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# Keep Destructive Drilling Out of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

**The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of America's last wild places, and the coastal plain is its biological heart.** The Refuge is one of the few places in the United States that has never seen the impact of Western society. There are no roads, buildings, or permanent structures of any kind there. It is home to more than 200 wildlife species, including polar bears, grizzly bears, musk oxen, Dall sheep, wolves, wolverines, and many more.

**The coastal plain is central to the survival and way of life of the Gwich'in Nation.** The Gwich'in call the coastal plain "The Sacred Place Where Life Begins," because their survival has always depended on the



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land. They rely on the Porcupine Caribou herd that migrates through the Refuge and calves their young in the coastal plain for 80 percent of their diet. Any disruption of this place would threaten their food security and way of life.

This unique place has been protected for generations, until drilling supporters slipped an unrelated rider opening up the Arctic Refuge into the 2017 Tax Act and the Trump administration rushed to hold a lease sale before leaving office. President Biden has suspended those leases, but permanent protection is needed.

**Congress must act to restore protections to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and ensure that destructive oil and gas development does not take place there. We need your support to pass this important legislation and protect this place for future generations. Please support the Arctic Refuge Protection Act (H.R.815 / S.282) or other legislative action to repeal mandatory lease sales in the Arctic Refuge and permanently protect this place.**

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