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Senate instructions opens the door to drill in the Arctic Refuge

WASHINGTON – Today, the U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget released its FY2018 budget resolution, which opens the door to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge through the committee’s instructions to the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Kristen Miller, Interim Executive Director, Alaska Wilderness League:

“The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge does not belong in the budget. It is wild, spectacular and belongs to all Americans, not oil companies.

Drilling in this sacred land is divisive and controversial, and attaching this provision to must-pass legislation like tax reform would by-pass an essential debate, and could tank the whole process.

For 30 years, Arctic Refuge protections have had unwavering support from the American public, and it remains safe from development to this day. We will fight back assaults on this special place on all fronts – from administration attacks to sneaky backroom deals of Congress— and will not rest until the Arctic Refuge is protected from drilling.”

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The Arctic Refuge is one of our nation’s most majestic places, home to the Porcupine Caribou Herd, musk oxen, wolves, imperiled polar bears, and nearly 200 species of migratory birds that migrate to six continents and all 50 states.

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