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North Slope Borough

Resource Review

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Lawmakers invited to see ANWR up close

Knowles, legislative leadership urge members of Congress to come see Coastal Plain

In a letter to all members of the U.S. Congress, Governor Tony Knowles said increased domestic production, including responsible oil development within the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), must be a part of a national energy policy. Knowles also joined with the legislative leadership in a separate letter inviting key members of Congress to come to Alaska to see the Coastal Plain and state-of-the-art oil technology for themselves.

"As you well know, parts of our country are experiencing yet another energy crisis, which I believe threatens America's continued economic prosperity," Knowles said. "We've dramatically witnessed senior citizens pried from stalled California elevators during rolling blackouts, while skyrocketing natural gas prices are hurting consumers and industry alike. Our nation cannot keep pace with its energy requirements without a coherent national energy strategy."

While agreeing that conservation must be a cornerstone of such a policy, Knowles said the nation also must encourage new domestic energy production.

"Recent violence in the Middle East reminds us how easily U.S. oil supplies are threatened," Knowles said. "As domestic oil consumption has increased 14 percent over the last decade, domestic production has lagged, falling 17 percent. Just 25 years ago, our nation imported only 35 percent of the
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*Interior Secretary Gale Norton visited Alaska last month with several U.S. Senators to tour North Slope oil fields and get a close up look at ANWR's Coastal Plain. Above, Norton poses with Governor Tony Knowles and former Governor Walter Hickel, who served as President Nixon's Interior Secretary. Norton spoke at a private luncheon attended by RDC, Alliance, Commonwealth North and Anchorage Chamber board members. An earlier breakfast meeting opened to members of the four organizations was cancelled due to late arrival of Norton's delegation.
(Photo by Jason Brune)*

National support for ANWR grows

A nationwide coalition of organizations and businesses has formed to advance efforts to open the Coastal Plain of ANWR to responsible oil and gas development.

The Energy Stewardship Alliance is a coalition comprised of associations, consumer groups, policy institutes and citizens who are dedicated in finding real solutions to the mounting energy problems facing America. The Energy Alliance believes a balanced national energy policy is in the interest of all Americans. It recently endorsed Senator Frank Murkowski's National Energy Security Act of 2001 that includes incentives for energy conservation and alternative energy while opening the Coastal Plain of ANWR to exploration.

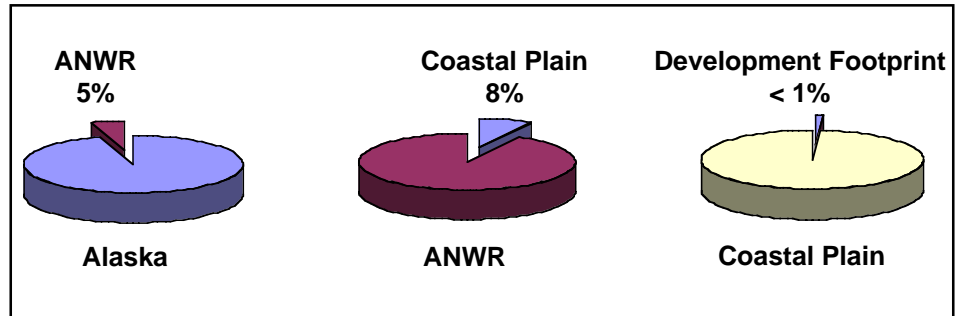
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ANWR

Frequently asked questions

Why should Congress open the Coastal Plain of ANWR to oil development?

America is more dependent than ever on foreign oil and demand in the U.S. is steadily increasing. Most of your next tank of gas will come from a foreign country. The U.S. now imports 56 percent of the oil it consumes, costing more than \$100 billion annually. Imports could exceed 65 percent in the next 20 years. Many experts worry that rising oil prices could draw the economy into a prolonged recession. Congress should open ANWR's Coastal Plain because its potentially enormous oil reserves would reduce America's growing dependence on foreign oil and help address our pressing energy needs. ANWR could produce up to 1.5 million barrels per day for at least 25 years, nearly 25 percent of current U.S. daily production. With ANWR, the U.S. could reduce oil imports by \$14 billion a year. Some 735,000 jobs would be created throughout the United States from the development of reserves, which would offset declining production at Prudhoe Bay.



Alaska contains 192 million acres of national parks and refuges. Less than one percent of ANWR's 1.5 million acre Coastal Plain is being considered for oil and gas leasing and development. ANWR covers 19.6 million acres, equivalent in size to South Carolina.

Wouldn't development ruin our last Arctic Wilderness?

ANWR is more than 19 million acres, the size of South Carolina. Development, however, would be confined to the Coastal Plain, which represents 8 percent of the refuge. According to the Interior Department, less than one percent of the Coastal Plain would actually be affected by development. That's less than one-tenth of one percent of the refuge. Because of major advances in oil field technology and design, the footprint of development has become much smaller, ensuring that alteration of land will be minimal. Horizontal drilling now makes it possible to drill beneath 64 square miles of tundra from one small drilling pad. Not only would most of ANWR remain untouched by oil development, no federally designated Wilderness areas in the refuge or Alaska would be developed. Not one acre. ANWR is only one of many national parks and refuges in Alaska covering 192 million acres. (See wilderness facts on page 3)

But wouldn't development in even a small segment of ANWR put wildlife at risk?

The facts say no. When opponents attempted to block development at Prudhoe Bay, they claimed that oil production would reduce or destroy caribou herds and that waterfowl would be decimated. After 27 years of development, caribou populations across North Slope oil fields have increased from 3,000 to 27,000 animals. With new technology, disturbances to wildlife in ANWR can be avoided. Elevated pipelines allow animals to roam freely and facilities are designed and sited to minimize impacts on sensitive areas.

Isn't energy conservation a better option to drilling in the refuge?

Conservation must play a role in reducing this nation's growing dependence on oil imports, but it alone cannot solve the problem. America requires both energy conservation and new domestic oil production if it hopes to avoid a serious energy crisis. In fact, new conservation initiatives fall well short of keeping pace with projected growth in the demand for oil. Even with the strictest conservation measures, the critical need for oil will continue since conservation itself is not an energy source.

Why don't we look to alternative energy sources?

More research is being conducted into alternative energy and Senator Frank Murkowski's energy bill puts new emphasis on alternatives as well as new conservation initiatives, but each new energy source has its own opponents, environmental challenges and concerns. Oil will play a significant role for decades because our economic infrastructure requires fossil fuels. The transition to alternative sources will be a gradual process. In the meantime, petroleum is the safest and most practical energy source. Consider the surface impacts of the following sources of energy to produce 50 megawatts of electricity, the current need for Palm Springs, California:

Oil	1/2-acre
Natural Gas	2-5 acres
*Solar	1,000 acres
*Wind	4,000 acres

*Requires backup generators

Resource Review is the official periodic publication of the Resource Development Council (RDC), Alaska's largest privately funded nonprofit economic development organization working to develop Alaska's natural resources in an orderly manner and to create a broad-based, diversified economy while protecting and enhancing the environment.

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Thoughts from the President by Bob Stiles

Americans favor exploration in ANWR when given the facts

*Victory may depend on
your personal efforts*

Wilderness Facts

- There are currently 58 million acres of designated Wilderness in Alaska. Within the 19.6 million acres of ANWR, 8 million acres are designated Wilderness. The only area in ANWR set aside for potential oil exploration is the 1.5 million acres along the Coastal Plain. None of this area is designated Wilderness. Less than 2,000 acres would be used for production of what could be enormous amounts of oil -- perhaps 25% to 50% of total U.S. production for 25 or more years.
- If Alaska's designated Wilderness were made into a single state, it would comprise the 11th largest state in the union.
- Alaska's federal Wilderness is larger than the combination of the following states: Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine. No access, no development -- all Wilderness.
- Alaska contains more than 192 million acres of parks and refuges, an area larger than California. Most of this acreage is closed to development.

When presented with the facts, an overwhelming majority of Americans support oil and gas development in ANWR. The problem is that most Americans have little information on ANWR and most of those who know something about the issue have received much of their information from environmental groups opposing drilling. These groups have very effectively created the perception that there is only a few months supply of oil beneath ANWR and developing those limited reserves would destroy the last pristine wilderness in Alaska.

However, a recent survey by Wirthlin Worldwide shows 67 percent of Americans are more supportive of oil and gas development in ANWR when informed that the majority of Alaskans favor exploration. Moreover, the survey revealed 74 percent of Americans are more supportive of oil development in ANWR when informed that exploration will occur only on a tiny part of the refuge.

The survey clearly showed Americans favor balancing the nation's need for energy with environmental protection. Findings show that 80 percent of Americans believe the U.S. is likely to experience a serious energy crisis within the next few years and 73 percent are uneasy with the notion that we are so reliant on foreign oil to meet our energy needs.

Convincing Congress to open the Coastal Plain of ANWR to oil and gas development will in part depend on public opinion. Our challenge as Alaskans is to educate Lower 48 residents on the issue and expose them to the cold hard facts. The more information they have, the more likely they are to support our efforts.

Unfortunately, it takes big bucks to educate the masses and set the record straight. A nationwide television, radio and newspaper campaign would be prohibitively expensive, costing millions of dollars. While we can't match the million dollar advertising campaign of

our opponents, we can compete at the grassroots level. However, it will take each of us to call and write our family, friends and business associates in the Lower 48 and ask them to support opening the Coastal Plain of ANWR to exploration. Specifically, request that they write, email or call their senators or congressmen to express support.

RDC has dedicated its April and May editions of the Resource Review to the ANWR effort. Send the newsletter to your contacts. Call us for extra copies and you have our permission to copy as many as you like on your office equipment. In addition, you can also advance our education efforts by referring your contacts to Arctic Power's website at www.anwr.org. And don't take support here in Alaska for granted -- respond to negative Letters to the Editor.

We have the facts, so let's utilize them. Fire up your fax machines and send informative emails to everyone in your address book.

ANWR's a tough issue, but so was Alaska Statehood and congressional approval for the trans-Alaska Pipeline. The statehood issue didn't pass on its first or second test before Congress and the pipeline issue passed on a tie-breaking vote by Vice President Agnew.

We have our work cut out for us, but don't give up. In fact, we are just getting started and Alaska needs your energy, commitment and persistence if it is to ultimately prevail. The polls show the issue can be won, but it will take one heck of an effort. The payback for Alaska and America is worth it.

Sharing ANWR's treasures is a win-win solution for all Americans. Wilderness values throughout nearly all of the refuge remain protected. Americans get billions of barrels of oil for fuels and products everyone uses. And the environment gets unrivaled care under strict oversight. Nowhere would so much oil be recovered with so little impact.

Alaskans invite Congress to ANWR

(Continued from page 1)

oil it consumed. Today, that's jumped to 56 percent and will grow to a projected 65 percent in the next 20 years unless we change the way we do business."

The best prospect for replacing the declining production from Prudhoe Bay is the oil believed to lie beneath the coastal plain of ANWR. The U.S. Geological Survey estimates the refuge could hold up to 16 billion barrels of technically recoverable oil. Even at half this rate, ANWR could produce 500,000 barrels a day for more than 40 years. Since it is set aside as a study area within the refuge, development of the Coastal Plain can only occur with a vote of Congress.

"The time has come to debunk the myth that development and the environment are an either/or proposition," Knowles added. "Theodore Roosevelt once said: 'Conservation means development as much as it does protection,' and Alaskans understand better than anyone the importance of treating this land with care and respect, in the same way Native Americans have done for 10,000 years. The experience on Alaska's North Slope provides strong evidence that oil and gas development at nearby ANWR would pose little threat to the ecology of the

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Coastal Plain. The Central Arctic Caribou Herd, which occupies the Prudhoe Bay area throughout the year, has grown steadily from a population of 6,000 in 1978, the year after North Slope oil production began, to over 27,000 today."

Knowles also noted steps taken during recent leasing within the nearby National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, where industry is working with the state and federal governments to mitigate the impact of development. This includes designating certain areas off-limits for oil development and imposing seasonal and other restrictions to protect wildlife and their habitat.

"We can do the same in the Coastal Plain of ANWR by shutting down exploration during the 6-8 weeks when

the Porcupine caribou herd often uses the area for calving." Knowles said. "The Inupiat people who reside on the North Slope and who are dependent on the resources of the region are among the strongest supporters for the development of ANWR."

In a separate letter, Knowles joined with Senate President Rick Halford and Speaker of the House Brian Porter in inviting key congressional leaders to come to Alaska to see ANWR and new Arctic oil technology for themselves. Such informational tours have been successful in the past in gaining support among lawmakers for responsible development within the Coastal Plain.

"When you visit Alaska's North Slope, you will see the far-reaching and positive impacts of carefully controlled and regulated oil development as well as the improvements that have been made in Arctic technology," the letter signed by the three leaders said. "You will have an opportunity to view the various stages of Arctic development and see how the 'footprint' of development has decreased by more than 50 percent since Prudhoe Bay began production in the mid 1970s.

"Current issues such as the energy crisis in California and our nation's growing reliance on imported oil, now at 57 percent of the nation's consumption, have brought the importance of developing a national energy policy to center stage," the letter concludes.



New technology has dramatically reduced industry's footprint on the North Slope.

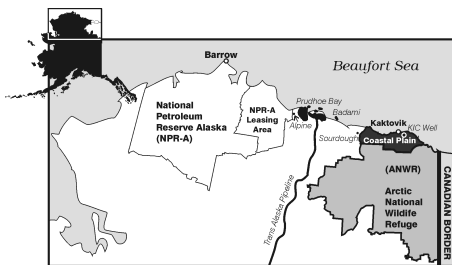
The Land

- ANWR totals 19.6 million acres, the size of South Carolina. Eight million acres are designated Wilderness.
- Congress set aside 1.5 million acres on the Coastal Plain of ANWR for study of its oil and gas potential and the effects of development on the environment. In 1987 the Interior Department recommended the Coastal Plain be opened to oil and gas development. No designated Wilderness is in the area proposed for development and 92 percent of the refuge would remain closed to drilling.
- With technological advances, only a tiny fraction of the Coastal Plain, less than 2,000 acres, or one-tenth of one percent, would be impacted.

Hottest onshore oil prospect

- ANWR is our best prospect for increasing domestic production. Studies estimate up to 16 billion barrels of oil over a period of 25 years could be produced from the Coastal Plain.
- The "mean" estimate of recoverable reserves from ANWR is more than 10 billion barrels. ANWR could produce up to 1.5 million barrels a day for at least 25 years, nearly 25 percent of current U.S. daily production.
- ANWR production could reduce oil imports by \$14 billion annually, and create more than 735,000 jobs nationwide.

ANWR: THE FACTS



U.S. Oil Imports

- In 1973, the U.S. imported 36 percent of its oil.
- In 1991, the U.S. imported 46 percent of its oil.
- Today, the U.S. imports 56 percent of its oil.
- The Department of Energy estimates that by the year 2020, the U.S. will import 65 percent of its oil.
- The U.S. now imports 9 million barrels of oil a day.
 - 750,000 from Iraq
 - 1,500,000 from Saudi Arabia
 - 253,000 from Kuwait
 - 2,366,000 from Persian Gulf area
 - 5,000,000 from OPEC nations
- Imports of oil and refined products now cost America \$100 billion annually and are the largest single commodity in the U.S. balance of trade deficit.
- ANWR production could be equivalent to 30 years of Saudi oil imports.

Environmental Considerations

- The oil industry on the North Slope is the cleanest, most technologically advanced and most heavily regulated in the world. New facilities are designed for minimal environmental impact.
- The Central Arctic caribou herd at Prudhoe Bay has grown nine-fold since development began. The herd has not been displaced by development.
- The State of Alaska has concluded that with the combination of current environmental controls and the innovative arctic technology developed by industry during more than 20 years of operations on the North Slope, ANWR's Coastal Plain can be explored and developed with no measurable impacts to wildlife.

Alaska Support

- A recent opinion poll in the ANWR village of Kaktovik showed that 78 percent of local residents believe the Coastal Plain should be opened to oil and gas development. Native people living across the North Slope, from Barrow to the Canadian border, support development. These people have first-hand experience with oil development in their region.

Energy Alliance forms to show ANWR support

(Continued from page 1)

The Energy Alliance has launched a television and radio campaign in the Washington, D.C., area encouraging Americans to support Murkowski's energy bill. The legislation is the first attempt at an energy policy in over eight years.

"Energy security is paramount to our nation's future," said Roger Herrera, Acting Head of the new coalition. "Yet there are environmental groups distorting facts in order to prevent any domestic exploration. Claims of environmental catastrophes and interference with animal migratory routes are unfounded. No one who wants a balanced energy policy wants to disrupt the ecological balance of the land."

At the press conference announcing the formation of the coalition, Alaska Natives offered support for ANWR exploration, emphasizing economic benefits, quality of life issues

and experiences with existing oil and gas development in the Arctic. Their testimony was strengthened by recent surveys indicating 75 percent of all Alaskans, including 78 percent of Alaska Natives living in the ANWR village of Kaktovik, support oil production on ANWR's Coastal Plain.

Members of the Energy Alliance include United Brotherhood of Teamsters, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Air Transportation Association, National Food Processors Association, National Grange, and the National Black Chamber of Commerce among many other businesses and groups.

The campaign will bring attention to both the energy problems facing America and the need to increase domestic oil production -- all in support of the National Energy Security Act of 2001.

Inupiat urge Congress to open ANWR

by Jacob Adams
President

Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

The topic on everyone's mind in the country today is what will happen with the Coastal Plain of ANWR. Will Congress open it?

I am optimistic that Congress will recognize the contribution it will make to our country's growing energy crisis. ANWR is also symbolic of the future of the oil and gas industry in Alaska and the U.S. A domestic, healthy oil and gas industry is important for our future. Oil imports do not provide jobs and revenue. The opening of the Coastal Plain will provide a renewal of our economic engine in Alaska. However, we should know that the opening will not create jobs and opportunities overnight, it will take time for the government and the industry to sort out the mechanics of leasing and production scenarios.

In all of these issues, ASRC has a stake in them. We own 92,000 acres on the Coastal Plain, along with Kaktovik Inupiat Corporation. Long ago, we committed the acreage to a Chevron/BP partnership. In 1984 we thought it would be just a few years before we could explore and develop this acreage. We renewed our agreement with the companies in 1998. Being optimistic of an opening, our agreement will remove the current limitations on production opportunities and stimulate further exploration on our lands.

ASRC is very supportive of Senator Murkowski and his colleagues in their efforts to open the ANWR Coastal Plain to oil and gas exploration and development. In fact, ASRC sent a letter to President Bush urging him and the Congress to open the Coastal Plain to a responsible program of oil and gas leasing. In a recent survey of the village of Kaktovik, 78 percent of the residents stated they "agree" or "strongly agree" that the Coastal Plain of ANWR should be open to the oil and gas industry.

The Inupiat are part of the ecosystem of the North Slope. We have been part of the North Slope from time



Jacob Adams is an Inupiat whaling captain. He lives in Barrow.

immemorial. When we discuss the caribou, the birds, and the fish, the Inupiat people need to be part of that discussion. We are the stewards of the land and we support development of the Coastal Plain. This is our homeland and we are very motivated to work towards a plan that ensures adequate exploration of the Coastal Plain while ensuring protection of the environment.

We are motivated because we are dependent upon the environment to provide us with our subsistence resources to sustain us and our future generations as it has our ancestors. We feel this balance can be accomplished; our culture places a high value on cooperation and we have learned how to work cooperatively with the industry and government agencies to both sustain the environment and our cultural resources while realizing the economic benefits of development.

We expect to take an active role in ensuring that the regulations pertaining to the Coastal Plain are adequate to protect the Kaktovik Inupiat that live in the area, including the animals and habitat that they rely on for subsistence. We would also expect that any non-producing activities be located in a restricted commercial/industrial zone so as to minimize the footprint and avoid the industrial sprawl we see at Prudhoe Bay. ASRC and the Kaktovik Inupiat Corporation will also play an integral role in the gathering and dissemination of information on the area and will make traditional knowledge and expertise available. And if we are successful in having oil or gas found on our land, our shareholders will reap the economic benefits of production.

ASRC's mission statement, in part, says that our plan is to ensure economic and cultural freedoms for our shareholders. In order to enjoy these

freedoms, our people must have an environment and quality of life that allows just that to happen. The development that has taken place in the Arctic over the last thirty years has enhanced life more than it has harmed it. Certainly, life in our communities in the Arctic has improved with health care, housing, sanitation and education.

Most of you are likely aware of a study being undertaken by the National Academy of Sciences to look at the cumulative environmental effects of oil development in the Arctic. I would like to tell them and you, that the habitat and the environment that we rely on for our subsistence resources has been well respected by the industrialists occupying some of that space with us. Not only have they respected the land, but they also respect the people who live there and work with them to solve problems. Granted there have been some mistakes, but we learn through mistakes and lessons have been learned. Technology has advanced since the days of Prudhoe Bay and we no longer see free wheeling sprawl of the late 60s and the 70s.

Projects like Alpine are a living example of technological and environmental advancement. The use of ice roads, horizontal drilling, careful environmental planning and new technology show that very large oil and gas fields can be developed and produced with minimal environmental impact. At Alpine, the drilling pads and related production facilities cover only 65 acres, an area the size of a small nine-hole golf course. The same technology could be used on the Coastal Plain of ANWR.

ASRC's plans and my perspectives are obviously pro-development, but I am still a whaling captain and a subsistence hunter that provides for my community and family. When I take my suit and tie off and travel out in the ocean and the tundra to hunt, I take very seriously the future of these resources and the habitat they need to survive on. It appears to me that we are doing a good job of ensuring economic and cultural freedoms for the Inupiat.

Inupiat Eskimo culture enhanced, not harmed by years of oil development on North Slope

by Mayor George Ahmaogak
North Slope Borough

As in past years, the current national debate over oil exploration in ANWR is generating a lot more heat than light. Gut-level concerns turn into misguided arguments based on inaccurate details. Interest groups play on generic fears to attract support for their wall of opposition. Wildlife species and oil producers are made to look like each other's worst enemies.

What this debate needs is less noise and more perspective. I believe the Inupiat Eskimo residents of Alaska's North Slope have a valuable perspective to bring to the table. After all, the land called ANWR is part of our homeland. Our ancestors have lived and hunted and traveled in this region for thousands of years.

Our perspective rests on two dynamics which are central to our survival as a modern indigenous people. The first is our attachment to the land through our cultural dependence on subsistence hunting and fishing activities. The second dynamic is our determination to remain in our homeland and build a future for our children and their children. These two dynamics – a subsistence-based culture and a pragmatic approach to survival in the Arctic – form our perspective on resource development, and I believe they offer a reasonable pathway through the tensions between development and preservation.

Environmental Instincts

The Eskimo view on development stems in part from our relationship to the land. We like to say that we are the original environmentalists. This is because our fate has always depended on the health of the animal populations that we harvest for survival. If you keep in mind that generations of our ancestors survived in the harshest habitable climate on earth without three of the four basic food groups, then it is easy to



Mayor George Ahmaogak is a Barrow whaling captain.

"The overblown rhetoric of some interest groups may inspire fear in people who live far from ANWR. We are not so easily misled. We have learned that we can protect the land and wildlife even as oil development proceeds."

understand why we have an intensely protective attitude toward our wildlife species and their habitats. If they thrive, so do we. If they are threatened, so are we.

Practical Experience

Thirty years ago, we faced the prospect of massive development in our traditional hunting grounds. North America's largest oil field had been discovered in the midst of our vast territory. We were afraid of the possible impacts on our land, our wildlife and our culture.

As a result of these fears, we formed our regional government – the North Slope Borough – to ensure our voice in environmental policy decisions. We used our powers of local control to monitor and affect development plans. To this day, the oil industry must come to us for permits before they pursue an oil prospect.

Our experience with Prudhoe Bay development has calmed our fears.

Impacts on land and wildlife resources have been carefully managed so as to minimize damage. The industry is keenly aware of our environmental concerns, and it has consistently introduced new technologies to reduce land and wildlife impacts. We do not always agree with the producers, but we have a mutual respect that allows us to sit at the same table and work toward reasonable solutions.

The Future

Our ancestors taught us to learn through experience and observation. The past 30 years have taught us that resource extraction can be compatible with a healthy arctic ecosystem. We have also learned that economic development can contribute to the health of our indigenous culture. Inupiat culture is stronger than ever today. That is due in part to the jobs and tax revenues associated with oil development in our region. Without these economic opportunities, our young people would have to leave home to find work. Our schools would not offer the Native language and culture programs that help to connect our children with their past. We would not be able to contribute to scientific research efforts aimed at monitoring the health of North Slope wildlife populations.

The overblown rhetoric of some interest groups may inspire fear in people who live far from ANWR. We are not so easily misled. We have learned that we can protect the land and wildlife even as oil development proceeds. With adequate environmental protections written into the development plans and leases, the interests of wilderness and resource extraction can both be accommodated.

I invite you to learn more about our views on oil development, past and future. We don't claim to have all the answers on ANWR, but we are a good place to start if you want to understand the Arctic.

The Arctic is full of natural wonders, _____



_____ including its people.

Inupiat Eskimos have lived along Alaska's northern coast for thousands of years. Against the odds of a bitter arctic climate, we have survived by honoring the land as we harvest its wildlife resources. We have always considered ourselves part of the arctic ecosystem, not separate from it.

Our people continue to live by this environmental ethic today. The North Slope Borough supports arctic science and land management programs to ensure the health of the region's habitat and animal species. The borough cooperates with state and federal wildlife agencies, and serves as a conduit for the traditional environmental knowledge of North Slope elders.

No one is more concerned about preserving the arctic environment than the people who have always lived there. The Inupiat are committed to a future in which our ancestors' hunting grounds will be healthy enough for our grandchildren to enjoy.

Our culture depends on it.

If you would like to know more about the Inupiat position on resource issues, contact us.

George N. Ahmaogak, Sr.
Mayor

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