

# ANWR: America's Energy Insurance Policy



In the debate about responsible and balanced exploration in a small part of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), there are myths . . . and then there are the facts.

**MYTH:** Only six months worth of oil.

**FACT:** ANWR contains what experts say might be the largest supply of oil and gas in America's history. The U.S. Geological Survey says ANWR could produce up to 16 billion barrels of oil. That's enough to replace 30 years of Saudi Arabian imports. The estimates of oil from ANWR's Coastal Plain might even be low. When Prudhoe Bay began production, experts said it would produce eight billion barrels of oil. So far, Prudhoe Bay has produced 14 billion barrels.

**MYTH:** We don't need more domestic energy supplies.

**FACT:** Today, America has more than double the dependency on foreign oil than during the 1970's oil

crisis. Foreign oil producers decide how much oil we will have. They drive up prices at will. They hold the keys to our economy.

## FACTS TO REMEMBER

**America is more dependent on foreign oil today than during the 1970's energy crisis.**

**The U.S. Geological Survey estimates oil in ANWR could be from 5.7 billion to 16 billion barrels.**

**Original Prudhoe Bay estimate:  
Eight billion barrels.  
Actual: 14 billion barrels  
(to date)**

**ANWR: 19.6 million acres. Size of oil production area: 2,000 acres (about the size of Dulles Airport).**

**75% of Alaskans support responsible energy exploration in ANWR.**

**MYTH:** We can't balance energy exploration and our concern for the environment.

**FACT:** Experience shows us we can. For example, since Prudhoe Bay production began, the Central Arctic Caribou Herd has grown from 3,000 to 32,000.

**MYTH:** Development ignores the desires of the local community.

**FACT:** Seventy-five percent of Alaskans, including the original stewards of Alaska's Coastal Plain — the native Inupiat people — support responsible energy exploration. With today's advanced energy exploration technology, we can balance our need for energy and our concern for the environment.

**ANWR is America's energy insurance policy.**

