



ARCTIC TRUTH

Celebrating 50 Years of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

~ July 22, 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**, 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



Dr. Robert Krear, a professor, wildlife biologist and World War II veteran, has studied wildlife for years. He worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, taught at four universities, and worked in eight national parks. His groundbreaking work throughout the Brooks Range in 1956 alongside Olaus and Mardy Murie helped to establish the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as a special area deserving protection. Krear details the experiences of that 1956 expedition in his book, "Four Seasons North: Explorations and Research in the Arctic and Subarctic." He now lives a more leisurely life in Estes Park, Colorado, where he is retired.

Arctic Bird

The **Green-winged Teal** is the smallest of American ducks, identified by their short neck and small bill. They breed in the Arctic Refuge and migrate southward through Nevada and other states. Their wintering range is very expansive, stretching from Alaska all the way down to South America. Many Green-winged Teals visit Louisiana marshes, making this species yet another bird that faces a perilous migration through the Gulf of Mexico this year.



Arctic Action

This week, many people from the Gwich'in nation are gathered in Fort Yukon, Alaska to discuss important social, physical and environmental health issues facing their community today. The theme of this year's gathering is "Unity Through Our Cultural/Traditional Values for Our Sovereign Success." One of those unifying values is the dependence of the Gwich'in culture on the Porcupine Caribou. The protection of the Arctic Refuge's Coastal Plain, which is the calving grounds for these caribou, is integral to the well-being of these animals and, therefore, the Gwich'in way of life. Please **cosponsor H.R. 39/S. 231**, the Arctic wilderness bill, to designate the Refuge's Coastal Plain as wilderness.



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— S O C I E T Y —

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