



ARCTIC TRUTH

Celebrating 50 Years of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

~ May 13, 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.



Watch this Mark Fiore video at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9cixJhWzfc>

Arctic Hero

Political cartoonist **Mark Fiore** has drawn attention to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge through animated cartoons that demand critical thinking. Fiore has won numerous awards for his work, including the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award, and the first ever Pulitzer Prize awarded for his genre of editorial cartoons. The Pulitzer Prize committee lauded Fiore: "his biting wit, extensive research, and ability to distill complex issues set a high standard for an emerging form of commentary." Fiore's compelling work has brought the need to protect the Arctic Refuge to new audiences.

Arctic Bird

Long-billed Dowitchers visit the Arctic Refuge before journeying to Louisiana and many other states. These shorebirds are recognizable by their distinctive profile; their bill is twice as long as their head! They also have a characteristic feeding method of jabbing and probing, described as a "sewing machine" motion. Long-billed Dowitchers are one of the many bird species potentially threatened by the Gulf of Mexico oil spill and could be threatened by oil development in the Arctic Refuge.



Arctic Action

As the Gulf of Mexico disaster escalates, oil has begun washing up on the shores of the Chandeleur and Breton Island National Wildlife Refuge, the second-oldest national wildlife refuge in the United States. Despite protestations by the oil and gas industry that they can conduct environmentally safe drilling that will not disturb wildlife, the catastrophic spill in the Gulf reminds us that drilling is an inherently dirty and dangerous business. Help protect the Arctic Refuge from the threats of onshore and offshore oil and gas development—please **cosponsor HR 39/S231**, the Udall-Eisenhower Arctic Wilderness Act, which would designate the coastal plain of the Refuge as wilderness.

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