

Oil, gas comment sought

The federal government is seeking comments on interest in oil and gas leasing on federal lands in Alaska that fall outside the parks, refuges, monuments and preserves established by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of last year.

The purpose of the preliminary study is to establish oil and gas lease sale priorities under section 1008 of the act. Specifically the Interior Department is interested in obtaining levels of interest for the areas designated on the accompanying map. The department is asking interested parties to indicate high, medium or low interest in each identified block.

Along with the expressions of interest in leasing, the department wants comments on which areas might receive special consideration because of environmental reasons.

As part of a separate study required under section 1001 of the act, the department also is seeking comments on the areas marked "A-G." Lands under consideration for oil and gas leasing are shown on the map as shaded areas 1 through 99.

Comments should be sent to and additional information is available from:
REFUGES LANDS -- Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 E. Tudor Rd., Anchorage 99501;

BLM -- State Director, Bureau of Land Management, 701 C St., Anchorage 99513, and
NATIONAL FOREST LANDS -- Regional forester, U.S. Forest Service, Federal Office Building, Box 1628, Juneau, 99802.

Inquiries and comments should be marked "Alaska Oil and Gas Leasing Program." The deadline for comments is June 17.

UPLAND OIL & GAS LANDS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR LEASING

ANILCA Lands Identification

Lands described in section 1008 managed by BLM

Lands described in section 1008 managed by FWS

Lands described in section 1008 managed by the Forest Service.

Lands described in sections 401, 404, & 1001 managed by BLM

Areas designated as Wilderness within National Wildlife Refuge System
Numbers are random selected and provide identification only.

Boundaries of the public land units represented are approximate and are shown for only the largest contiguous tracts. These tracts may encompass designated wilderness areas which are open to oil and gas leasing. Many other tracts open for leasing exist, but are too small to be clearly depicted at this scale.

