

# ACTION ALERT

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## Willow Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Willow Master Development Plan and is collecting public input through **October 29, 2019**. The proposal includes the construction, operation, and maintenance of a central processing facility, infrastructure pad, up to five drill sites, access and infield roads, pipelines, a gravel mine, and a module transport island on BLM-managed lands within the NPR-A and within waters managed by the State of Alaska.

This project will create hundreds of direct jobs and thousands of construction jobs. The development investment is projected to be well over \$2 billion with an additional \$2+ billion capital investment related to drilling. First oil is anticipated by 2025 with peak production coming in at about 100,000 barrels per day.

You can submit comments on the Draft EIS for the BLM to consider in preparing the Final EIS. Submit comments via email to [BLM AK Willow Comments@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_AK_Willow_Comments@blm.gov)

Development Alternative B is ConocoPhillips' proposed project and is both ConocoPhillips' and the BLM's preferred Alternative. Alternative B provides for a road connection back to the Alpine infrastructure and road connections to all the drill sites. Additionally, Option 1 is ConocoPhillips' preferred module transfer option and is also the BLM's preferred option. Option 1 is to build a small gravel staging area, nearshore to Atigaru Point, to unload the modules from a barge onto the staging area, then transport the modules via ice road during the winter season to their permanent locations.

### Here are some points to consider to include in your letter of support:

1. Substantial new revenue will be generated. Willow will generate new revenue for the federal government, the State of Alaska, the North Slope Borough, and, via the NPR-A Impact Mitigation Fund, NPR-A communities. The BLM estimates that Willow could generate more than \$10 billion dollars in Federal, State, and North Slope Borough revenue.
2. The project will bring new production and jobs. The EIS assumes 130,000 BOPD for the peak production rate. The actual design rate will be finalized as engineering progresses but is anticipated to be greater than 100,000 BOPD. Construction will provide significant employment opportunities for Alaskans and Alaska businesses. Estimated peak winter season manpower requirements are for more than 2,000 workers with more than 300 permanent positions. Almost 88 percent of all the dollars ConocoPhillips Alaska spent for goods, services and transportation in 2017 – totaling about \$1.2 billion—went to more than 840 Alaska-based companies.
3. ConocoPhillips brings over 40 years of responsible North Slope operating experience to the project. ConocoPhillips has consistently proven that we can operate responsibly and in an environmentally sustainable manner. We have operated the Alpine field safely and responsibly since 2000 and have more than 40 years of North Slope operating experience. We have a commitment to protecting the environment, aquatic resources, and wildlife

wherever we operate. With the Willow development, we will continue to advance our ability to reach oil reservoirs with a minimized surface footprint.

4. ConocoPhillips has a successful history of working with Nuiqsut and the other NPR-A villages to address concerns. ConocoPhillips works closely with Nuiqsut to be good neighbors and address concerns about the potential impact of oil and gas development on their subsistence lifestyle. We believe the relationships we have developed with North Slope residents are mutually beneficial and provide the basis for understanding and working together to resolve local concerns.
5. The project is designed to have minimal impacts. Data collected since ConocoPhillips first started development in the Colville River Delta with the Alpine field shows that subsistence lifestyle is thriving, and subsistence harvests are equal to or greater than before Alpine. In addition, air quality meets national ambient air quality standards, wildlife populations are healthy, and the environment in general has been protected. Alternative B has benefits in the form of increased access to subsistence resources through hunters use of gravel roads to reach areas west into NPR-A that are currently only accessible via snow machine and ATVs. ConocoPhillips continues to work closely with key stakeholder groups to identify opportunities for increased subsistence access from new infrastructure, such as access ramps and road pull-outs for parking.
6. There are currently ~ 270 mitigation measures and best practices in place for NPR-A. These mitigations measures and best practices are required by local and federal entities and have evolved over the last 20 years. ConocoPhillips works in close collaboration with regulatory agencies and other interested stakeholders to design and build infrastructure that minimizes disturbance to wetlands and the unique benefits they provide. The Willow EIS is being conducted under the NPR-A Integrated Activity Plan (IAP) published in 2013 under the Obama Administration, which was widely supported by environmental groups.
7. There will be significant federal revenue sharing through the NPR-A Mitigation Grant Program. Fifty percent of federal revenues from NPR-A, including royalty from Willow, is available to communities impacted by oil and gas development through the NPR-A Mitigation Grant Program. Willow alone could generate billions of dollars for the program over the life of the field.
8. It will help keep Trans-Alaska Pipeline System viable. Additional oil production will help keep a key piece of U.S. infrastructure, the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, economically viable. The estimated production rate from Willow would be about a 20 percent increase over current TAPS throughput.