

Arctic Refuge Letter to the Editor Template

Tips for Your Letter to the Editor

Letters to the editor have an important impact on lawmakers. They provide you with the opportunity to let your elected officials – and others in your community – know you care about an important issue like protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

- Be Specific and To The Point: Keep your letter to 150 to 200 words. Be sure to clearly state the purpose of your letter: asking your lawmaker to protect the Refuge.
- Include Your Contact Information: Make sure you include your name, city and state and your telephone number when you submit your letter. Newspapers often contact you to verify authorship, and they will not publish anonymous letters.
- Localize Your Letter: Note the birds that spend time in your state and the Refuge to demonstrate the connection between these two places. Look on Audubon Works for a list of birds.
- Let Us Know: Let us know if your letter is published. You can contact us at: audubonaction@audubon.org.

Sample Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am very concerned about the renewed attempt to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling. The refuge is one of the last remaining wild and untouched places in the United States, and is an incredibly important habitat for birds and other wildlife. It is a nesting ground for over 200 species of birds that migrate through all fifty states, including the *[insert bird]*, which can be seen here in *[insert state/region]*.

Furthermore, using the budget process to open the refuge does not add up. The economic claims are out of touch with reality, and using the budget rather than a regular vote bypasses any real debate. It is unwise to make such a monumental decision without going through the usual legislative steps. I hope that *[insert your Senators/Representative]* will work to keep the Arctic Refuge out of the final budget -- it deserves to remain wild, both for the wildlife and for all of us who benefit from the splendor of bird migration.