

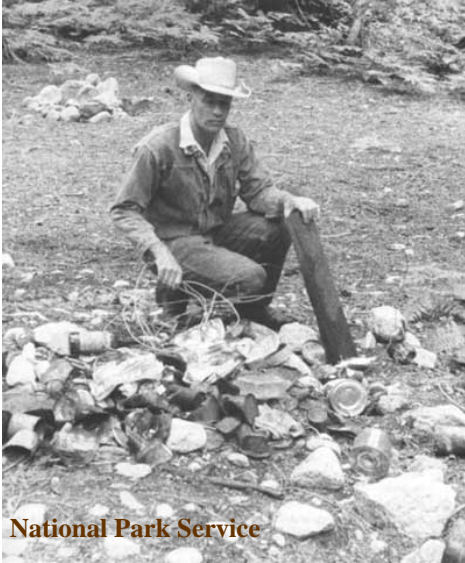


# ARCTIC TRUTH

Celebrating 50 Years of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

~ June 25, 2010 ~

Each week leading up to the **Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** on December 6, 2010, we will be sending you an Arctic Truth newsletter highlighting an **Arctic Hero**, 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.



National Park Service

## Arctic Hero

**Lowell Sumner** and **George Collins** worked as National Park Service scientists. After exploring the eastern Brooks Range and becoming inspired by the Alaskan Arctic's natural beauty, they published an article in 1953 that launched the campaign to permanently protect the area. The article was entitled: "Northeast Arctic: The Last Great Wilderness." In the years following, their words inspired many of the era's most prominent conservationists to join their effort to preserve what eventually became the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

## Arctic Bird

The **Northern Waterthrush** can be found throughout the northern continental United States, as well as Canada and Alaska. It uses the southern portion of the Arctic Refuge as an occasional breeding site and is a common visitor to the Refuge's Coastal Plain area. It feeds on crustaceans, mollusks and insects and its wintering habitat stretches as far south as Ecuador and as far north as Florida.



Jack Bartholmai

## Arctic Action

On April 16th, President Obama launched a national dialogue about conservation in America with the **America's Great Outdoors** initiative. Throughout the coming months, the White House is partnering with the Department of the Interior and other federal agencies to engage a variety of stakeholders across the nation in an ongoing discussion about the importance of reconnecting with our greatest outdoor places. This week, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar will be attending an America's Great Outdoors listening session in Annapolis, MD – similar listening sessions are planned on June 28 in Charleston, SC and July 1 in Seattle, WA, with more to follow. Supporters of the Arctic Refuge will be speaking out throughout the AGO initiative to be sure that our nation's greatest wilderness icon remains an integral part of our America's Great Outdoors for generations to come. For more information visit <http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/>



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