country, hawks are seeking out more of this easy prey, and therefore aren't migrating as far as they used to. This may explain why eastern birdwatchers have been seeing fewer Sharp-shinned hawks in recent years.



Arctic Action

Join Representative Ed Markey, Senator Mark Udall (D-CO), Senator Tom Udall (D-NM), Alaska Natives and conservationists to kick off a yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. These Arctic champions will share their personal connections to the Arctic Refuge and talk about why we must protect this incomparable wilderness for future generations. You can show your support by attending this press event, and by cosponsoring H.R.39, the Udall-Eisenhower Arctic Wilderness Act, which would designate the Arctic Refuge's Coastal Plain as wilderness. During this historic 50th anniversary year, your support is more important than ever. *This unique press event will take place next Thursday, April 29, at 10 a.m. at the House Triangle, U.S. Capitol's East Front, Independence Ave & First St SE.*



For more information contact: Kiyana Allen, KAllen@defenders.org