

# NEWS

## We're Wilderness Wild!

### Protect It Forever

It's a 19 million-acre area of land in Alaska called the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. It's a wilderness of northern forests, glaciated peaks and wind-swept tundra (wetland prairie). It's a habitat (home) for flowers, animals, and the Gwich'en and Inupiat peoples. It's a national reserve that we can visit to learn about and enjoy its beauty. Oil companies want to drill for oil in a 1.5 million-acre band of the refuge, where caribou, birds, and bears give birth. Oil drilling can create land, air, and water pollution. Do we really need this oil? Can we conserve energy so that we will need less oil? Can we use solar and wind power? If we convince U.S. government leaders to protect it forever, oil drilling will be stopped on this delicate Arctic wonderland.



### From Clint's Mom

*Eleven-year-old Clint Hill founded Kids for Saving Earth before he died from a brain tumor. KSE counts on kids like you to carry on his dream of a healthy planet.*

#### Please help to preserve precious land in Alaska. Here's how:

**Teaching Grownups** - Read this issue of the News to your parent(s) and adult friends. Then send an email to KSE telling us how many adults you have taught.

**Make a Poster** about this issue and put it up where lots of people will see it.

**Write** your Congressmen or Senators and tell them to support the Udall-Eisenhower Arctic Wilderness Act (H.R. 39) which will ensure that the coastal plain of the Refuge is granted the strongest protection possible as a wilderness area for the future.

**United with Friends** - Join KSE by clicking here. Working as a group strengthens your Earth-saving efforts.



### The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, home to thousands of caribou and other wildlife, is the last place on the Arctic coast not open to oil drilling. This, however, could change. Oil companies want permission to drill there. If drilling does begin, the effect on both animals and people could be disastrous. For instance, the caribou coming to the refuge each summer to have their calves will be frightened by the roads, buildings, and pipelines necessary for oil-drilling. This has already been proven at the-Prudhoe Bay oil drilling sites. There is a danger of oil spills which could be fatal to some animals because they can't shed water when they are covered with oil.

Drilling would also affect the Gwich'en and Inupiat native who live on or near the refuge. They are dependent on the caribou meat for food, skins for clothing and bones for tools and handicrafts.

So what can kids could do to help? [Write to the U.S. President and Senators](#) asking them to protect the national refuge forever. The oil companies could be prevented by law from drilling and the animals and people would be safe.

### ARCTIC ANIMALS



There are only about 4700 Polar Bears in the U.S. and most of them hibernate (sleep-like state during winter) and have their baby cubs on the northern coast of Alaska in the Arctic National Refuge. In early April these huge bears usually go back to the pack ice (mostly floating ice) to hunt for seals and other food. Andrew T., a KSE kid explained, "I learned that polar bear cubs are born in snow bank dens (homes) and they have no fur and weigh only ounces. That's awesome because as adults they're one of the largest animals." Big brown Grizzly bears hang out in the refuge too. "It's so great to know that these beautiful

animals have real homes and don't just live in zoos," says Britta S. Bearded seals, ringed seals, will ptarmigan (the official bird of Alaska), snow geese, and wolves are just a few of the over 250 animal species that live in the refuge. One of the most amazing features is the Porcupine Caribou herd that migrates hundreds of miles from Canada to have calves (babies) on the coastal plain. "It would be so sad if these moms arrive to have their babies and find there home filled with oil junk," says

Karina H. KSE Kid and sister of founder Clinton Hill. Let's protect our Arctic animals!



A Kids for Saving Earth Worldwide

**POWER POSTER**



# Protect My HOME

Wild Flowers need this home too!

Wild flowers of the Arctic Refuge

