

Think drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is a good idea?



More than 1,000 scientists say you're *wrong*.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is just that... a wildlife *refuge*. Drilling there would do irreparable damage to one of our nation's last pristine wilderness areas, not to mention to the polar bears, caribou, and millions of migratory birds to which the Refuge is home.

That's why more than 1,000 scientists from across the country recently wrote President Bush asking him to protect the Refuge from oil development.

Wildlife Paying the Price

In their letter, the scientists cite recent studies by the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the international Arctic Climate Impact Assessment Secretariat, which found that "if oil development proceeds, much of the wildlife, water, and cultural resources for which the Arctic Refuge was established would be severely diminished or lost."

Drilling is a Dirty Business

Citing a National Academy of Sciences study, the scientists say that "the environmental effects of roads, well pads, pipelines and other infrastructure on the landscape, water systems, vegetation, and animals extend well beyond the 'footprint', or physical area covered."

Energy experts agree that making cars more fuel-efficient, and investing in renewable forms of energy, are the most effective things the U.S. can do right now to decrease dependence on foreign oil and increase national security.

There are simply some places that should be off limits to industrial development, and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of them. That's why our nation has protected the Refuge for nearly 50 years.

Let's not turn back now.

For a copy of the letter and list of signatories, go to www.SaveArcticRefuge.org

