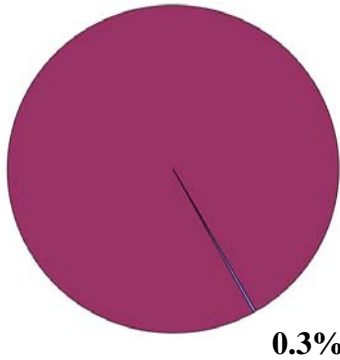




THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Arctic Refuge Oil Would Not Significantly Affect Oil Prices

Proponents of drilling Arctic National Wildlife Refuge point to rising oil prices as a reason to drill one of America's last wild places. But in reality, oil from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge would have **little or no impact** on oil prices, according to the U.S. Department of Energy's own Energy Information Administration (EIA).



Arctic Refuge Oil as Percentage of
World Oil Production, 2015

A Drop in the Bucket

EIA's March 2004 report, "*Analysis of Oil and Gas Production in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge*," found:

- **If oil were discovered in commercial quantities, it would take 10 years before Refuge oil could first be produced. In 2015, it would only make up 0.3% of world oil production.**
- **Even when production peaked (in 2025), Arctic Refuge oil would make up only 7/10 of 1 percent (0.7%) of world oil production and only 3% of U.S. oil consumption. Production would diminish steadily after 2025.**

Oil Prices are Set on the World Market

Oil prices are set on a global oil market, and Arctic Refuge oil production, even at peak, would amount to a drop in the bucket. Historically, such small increases in U.S. production have had no impact on world oil prices. As EIA's March 2004 report explains, "*Assuming that world oil markets continue to work as they do today, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries could countermand any potential price impact of ANWR coastal plain production by reducing its exports by an equal amount.*"

Real Solutions: Efficiency and Renewable Technology

The United States consumes about 25% of the world's oil, but has less than 3% of the world's proven oil reserves (www.eia.doe.gov). We simply cannot drill our way to lower prices and energy independence. Energy experts agree that the best way to solve our energy problems is to use existing technology to make our cars and trucks more efficient and to invest in renewable energy. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, increasing the fuel efficiency of our vehicles by just 3 miles per gallon would save more than 1 million barrels of oil per day. That's more oil than the Refuge would yield in its year of peak production.