

SJR

39

STATEWIDE POLITICAL OPINION SURVEY
IVAN MOORE RESEARCH
TEL: 907-278-4600

Poll Conducted for the Alaska Conservation Alliance; November, 1999

**THE ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE OR ANWR SHOULD BE PROTECTED FROM
 BRITISH PETROLEUM'S OIL DRILLING AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

Agree:	101	40.5%	
Disagree	109	43.4%	
Neutral	40	16.0%	Mean - 1.961

PARTY AFFILIATION

	Democrat	Republican	Other
Agree	52.7%	26.4%	44.4%
Disagree	28.7%	52.3%	44.7%
Neutral	18.6%	21.3%	10.6%

AGE OF RESPONDENT

	18-49	50+
Agree	47.1%	34.1%
Disagree	40.1%	47.9%
Neutral	12.9%	18.0%

GENDER OF RESPONDENT

	Female	Male
Agree	52.7%	28.4%
Disagree	29.5%	57.4%
Neutral	17.8%	14.3%

AREAS OF ALASKA

	Southeast	Rural	Fairbanks	Anchorage
Agree	50.8%	45.6%	53.1%	34.1%
Disagree	36.3%	28.8%	41.5%	48.3%
Neutral	12.9%	25.6%	5.4%	17.5%



Alaska Field Office 201 Barrow Street, Suite 101 Anchorage, AK 99501
TEL: (907) 276-4048 FAX: (907) 258-6807 nw-ak.field@sierraclub.org

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Polling Results

Research conducted by Ivan Moore Research for the Alaska Conservation Alliance

July 1998

“The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge should be protected from oil drilling:”

Agree	140	46.7%
Disagree	137	45.7%
Neutral/Undecided	23	7.7%

November 1999

“Please tell me if you strongly agree, mildly agree, mildly disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or ANWR.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or ANWR should be protected from British Petroleum’s oil drilling and development plans:”

Agree	101	40.5%
Disagree	109	43.4%
Neutral	40	16.0%



750 W. 2nd Ave. #109, Anchorage AK 99501 / Ph. 907-258-6171 / Fax 907-258-6177

P.O. Box 22151, Juneau AK 99802 / Ph. 907-463-3366 / Fax 907-463-3312 / unite@akvoice.org

April 3, 2000

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator:

I am writing to ask for your support against oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The Alaska Conservation Voters, a statewide umbrella organization which represents 31 conservation organizations and 22,000 individual Alaskans, is a strong supporter of permanent protection for the Arctic Refuge coastal plain.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is an Alaskan treasure. The fragile coastal plain supports a broad diversity of life including nesting and feeding habitat for hundreds of species of migratory birds, denning grounds for polar bears, and the birthing area for the 130,000 member Porcupine River caribou herd. The Arctic Refuge coastal plain makes up a mere 5% of Alaska's Arctic and is the only stretch of coastline which is off-limits to oil and gas development.

Contrary to oil lobbyist claims, Alaskans are divided on the question of whether to allow oil drilling in the Arctic Refuge (Ivan Moore Research 11/99). In fact, 65% of Alaskans say they oppose oil drilling if proven that it would cause significant harm to the environment (MacWilliams, Cosgrove, Smith, Robinson 11/98). The majority of women and rural residents consistently support protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from oil drilling.

It was also Alaskan groups like the Fairbanks-based Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association that convinced President Eisenhower's Administration to establish the original Arctic Wildlife Range in 1960. Today, wilderness designation is supported by a broad-based state coalition that includes the Gwich'in Natives of Northeast Alaska, the Episcopal Church, and dozens of Alaska tourism and conservation organizations.

Primary opposition to protection of the coastal plain comes from an oil industry backed lobby group calling itself "Arctic Power." Arctic Power is not a credible source of information on this issue. In fact, their main support is from multinational corporations like British Petroleum who would directly benefit from increased oil drilling.

Scientific and conservation experts agree that drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge will destroy the unique wilderness and wildlife resources of the area. Even Alaska's own University researchers have determined that oil drilling and industrial development has a detrimental impact on caribou (Nellemann, C., R.D. Cameron, "Cumulative Impacts of an Evolving Oil Field on the Distribution of Calving Caribou," Canadian Journal of Zoology, 1998). The Gwich'in Natives who live in Alaska and Canada rely on the caribou for their subsistence and cultural identity and are united in their opposition to oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

It is heartening to know that so many people across the country support Alaskans in our efforts to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from oil drilling. In fact, polls show that over 70% of the American public supports permanent protection for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge coastal plain. Please demonstrate your support by voting against any bill that allows for oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Thank you for your leadership role in this important effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Susan E. Schneider".

Mary Core, Executive Director

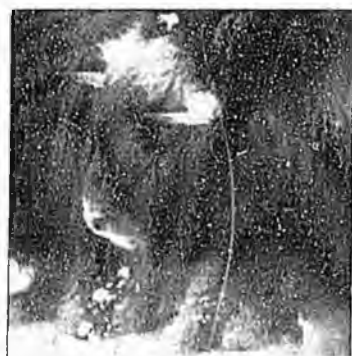
Conserve Alaska. It's Only Natural.

Why Alaskans Support Protecting the Arctic Refuge



JOHNNY JOHNSON

In the far northeastern corner of Alaska lies the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The Arctic Refuge coastal plain is the heart of a thriving Arctic ecosystem that hosts thousands of migratory birds, provides denning habitat for polar bears, and is the calving grounds for the 129,000-member Porcupine caribou herd. Each year, the caribou migrate hundreds of miles to the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge, where they give birth to their young. The Arctic Refuge also plays an integral part in the lives of the Gwich'in Athabascan people who depend on the seasonal migrations of the caribou for their subsistence and cultural identity.



But this unique Alaskan wilderness is under attack. Multinational oil companies and their friends in Congress want to drill the fragile coastal plain for oil, and turn our Arctic wilderness into another Prudhoe Bay.

In the last 20 years, oil development has spread rapidly across Alaska's Arctic. Over 1,500 miles of roads and pipelines crisscross 800 square miles of tundra. Millions of acres of offshore waters and 4 million acres of the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska will soon be leased for oil development.



GREG REACE

With 90 percent of Alaska's Arctic already eligible for leasing, Alaskans need to restore a balance between oil and wilderness. The Arctic Refuge coastal plain is a mere 5 percent of Alaska's vast Arctic coast. Permanently protecting the Arctic Refuge coastal plain from oil drilling will ensure that this critical portion of Alaska's Arctic is safeguarded for the future.

Alaskans Hunt, Fish and Recreate in the Arctic Refuge

The initial far-sighted public proposal for the establishment of the Arctic National Wildlife Range was made by the Tanana Valley Sportsman's Association in 1957.

Once an area is industrialized by the oil industry, hunting is usually off limits. Alaskans who used to enjoy the entire Arctic for hunting have found themselves locked out of the lands around Prudhoe Bay. Along the 800 mile corridor of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline (TAPS), hunting is strictly prohibited.

Each year, dozens of Alaskan hunting and wilderness guides bring guests into the Arctic Refuge to enjoy the unique wilderness and wildlife opportunities. These small business owners directly benefit from the wild qualities of the Arctic Refuge that draw guests from all over the world and contribute to a growing economy.



LEN RUE



PAMELA A. MILLER

These people would snake a pipeline across one of the great landscapes of the world, the Arctic National Wildlife Range. Some have appropriately compared splitting the Arctic National Wildlife Range by a 48-inch pipeline and haul road with slicing a razor blade across the face of the Mona Lisa

*—Senator Ted Stevens,
Anchorage Daily News,
May 16, 1977*

There is a sport hunting season for caribou, moose, Dall sheep and waterfowl within the Arctic Refuge. Subsistence hunting and fishing is permitted, as is fur trapping. We cherish this legacy and want our children and grandchildren to be assured of these opportunities.

Oil Drilling Harms the Arctic Environment

Multinational oil companies claim that they've cleaned up their act on the North Slope, but their record demonstrates this is not true. In 1996, Doyon Drilling was caught injecting toxic drilling waste into the tundra at the Endicott oil field — an operation that the industry heralds as model for environmentally safe development. In 1998, Arco lost millions of gallons of drilling muds below the Colville River Delta at their Alpine site. These are not the actions of companies who respect our land or our heritage.

There are hundreds of spills each year on the North Slope, involving tens of thousands of gallons of crude oil and other petroleum products. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation lists over 60 contaminated sites associated with North Slope oil industry operations.

Oil operations in the Arctic annually emit over 43,000 tons of oxides of nitrogen — more than twice the amount emitted by Washington, D.C. These emissions contribute to smog, which has been linked to asthma and respiratory illness. Emissions can be detected 200 miles away in Barrow.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game conducted studies on caribou in the vicinity of the Prudhoe Bay oil complex which show that cows with calves avoid noise and development. The studies link increased animal stress and extra exertion with lower calf production, lower calf birth weights, and lower calf densities. Oil development in the Arctic Refuge would likely effect the Porcupine caribou in a similar way.

Protect Alaska's Only Arctic Refuge

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is a unique Alaskan treasure. Drilling for oil in the Arctic Refuge will destroy the very values that Alaskans respect and worked to defend. Protecting the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge will ensure that this incredible legacy is preserved for all time.



For more information about how you can get involved with the Sierra Club's Alaska Arctic campaign, call Sara Callaghan at (907) 276-4088 or e-mail saragael@alaska.sierraclub.org. Thanks to: The Natural Resources Defense Council and the Alaska Wilderness League for their research.

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1
 Bill Version: SR 39
 BILL N(S) Publish Date: 3/23/00

STATE OF ALASKA
 2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) _____ Dept. Affected _____
 Title Encouraging Congress to Open ANWR BRU _____
 _____ Component _____
 Sponsor Senate Rules _____
 Requester Senate Resources Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution is anticipated to have no fiscal impact on state agencies.

Prepared by: Juli Lucky  Phone 465-4907
 Division Senate Resources Committee Date/Time 3/16/00 4:22 PM
 Approved by _____ Date _____
 Agency _____

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Drue Pearce
President of the Senate

Memorandum

Date: March 27, 2000

To: Representative Beverly Masek
Co-Chair House Resources Committee

From: Senator Drue Pearce, Senate President. 

RE: SJR 39 – ENCOURAGING CONGRESS TO OPEN ANWR

I respectfully request that SJR 39 be scheduled for a hearing in the House Resources Committee at your earliest possible convenience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alaska State Legislature



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Drue Pearce
President of the Senate

Sponsor Statement

SJR 39

3/21/00

U.S. oil production has fallen 17 percent during the Clinton-Gore Administration to the lowest annual production rate since 1954. At the same time U.S. consumption has risen approximately 14 percent. As of February 2000, America is importing approximately 56 percent of our daily oil consumption, 44 percent of which comes from countries that are members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). This amounts to 10.5 million barrels of the roughly 19 million barrels we consume per day.

The dramatic decline in domestic oil production and the resulting dependence on foreign oil production is directly attributable to America's failure to develop a long-term energy policy. To be successful this policy needs to address not only the promotion of alternative technologies and fuels but must also recognize that, for the foreseeable future, Americans will be dependent on petroleum and natural gas to power our nation's industry, transportation systems, and economy.

America's energy industry has also been damaged. Jobs in the energy section have declined from 405,000 in 1990 to 293,000; a 28 percent drop over the last 10 years. A further sign of decline is that exploration rigs searching for oil have fallen from 657 in 1990 to 153 in February, 2000 -- a 77 percent decline. Alaska and America can ill afford to continue our increased dependency on oil imports from foreign countries while exporting our jobs to these same nations.

Industry and government experts recognize the Coastal Plain of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) as the single most promising unexplored region in the U.S. for a major oil and gas discovery. In 1998, the U.S. Geological Survey estimated that the Coastal Plain of ANWR could have up to 16 billion barrels of recoverable oil -- similar in size to volume of oil expected to be recovered from Prudhoe Bay.

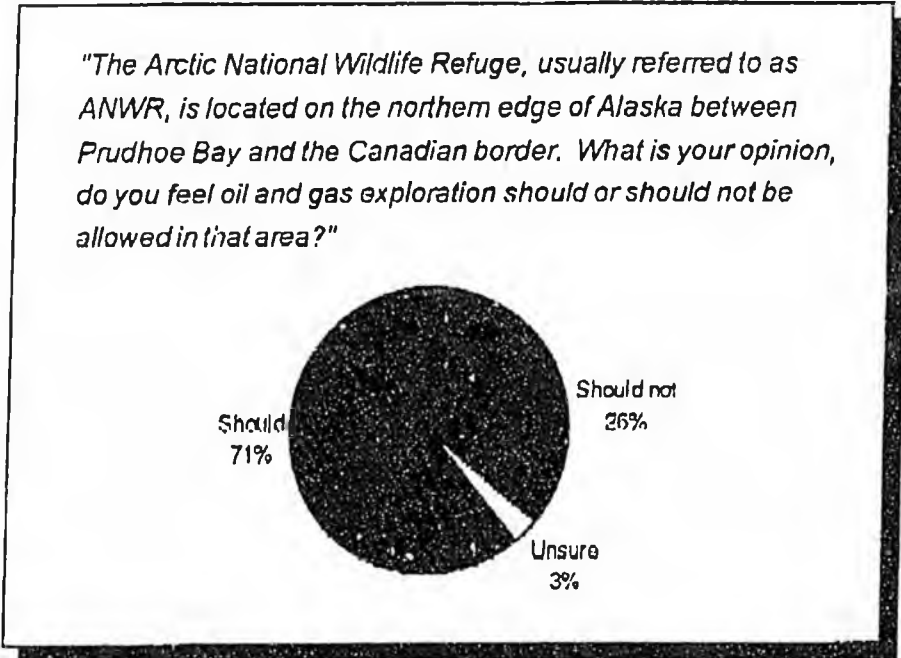
In an effort to accommodate America's energy needs, the Federal government currently employs a strategy of encouraging foreign countries to produce more oil to be made available for import to the United States. The fallacy of this strategy is evidenced by the dramatic price fluctuation of oil in recent years. Further failure of this approach is the three recessions since 1973 triggered by rising imported oil prices which were primarily driven by consumer demand and reduced domestic production.

SJR 39 supports our congressional efforts to develop a long-term energy policy for America, which includes opening access to promising areas, like ANWR, in an effort to increase domestic oil and gas production. Only then will America lessen the grip that foreign oil producing nations have on our economy and consumers.

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE EXPLORATION JANUARY 1999

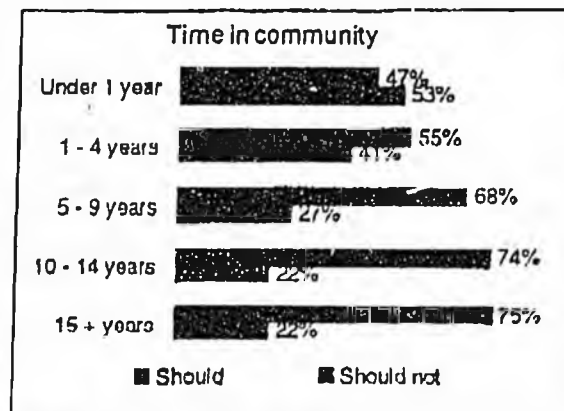
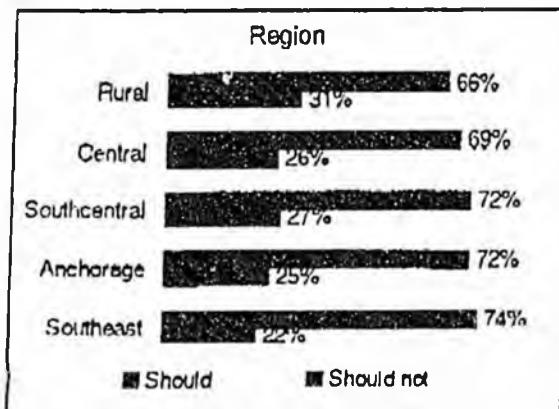
FINDINGS

Statewide, nearly three out of four Alaskans (71%) report they believe oil and gas exploration should be allowed in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge...



...and support is strong in every geographic region and strongest among the most "experienced" Alaskans...

"...should or should not exploration be allowed in ANWR..."

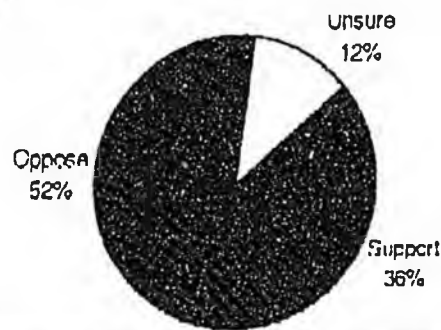


ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE EXPLORATION JANUARY 1999

...in addition, over one out of three (36%) of those previously "opposed" to exploration in ANWR switch to "support" when the three-dimensional seismic approach is used....

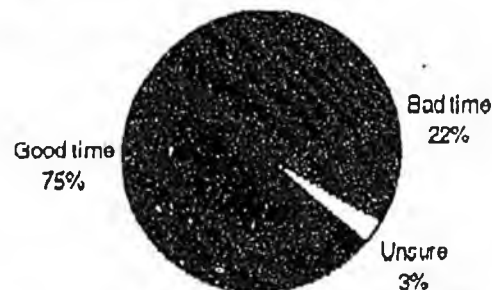
(Asked of respondents who oppose oil and gas exploration in ANWR -- 26%)

"There's a new way to explore for oil called 'three-dimensional seismic' which uses computers and has very little effect on the ground. If the 'three-dimensional seismic' approach is used, would you support or oppose oil and gas exploration in ANWR?"



Three out of four of all respondents (75%) also say they feel that now is a good time to explore for oil and gas in ANWR, even though the price of oil is so low...

"With the price of oil so low, some people say it's a bad time to explore in ANWR because there's too much oil now and we don't need any more; while other people say it takes ten years from exploring for oil to producing it, and if there is any oil in ANWR, we need to find out because we'll probably need it ten years from now. What's your opinion -- is now a good time or a bad time to explore for oil in ANWR?"

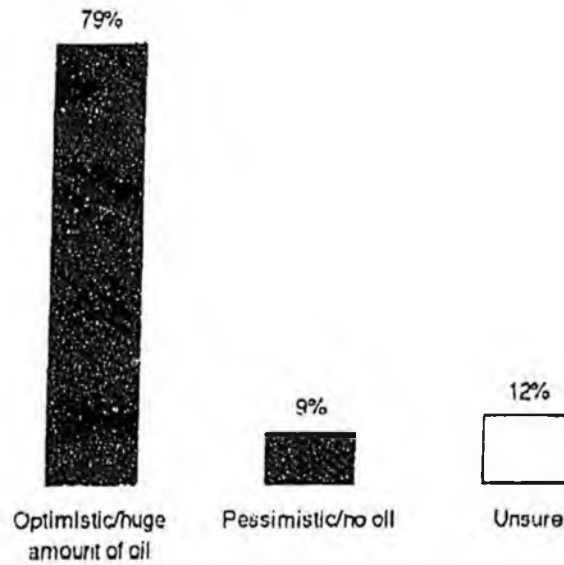


ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE EXPLORATION

JANUARY 1999

...likely because nearly four out of five respondents (79%) believe there may be an enormous amount of oil underground in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge...

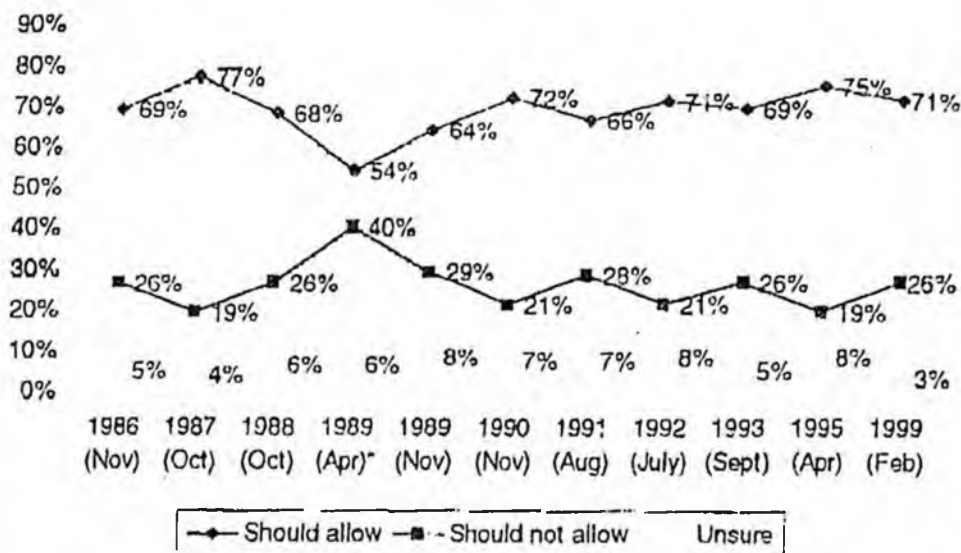
"So far, no one knows for sure how much oil may be in ANWR -- some people estimate billions of barrels, while other people say there's a good chance there isn't any. What's your personal best guess -- are you optimistic that there may be a huge amount of oil, or are you more pessimistic that there may be almost none at all?"



MARCH 1999

"Do you feel oil and gas exploration should or should not be allowed within the ANWR coastal plain?"

(Statewide)



*Post PWS oil spill

March 22, 2000

Exports

Since lifting the export ban of ANS oil in May of 1996, Alaskan exports have averaged 64,000 barrels per day or 5.5% of Alaska's production.

In 1999, Alaskan exports averaged 79,000 barrels per day, or 7.9% of Alaska's production.

ANS supplies the West Coast of the U.S. with 46% of the crude oil needs.

Over 90% of ANS oil is delivered to the Puget Sound, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Hawaii.

In 1999, 118,000 barrels a day of crude oil were exported from Alaska and other West Coast states, and while over 729,000 barrels a day of refined product were also exported. Including the export of 111,000 barrels a day of finished motor gasoline.

ANS exports can be stopped by a Presidential order.

95% of Alaska's Arctic coastal lands are open to oil and gas exploration

Only 14% of the Arctic coast are open to development. These lands are owned by the state of Alaska between the Colville and Canning Rivers. If ANWR's Coastal Plain were opened to exploration the total would rise to 25%.

ANWR Coastal Plain	11%	closed
State lands - Prudhoe Bay	14%	open
ANWR Wilderness	5%	closed
NPRA	52%	tiny coastal area is open for development
Western North Slope	18%	closed, no oil

THE
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API Basic Petroleum Data Book

Motor Gasoline Consumption in the United States(a)
(Thousands of Gallons)

Section VII
Table 7

↓

State	1967(b)	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Alabama	1,067,091	1,108,056	1,173,631	1,225,510	1,280,379	1,336,173	1,415,071	1,497,770	1,576,614	1,678,986
Alaska	49,642	51,577	55,075	61,788	64,478	68,157	77,805	86,603	90,483	92,064
Arizona	550,562	590,726	617,131	634,772	672,134	695,161	752,141	857,887	933,764	998,011
Arkansas	655,031	656,979	729,755	760,282	790,413	822,045	876,295	919,693	957,861	1,021,845
California	6,174,317	5,925,421	6,914,444	7,180,761	7,534,489	7,776,952	8,246,669	8,653,571	9,058,684	9,363,091
Colorado	734,162	757,265	788,491	816,177	849,421	884,608	957,639	1,003,840	1,109,271	1,181,015
Connecticut	842,552	879,170	922,774	962,330	1,005,351	1,038,161	1,103,268	1,155,227	1,213,318	1,261,342
Delaware	53,355	256,954	206,598	215,135	224,394	227,476	231,703	250,685	266,966	278,240
Dist. of Col.	210,792	221,356	212,795	220,886	224,211	221,691	225,427	225,667	229,850	232,950
Florida	1,915,934	2,036,222	2,276,713	2,243,561	2,385,253	2,515,867	2,748,550	2,904,281	3,132,450	3,493,217
Georgia	1,424,674	1,455,671	1,563,737	1,655,099	1,744,907	1,840,233	1,936,264	2,161,769	2,295,682	2,456,168
Hawaii	51,197	152,457	163,106	163,341	177,491	181,998	230,126	213,780	221,973	243,160
Idaho	294,826	297,597	308,333	321,615	329,893	343,979	379,479	379,479	400,715	421,403
Illinois	3,277,932	3,322,046	3,506,222	3,638,663	3,819,191	3,879,185	4,160,076	4,312,816	4,408,879	4,536,785
Indiana	1,840,851	1,830,033	1,956,511	2,037,715	2,125,426	2,189,585	2,311,357	2,410,523	2,508,800	2,590,540
Iowa	1,206,356	1,243,106	1,264,294	1,295,595	1,372,628	1,422,541	1,458,129	1,499,697	1,516,878	1,559,492
Kansas	1,023,636	1,039,657	1,052,216	1,035,549	1,098,771	1,128,343	1,184,296	1,340,694	1,345,014	1,339,516
Kentucky	957,034	956,318	1,011,316	1,092,893	1,145,238	1,216,401	1,288,656	1,362,736	1,439,658	1,533,258
Louisiana	977,677	1,012,696	1,043,154	1,154,384	1,226,382	1,278,173	1,360,715	1,420,327	1,482,761	1,638,410
Maine	316,745	354,350	338,636	382,716	394,953	424,061	426,050	442,592	465,138	489,231
Maryland	967,458	1,047,240	1,076,212	1,142,315	1,220,169	1,277,344	1,367,611	1,466,194	1,565,269	1,664,565
Massachusetts	1,490,870	1,533,611	1,592,622	1,651,647	1,712,057	1,766,218	1,873,028	1,954,415	2,078,505	2,144,581
Michigan	2,797,957	2,930,135	3,018,362	3,163,206	3,242,447	3,415,709	3,649,171	3,839,650	4,012,672	4,268,082
Minnesota	1,372,457	1,415,974	1,451,504	1,495,425	1,572,039	1,610,761	1,707,532	1,786,954	1,878,177	1,969,765
Mississippi	707,672	738,321	757,968	784,937	847,672	866,313	866,313	1,003,175	1,045,335	1,163,553
Missouri	1,722,913	1,733,359	1,838,698	1,935,743	1,961,438	2,036,025	2,141,273	2,270,371	2,373,032	2,570,133
Montana	204,659	329,629	313,450	327,979	354,344	342,288	361,000	371,850	395,762	475,159
Nebraska	633,955	651,102	676,856	640,016	719,456	733,607	762,982	799,783	814,936	852,453
Nevada	184,637	205,330	210,619	203,732	242,074	247,239	283,741	295,519	314,722	333,895
New Hampshire	212,076	221,326	233,399	244,485	262,452	275,998	303,730	322,299	346,238	369,844
New Jersey	3,245,636	2,148,530	2,227,915	2,322,550	2,391,674	2,447,834	2,591,999	2,676,354	2,830,641	2,914,276
New Mexico	407,829	426,095	441,006	450,990	467,035	474,858	497,657	521,471	554,157	603,703
New York	4,268,568	4,189,676	4,425,589	4,549,259	4,702,616	4,865,489	5,122,121	5,454,249	5,566,910	5,833,651
North Carolina	1,565,520	1,645,046	1,745,346	1,819,559	1,912,416	2,015,289	2,122,010	2,260,626	2,376,383	2,497,823
North Dakota	321,851	331,251	342,323	347,480	345,762	345,632	357,571	374,952	390,354	387,537
Ohio	3,205,528	3,354,222	3,523,039	3,657,468	3,835,241	3,934,225	4,160,375	4,303,295	4,574,878	4,693,627
Oklahoma	583,956	634,421	1,049,671	1,077,050	1,135,111	1,171,121	1,235,167	1,310,630	1,372,636	1,436,614
Oregon	721,542	740,510	791,427	825,993	872,869	910,683	943,810	995,123	1,056,737	1,116,116
Pennsylvania	2,300,176	2,369,210	2,422,876	2,599,164	2,695,541	2,649,653	2,830,622	2,970,251	3,147,657	3,456,007
Rhode Island	251,973	267,575	266,247	274,264	281,655	291,723	309,467	319,424	377,754	367,111
South Carolina	773,612	805,150	819,050	868,535	904,728	936,231	1,054,726	1,138,729	1,209,516	1,315,582
South Dakota	369,744	374,564	372,471	370,869	386,344	391,190	436,274	410,638	420,859	439,796
Tennessee	1,200,616	1,245,843	1,324,458	1,376,742	1,463,854	1,545,576	1,639,233	1,721,044	1,782,235	1,822,133
Texas	3,974,184	4,165,126	4,398,415	4,525,707	4,743,477	4,923,595	5,335,427	5,670,785	6,034,592	6,461,768
Utah	344,935	359,363	365,109	362,693	422,121	414,762	450,667	478,390	511,959	544,925
Vermont	39,741	144,851	145,732	158,593	159,616	180,781	180,781	159,412	213,766	228,536
Virginia	1,332,670	141,473	1,479,876	1,544,611	1,599,174	1,630,665	1,790,129	1,920,620	2,026,516	2,026,516
Washington	1,040,255	1,049,248	1,092,828	1,142,502	1,222,528	1,313,146	1,424,704	1,477,305	1,534,060	1,577,951
West Virginia	494,792	607,715	526,532	542,245	569,216	550,480	630,942	652,414	681,539	717,015
Wisconsin	1,391,673	1,431,350	1,461,187	1,541,244	1,625,982	1,646,007	1,754,661	1,848,476	1,940,575	2,017,423
Wyoming	86,282	190,205	184,451	197,591	201,114	225,730	221,693	239,411	246,667	261,601
TOTAL	62,531,373	64,775,884	67,565,848	70,137,121	73,630,672	75,129,026	81,772,657	85,416,084	87,465,266	92,907,352

See notes and sources at end of section

API Basic Petroleum Data Book

Motor Gasoline Consumption in the United States(a)
(Thousands of Gallons)Section VII
Table 7

State	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Alabama	1,354,381	1,086,499	1,067,665	1,018,204	2,028,878	2,166,078	2,181,174	2,081,703	1,967,645	1,831,705
Alaska	111,594	122,985	163,070	193,725	214,140	204,076	209,158	215,477	201,373	212,654
Arizona	1,094,225	1,201,122	1,147,782	1,191,999	1,240,917	1,325,630	1,405,574	1,412,930	1,129,722	1,341,435
Arkansas	1,113,419	1,164,993	1,152,195	1,185,614	1,256,990	1,259,315	1,300,318	1,269,751	1,176,806	1,137,565
California	9,996,752	10,307,287	9,897,993	10,166,056	10,694,230	11,242,201	11,754,569	11,515,506	10,902,050	10,842,659
Colorado	1,295,516	1,366,478	1,321,967	1,319,754	1,442,502	1,503,396	1,594,712	1,564,621	1,513,298	1,595,429
Connecticut	1,309,291	1,324,085	1,327,308	1,351,553	1,363,196	1,417,076	1,432,855	1,372,657	1,327,592	1,295,044
Delaware	289,832	305,316	297,483	303,645	316,933	314,070	310,277	305,459	293,851	291,581
Dist. of Col.	232,422	248,626	240,457	243,215	223,051	225,434	221,831	214,782	171,451	171,082
Florida	3,899,403	4,316,798	4,205,193	4,315,632	4,507,541	4,668,677	4,929,713	4,925,642	4,910,570	4,845,057
Georgia	2,679,515	2,830,556	2,739,639	2,773,264	2,913,600	3,002,467	2,914,628	3,022,565	2,974,923	2,925,969
Hawaii	252,963	292,887	271,649	209,772	333,836	320,804	352,512	332,493	354,525	347,838
Idaho	451,315	466,321	457,785	482,462	570,640	570,640	530,225	508,745	488,333	471,254
Illinois	4,836,883	5,048,307	5,024,751	5,127,189	5,927,380	5,423,741	5,565,912	5,186,151	4,916,780	4,993,012
Indiana	2,740,884	2,846,485	2,739,043	2,762,877	2,801,466	2,911,250	3,017,590	2,897,530	2,866,146	2,816,773
Iowa	1,650,457	1,797,606	1,647,054	1,655,383	1,729,903	1,750,576	1,700,537	1,651,152	1,551,152	1,474,522
Kansas	1,428,354	1,371,262	1,323,122	1,378,773	1,462,585	1,430,150	1,504,662	1,426,812	1,310,559	1,266,529
Kentucky	1,625,619	1,696,508	1,676,585	1,745,523	1,840,476	1,869,170	1,941,387	1,864,026	1,756,317	1,729,135
Louisiana	1,685,138	1,744,170	1,756,343	1,830,011	1,936,805	2,076,100	2,157,819	2,158,327	2,061,325	2,100,357
Maine	517,065	533,231	520,051	536,016	567,427	575,775	585,049	541,604	517,014	497,749
Maryland	1,775,294	1,840,506	1,779,440	1,890,724	1,952,715	2,027,804	2,085,178	1,951,167	1,841,209	1,819,423
Massachusetts	2,276,322	2,341,441	2,296,921	2,310,408	2,350,708	2,420,433	2,465,715	2,411,590	2,301,075	2,249,556
Michigan	4,537,187	4,748,355	4,565,132	4,630,247	4,885,908	4,950,597	4,950,597	4,756,597	4,274,304	4,014,363
Minnesota	2,051,019	2,117,580	2,034,085	2,089,531	2,173,006	2,228,329	2,322,812	2,221,623	2,045,270	1,984,862
Mississippi	1,202,673	1,254,423	1,195,373	1,192,593	1,254,445	1,322,825	1,302,417	1,292,205	1,194,645	1,164,394
Missouri	2,645,604	2,715,192	2,626,591	2,676,731	2,870,102	2,870,102	2,846,521	2,786,236	2,602,627	2,524,516
Montana	427,048	442,456	418,016	461,111	413,245	511,714	531,444	499,347	459,650	445,521
Nebraska	893,983	902,846	868,296	880,548	939,876	939,876	958,679	907,395	816,420	765,515
Nevada	365,951	399,776	392,610	409,496	434,031	464,832	509,105	500,816	600,286	528,536
New Hampshire	390,595	401,937	390,559	401,243	426,850	444,561	456,361	439,556	411,214	398,690
New Jersey	3,170,170	3,245,118	3,174,896	3,282,821	3,402,350	3,440,567	3,524,059	3,347,400	3,260,592	3,150,750
New Mexico	646,830	686,811	681,532	728,455	760,885	779,368	821,222	793,452	746,630	742,455
New York	5,026,795	6,258,799	5,997,859	6,047,476	6,281,127	6,202,584	6,286,240	5,671,929	5,672,545	5,574,946
North Carolina	2,713,705	2,813,722	2,820,267	2,804,681	3,012,363	3,123,577	3,255,167	3,129,493	2,932,274	2,824,700
North Dakota	422,547	423,026	411,378	433,295	452,728	452,728	461,847	443,652	401,250	406,445
Ohio	4,880,046	5,194,284	5,006,697	5,095,243	5,273,560	5,445,925	5,510,762	5,355,593	4,992,574	4,765,650
Oklahoma	1,516,097	1,599,301	1,675,497	1,743,186	1,832,256	1,891,335	1,984,458	1,897,821	1,845,259	1,922,403
Oregon	1,131,714	1,209,689	1,187,671	1,274,276	1,310,983	1,369,895	1,441,856	1,385,347	1,300,612	1,271,001
Pennsylvania	4,760,816	4,836,453	4,813,876	4,906,570	5,006,000	5,119,281	5,219,091	5,041,803	4,750,328	4,474,475
Rhode Island	421,314	497,135	371,740	335,532	384,525	405,032	412,494	397,223	391,896	369,584
South Carolina	1,398,217	1,456,738	1,456,658	1,526,212	1,599,507	1,636,135	1,724,637	1,657,831	1,554,787	1,529,156
South Dakota	464,103	474,646	465,441	521,025	474,182	489,913	497,136	458,543	423,517	432,625
Tennessee	2,103,575	2,268,084	2,181,404	2,267,877	2,478,755	2,554,604	2,654,239	2,528,732	2,417,931	2,389,456
Texas	6,968,145	7,350,574	7,093,262	7,435,942	8,272,473	8,496,285	8,737,624	8,710,656	8,105,429	8,145,252
Utah	594,731	616,731	616,415	646,942	680,027	714,148	761,969	730,525	734,352	758,480
Vermont	242,597	245,667	235,325	241,443	251,736	252,471	252,454	2,801,327	2,739,765	2,509,191
Virginia	2,164,608	2,474,121	2,441,443	2,511,736	2,662,471	2,752,454	2,801,327	2,739,765	2,509,191	2,506,363
Washington	1,647,546	1,716,314	1,666,844	1,741,625	1,853,713	1,954,975	2,052,402	1,956,091	1,882,517	1,872,364
West Virginia	734,827	778,331	766,439	813,024	872,009	900,950	909,773	888,849	845,242	804,632
Wisconsin	2,146,831	2,210,977	2,145,544	2,197,331	2,269,086	2,355,462	2,446,434	2,359,463	2,177,360	2,067,600
Wyoming	279,083	293,571	295,460	319,042	343,224	361,493	381,574	381,574	375,725	369,188
TOTAL	60,069,575	63,579,479	61,855,743	64,545,610	70,973,035	73,102,038	76,780,787	74,578,296	70,526,256	68,265,735

See notes and sources at end of section

Contact Arco/Gates (202) 662-6121

API Basic Petroleum Data Book

Motor Gasoline Consumption in the United States(a)
(Thousands of Gallons)

Section VII
Table 7

State	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Alabama	1,846,395	1,861,408	1,905,267	1,981,466	2,012,114	2,084,218	2,072,236	2,122,111	2,120,444	2,191,086
Alaska	235,112	221,229	248,990	267,709	256,534	242,573	246,038	239,017	274,131	244,235
Arizona	1,341,613	1,413,904	1,489,965	1,555,905	1,635,083	1,683,355	1,708,609	1,744,654	1,684,334	1,736,921
Arkansas	1,123,466	1,203,367	1,303,667	1,413,570	1,468,202	1,212,635	1,241,796	1,272,176	1,267,151	1,257,751
California	12,662,534	11,072,662	11,413,570	11,856,251	12,175,654	12,543,126	12,600,366	13,339,831	13,504,359	12,766,643
Colorado	1,512,235	1,550,776	1,514,511	1,558,918	1,692,000	1,565,700	1,561,689	1,535,449	1,547,261	1,535,439
Connecticut	284,965	306,677	339,766	359,470	440,620	484,832	397,428	386,722	346,981	333,371
Delaware	282,463	308,772	326,247	326,204	332,247	338,285	347,242	349,235	346,981	333,371
Dist. of Col.	170,518	168,019	181,159	163,074	167,549	181,371	186,689	192,674	174,125	176,291
Florida	4,500,737	5,078,234	5,261,730	5,462,027	5,640,765	5,914,706	6,048,281	6,118,092	6,168,807	6,124,282
Georgia	2,816,966	2,904,369	3,053,861	3,148,473	3,313,314	3,421,117	3,539,169	3,573,874	3,571,616	3,571,183
Hawaii	349,096	355,322	371,004	349,709	384,615	384,958	376,690	392,435	388,769	400,218
Idaho	459,053	459,377	469,332	463,502	469,394	462,202	478,932	489,747	496,127	500,949
Illinois	4,522,381	4,609,320	4,733,589	4,836,654	4,731,676	4,772,357	4,971,834	4,993,683	5,253,312	4,476,257
Indiana	2,431,388	2,479,277	2,934,238	2,959,430	2,622,218	2,745,535	2,760,056	2,675,098	2,636,418	2,635,554
Iowa	1,423,817	1,394,722	1,398,211	1,369,838	1,367,462	1,369,663	1,395,039	1,409,951	1,376,530	1,432,203
Kansas	1,255,159	1,240,246	1,245,120	1,234,260	1,248,851	1,265,811	1,326,752	1,294,231	1,249,019	1,219,102
Kentucky	1,721,523	1,734,296	1,764,567	1,736,511	1,850,343	1,855,460	1,859,800	1,851,889	1,850,870	1,848,625
Louisiana	2,145,694	2,151,035	2,166,617	2,132,374	2,160,554	2,062,833	2,064,779	2,043,286	1,897,677	1,839,316
Maine	505,620	519,031	530,799	548,083	582,048	606,596	658,179	627,619	611,394	609,149
Maryland	1,886,873	1,802,434	1,959,267	1,976,290	2,027,743	2,068,369	2,099,811	2,157,848	2,091,205	2,091,521
Massachusetts	2,235,986	2,266,746	2,340,189	2,388,603	2,458,079	2,491,662	2,542,571	2,570,043	2,432,912	2,349,118
Michigan	2,795,814	2,680,864	4,042,348	4,080,108	4,187,028	4,287,736	4,389,647	4,376,926	4,371,055	4,379,179
Minnesota	1,831,235	1,585,492	2,034,635	2,136,370	2,040,816	2,033,108	2,092,710	2,102,362	2,077,581	2,101,209
Mississippi	1,151,872	1,156,134	1,161,027	1,231,066	1,261,173	1,270,055	1,264,910	1,258,266	1,265,062	1,228,018
Missouri	2,491,373	2,536,642	2,601,207	2,614,259	2,782,114	2,754,512	2,780,023	2,754,387	2,752,485	2,753,561
Montana	452,371	459,651	455,738	441,744	443,445	440,859	448,745	444,013	447,363	448,370
Nebraska	792,579	776,930	780,071	777,136	776,832	776,125	801,447	801,115	795,815	768,768
Nevada	490,272	469,835	504,530	509,110	535,099	567,686	605,424	633,267	651,818	665,955
New Hampshire	393,278	405,203	434,424	446,902	481,789	514,167	527,610	527,653	510,137	521,917
New Jersey	3,172,625	3,371,871	3,358,178	3,311,078	3,624,631	3,586,062	3,491,845	3,531,163	3,527,419	3,626,624
New Mexico	744,599	740,915	764,343	780,404	800,737	821,713	828,818	820,566	811,429	834,081
New York	5,617,353	5,491,574	6,148,506	5,941,935	5,957,306	6,168,884	6,098,886	5,769,736	5,956,576	5,626,804
North Carolina	2,842,968	2,911,221	3,042,021	3,092,963	3,227,689	3,318,096	3,387,273	3,368,498	3,337,452	3,299,797
North Dakota	402,067	390,085	396,514	385,715	376,768	387,284	365,846	361,259	357,220	354,545
Ohio	4,561,134	4,634,793	4,744,484	4,739,030	4,878,206	5,012,222	5,012,407	5,074,784	4,796,925	4,748,125
Oklahoma	1,925,207	1,307,622	1,877,793	1,690,857	1,848,704	1,772,817	1,635,946	1,678,029	1,712,492	1,690,409
Oregon	1,211,110	1,222,900	1,263,213	1,254,659	1,294,515	1,312,919	1,364,831	1,346,267	1,366,546	1,375,200
Pennsylvania	4,384,101	4,370,547	4,422,335	4,429,755	4,523,848	4,593,786	4,766,668	4,710,022	4,727,253	4,678,352
Rhode Island	369,633	365,534	369,612	379,078	394,173	395,573	461,324	394,937	380,218	374,628
South Carolina	1,515,828	1,579,138	1,601,942	1,607,120	1,700,307	1,685,761	1,695,246	1,829,113	1,851,536	1,840,587
South Dakota	393,021	399,787	395,407	387,453	394,961	392,527	385,280	394,125	381,896	387,442
Tennessee	2,355,355	2,231,655	2,501,246	2,514,948	2,751,534	2,754,514	2,751,693	2,632,750	2,451,386	2,542,480
Texas	9,201,567	9,392,680	9,921,579	9,839,228	10,055,634	9,855,928	8,890,531	9,749,439	9,851,362	8,547,350
Utah	734,620	725,317	654,942	755,738	766,720	764,441	779,897	751,078	721,574	754,567
Vermont	236,905	247,055	252,033	252,812	259,631	282,232	291,291	291,641	292,321	292,321
Virginia	2,493,638	2,554,245	2,665,515	2,779,453	2,815,511	2,993,746	3,072,281	3,142,704	3,026,255	3,014,829
Washington	1,951,127	1,919,152	2,003,333	1,912,436	2,034,297	2,215,350	2,158,730	2,116,135	2,311,131	2,337,651
West Virginia	819,848	621,736	807,677	807,431	829,349	829,349	840,629	836,891	841,603	828,660
Wisconsin	1,962,950	2,011,845	2,022,612	2,027,190	2,051,116	2,046,044	2,117,182	2,122,166	2,122,743	2,139,564
Wyoming	399,425	374,752	358,577	332,578	328,877	313,493	319,867	324,942	307,607	303,374
TOTAL	12,747,666	13,221,431	13,624,222	14,076,435	14,533,927	14,970,521	14,703,994	15,457,638	15,274,601	14,211,257

See notes and sources at end of section

Contact Anne Gates (202) 682-8321

API Basic Petroleum Data Book

Motor Gasoline Consumption in the United States(a)
(Thousands of Gallons)Section VII
Table 7

State	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Alabama	2 184,108	2 274,435	2 281,783	2 348,256	2 318 274
Alaska	273,297	275,404	287,348	320,019	291 916
Arizona	1 756,055	1 857,024	1 934 680	1 895,267	2 100,725
Arkansas	1 285,510	1 319,561	1 339 371	1 377 141	1 382,895
California	12 642,382	13 183,923	13 164 093	13 255 109	13 519,082
Colorado	1 557,417	1 635,846	1 694 664	1 755 805	1 842 133
Connecticut	1 411,172	1 409 765	1 432 619	1 292 232	1 390,385
Delaware	353,052	359,866	357 274	360 433	351 156
District of Col.	176,378	182 630	182 194	178 248	169,631
Florida	6 262,342	6 495 694	6 535,437	6 744,662	6 819 437
Georgia	3 616 681	3 967 794	3 992,477	4 121,515	4 284 116
Hawaii	348 007	389 672	414,480	419 113	409 827
Idaho	519 175	542 165	559,529	578,271	609 095
Illinois	4 620 223	4 712,508	4 768,520	4 659,523	4 747,700
Indiana	2 752 264	2 829,741	2 884,825	2 892 873	2 985,450
Iowa	1 091,458	1 418,388	1 463,510	1 481,185	1 539,939
Kansas	1 221,720	1 231,731	1 267 191	1 265 324	1 335,428
Kentucky	1 953,465	1 970,512	1 992 603	2 057 181	1 955 500
Louisiana	1 950,155	1 977,674	1 956 295	2 000 841	2 179,927
Maine	612 499	617,756	620 544	610 149	646 877
Maryland	2 120,596	2 123,348	2 170,837	2 179 900	2 201,695
Massachusetts	2 413,072	2 416,097	2 454,125	2 507 830	2 562,955
Michigan	4 419,196	4 528 534	4 559 147	4 719,627	4 793 505
Minnesota	2 167,139	2 219 760	2 269,973	2 319,267	2 357 702
Mississippi	1 036,677	1 392 102	1 419,510	1 453,735	1 465 426
Missouri	2 844,742	2 849 864	2 916,630	2 941,857	2 998 495
Montana	465,063	477 361	476,976	481,095	502 500
Nebraska	785,140	771 536	773,339	917,547	826 500
Nevada	702 133	703 553	749,228	762,021	807 619
New Hampshire	527,725	537 913	551,579	574 081	594,215
New Jersey	3 265,891	3 196 856	3 485 575	3 479 530	3 650,518
New Mexico	857 931	876,111	805 640	988 450	897 684
New York	5 653 255	5 634 658	5 543 467	5 662 580	5 625,913
North Carolina	3 370 365	3 516,432	3 606 653	3 629 239	3 760,334
North Dakota	360 678	367,045	372 494	370 343	374,529
Ohio	4 737 247	4 947,545	4 686 212	4 662 601	4 952 791
Oklahoma	1 744 445	1 759,739	1 796 170	1 615 976	1 873,642
Oregon	1 379 569	1 433,052	1 450 628	1 441 404	1 498 436
Pennsylvania	4 701 803	4 771 864	4 754 739	4 600 706	4 867 709
Rhode Island	392 559	383 649	371 451	380 655	388 173
South Carolina	1 686 938	1 928 195	1 950 440	1 609 943	2 014 153
South Dakota	410 654	415 051	427,282	428 439	436 717
Tennessee	2 552 926	2 640 395	2 729 227	2 779,994	2 786 728
Texas	3 695 743	3 885 759	3 983 427	3 844 948	3 534 500
Utah	782 451	902 731	857 088	801,867	923,192
Vermont	259 542	306 470	309 582	308,012	314,036
Virginia	3 053,878	3 165 762	3 214 716	3 304 479	3 366 429
Washington	2 413,295	2 459 087	2 471 915	2 499 142	2 629,954
West Virginia	857,737	840,647	856 727	885 570	876 131
Wisconsin	2 179 370	2 227,008	2 299 134	2 362 774	2 427 023
Wyoming	320 967	323,441	329 121	345 056	344 810
TOTAL	112,874 716	117,475,906	119,427,194	120,596 856	123,457 199

See notes and sources at end of section

Contact: Anne Gates (202) 632 8127

**Arctic National Wildlife Oil and Gas
Exploration Public Opinion Survey**

January 1999

Prepared for:

Arctic Power

March 22, 2000

Exports

Since lifting the export ban of ANS oil in May of 1996, Alaskan exports have averaged 64,000 barrels per day or 5.5% of Alaska's production.

In 1999, Alaskan exports averaged 79,000 barrels per day, or 7.9% of Alaska's production.

ANS supplies the West Coast of the U.S. with 46% of the crude oil needs.

Over 90% of ANS oil is delivered to the Puget Sound, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Hawaii.

In 1999, 118,000 barrels a day of crude oil were exported from Alaska and other West Coast states, and while over 729,000 barrels a day of refined product were also exported. Including the export of 111,000 barrels a day of finished motor gasoline.

ANS exports can be stopped by a Presidential order.

95% of Alaska's Arctic coastal lands are open to oil and gas exploration

Only 14% of the Arctic coast are open to development. These lands are owned by the state of Alaska between the Colville and Canning Rivers. If ANWR's Coastal Plain were opened to exploration the total would rise to 25%.

ANWR Coastal Plain	11%	closed
State lands – Prudhoe Bay	14%	open
ANWR Wilderness	5%	closed
NPRA	52%	tiny coastal area is open for development
Western North Slope	18%	closed, no oil

ANWR

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FEATURES

Predictable Crisis

EXPERIENCES OF a quarter of a century ago apparently are long forgotten by many Americans. Folks today seem genuinely surprised and angry that the price of gasoline and fuel oil has risen in recent weeks as foreign oil suppliers cut back production.

What did they expect?

News reports say heating oil in some areas on the East Coast is selling for \$1.75 a gallon. That's up almost \$1 from a year ago. Gasoline is going for \$1.40 and is projected to hit \$1.70 before long.

The Clinton White House is aflutter. What to do? What to do?

The president last week asked Congress for an emergency appropriation so he can give poor people extra money to buy the more expensive fuel. The secretary of Energy is heading to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Mexico and Venezuela to beg for increased oil production. Some administration officials are talking about selling off the federal stockpiled oil reserves. ...

It's appropriate that the administration is feeling some heat right now. After all, its policies are to blame for the situation.

Actually, the current price hikes are pretty mild compared to what the country faced during the Arab oil embargo of the mid-1970s. Then, motorists were fortunate just to find an open gas station - selling gasoline at any price.

Not coincidentally, the energy crisis of the '70s abated about the time the trans-Alaska pipeline came on line and began providing about one-fifth of the nation's domestic supply.

Oil and gas supplies remained stable for a number of years. But over this past decade, as oil flow through the pipeline has fallen



back by half and the nation increased its reliance on foreign imports, the situation changed.

Bill Clinton and Al Gore have had a direct hand in obstructing domestic energy supply - including projects in Alaska. Their policies have included:

- * Strong opposition to opening the coastal plain of ANWR.
- * Placing off-limits to exploration the coastal region of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska.
- * Opposition to offshore oil drilling.
- * Dismantling hydroelectric dams in the Lower 48.
- * Strong opposition to nuclear power generation.
- * Closing off public lands in the West with vast reserves of coal.
- * Blocking natural gas development in the Rocky Mountains.

Whatever extreme environmentalists have demanded, Clinton and Gore delivered. So, of course, the price of oil is now going up.

Five years ago, Congress approved legislation to open ANWR to oil exploration, but the president vetoed it. Had he not done so, Alaska's pipeline might still be delivering 2 million barrels a day, like it was at its peak 10 years ago - and the nation would not have to be begging foreign countries to give us more.



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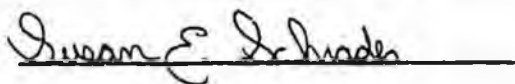
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SJR 39 ~ Opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to Oil Exploration and Drilling

TO: House Resource Committee
DATE: April 3, 2000

Alaska Conservation Alliance and Alaska Conservation Voters are sister nonprofit organizations dedicated to protecting Alaska's environment through public education and advocacy. Our 40 member organizations and businesses represent over 21,000 registered Alaskan voters. Like all Americans, our members enjoyed low fuel prices about a year ago and now are feeling the pinch of an increase in those prices. We do not, however, believe that opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil exploration and drilling is the answer to the current situation.

- CS for SJR 39(RES) states (p. 2, l. 28) that the vast majority of Alaskans supports development in the coastal plain of the Refuge. This assertion is a profound overstatement. ACA commissioned a statewide public opinion survey that was conducted by Ivan Moore Research and completed in February, 2000. Only 50.7 % of the 500 Alaskans polled supported drilling in the Refuge; 41.7% favored protecting caribou and bird habitat and 7.6% were neutral on the issue. Fifty-one percent is hardly a "vast majority." Results from a survey question asking whether or not the respondent favored state funding of the industry lobby group Arctic Power's effort to open the Refuge revealed that only 41.6% favored state funding, while 46.6% did not support this use of state funds and 11.8% indicated they didn't know.
- 95% of Alaska's North Slope is available to oil and gas exploration and leasing. The coastal plain of the Refuge that many Alaskans wish to see protected represents just 5% of the North Slope. What is fair about Big Oil interests pushing to grab up the last 5% when they already have access to 95%?
- While the Native residents of Kaktovik, whose subsistence activities are centered around marine mammals rather than caribou, may support opening the Refuge, the Gwich'in people of Alaska and Canada consider the coastal plain as sacred ground. For an estimated 20,000 years, their traditional subsistence lifestyle has depended heavily upon the caribou of the Porcupine herd that use the coastal plain as their birthing grounds. Protection of this herd, the coastal plain and the Gwich'in culture clearly makes the opening of the Refuge a human rights issue.
- Opening the Refuge is not a quick fix to our high-priced gasoline. Even if exploration started tomorrow, it would be years before any oil could be brought on line. What enabled us to make it through the fuel "crisis" of 1973 was not government intervention or Big Oil's efforts – it was citizens of the U.S. who chose to conserve fuel and use more fuel-efficient vehicles. Energy conservation can start today and oil exporting can stop today. There are clearly other alternatives to addressing the high fuel prices besides invading the last 5% of Alaska's North Slope.



Susan E. Schrader, Conservation Advocate

Conserve Alaska. It's Only Natural.

To: National Desk/Environmental Reporter
March 17, 2000

FYI . . . An Editorial From The Washington Times

March 17, 2000

Wildlife and oil prices

What's wrong with this picture? U.S. consumers are facing some of the biggest gas-price hikes in decades, increases that don't stop at the pump but ripple through the economy in the form of higher charges for food and other consumer goods. Meanwhile, the U.S. government is literally standing on the equivalent of billions of barrels of so-far untapped oil in Alaska that could provide them a measure of relief. Worse, if the Clinton administration has its way, no one ever will tap it, either.

The ostensible reason for blocking oil exploration and development there is environmental. When the administration vetoed legislation in 1995 that would have allowed such work on a tiny portion of the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt announced the administration had done so in the name of caribou, polar bears, swans, snow geese and musk oxen; any animal, in short, that might conceivably draw a breath in those barren climes and survive.

"Oil exploration and development has served as a kind of animal Viagra . . . there are more caribou in Alaska than humans."

The fact that the Eskimos who lived in the vicinity of the proposed work backed the exploration as a way of generating tax revenues to support basic sanitation, education and health needs; that workers in the lower 48 wanted it for the jobs it would create; that the United States could have used it to reduce dependence on foreign oil of the kind that leaves consumers here so vulnerable to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) mattered not. The animals came first.

Awkwardly for the administration, there is evidence that far from harming wildlife, oil exploration and development has served as a kind of animal Viagra. When oil development began on the Arctic coast of Alaska at Prudhoe Bay, a herd of caribou located in the area numbered about 6,000. Today the herd in that area has grown to almost 20,000, and there are more caribou in Alaska than humans.

"Alaska is already one giant Motel 6 for wildlife. It contains 58 million acres of land designated as federal wilderness."

Furthermore the technology at the heart of the exploration has, like the personal computer, progressed so that it can do much more with much less. Says Alaska Sen. Frank Murkowski, the "entire development may only disrupt 2,000 acres of the [refuge's] coastal plain - a reduction from the 12,500 acres predicted to be impacted in the early 1980s. That is a 'footprint' so small - a little over 3 square miles in a region two and one-half times the size of the state of Rhode Island - as to



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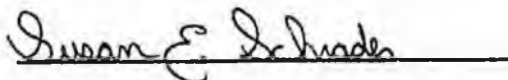
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Susan E. Schrader, Conservation Advocate

Conserve Alaska. It's Only Natural.

likely have no impact on wildlife." Moreover, Alaska is already one giant Motel 6 for wildlife. It contains 58 million acres of land designated as federal wilderness. That's bigger than the combined area of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia and Maryland.

Ironically, by blocking oil exploration in Alaska, the administration may actually pose a greater risk to this country's environment. If America can't get oil out of the ground there, it will be that much more reliant on oil tankers whose occasional spills can take a grim toll on wildlife.

Mr. Murkowski, fellow Alaskan Sen. Ted Stevens and 31 other senators, including three Democrats, have co-sponsored legislation that would open a sliver of the plain to development under strict guidelines. Among other things it would place seasonal limits on oil development to reduce its impact on wildlife, particularly during the caribou calving period.

So it's possible to protect both wildlife and U.S. consumers by allowing oil development to proceed in Alaska. If the administration still turns down the proposal, the only protection it will guarantee is OPEC's.

(The Washington Times, March 17, 2000)