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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Leasing to Nowhere
Past estimates of oil and gas estimates have been grossly overestimated in the Reserve

Statement by Cindy Shogan, Executive Director, Alaska Wilderness League:

“U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) released an updated [analysis on economically recoverable oil and gas](#) in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (Reserve), which reinforces its [findings from October 2010 on technically recoverable oil](#) – the simple truth is that **past estimates of oil and gas in the Reserve have been grossly overestimated.**”

We have been leasing to nowhere in the Reserve. The Reserve contains some of our nation's most treasured natural resources – millions of acres of wilderness-quality lands with critical habitat for millions of migratory birds, as well as grizzly bears, Western Caribou Arctic Herd, threatened polar bears, walrus, wolves, and endangered beluga whales. **Some places within the Reserve are simply too special to drill.** Instead of risking these treasures, U.S. Department of Interior should work to ensure the strongest possible protections for special places within the Reserve.”

For our energy needs, we need to focus beyond oil and gas development. Let’s start today to create better choices for the future.”

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