



Press Release
**Canadians Opposed to US plans for
Drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife
Refuge**

July 25, 2005

Overview

There is significant opposition towards US plans to approve drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, according to a survey commissioned by World Wildlife Fund Canada.

Highlights

Strong opposition exists, particularly among those familiar with the issue

When asked how strongly they support or oppose US plans to approve drilling in the Alaska Wildlife Refuge, 54 per cent of Canadians voice opposition compared with just 12 per cent who support the plans. Those who “strongly oppose” outnumber those who “strongly support” by an even wider margin — 36 versus 6 per cent, respectively.

Canadians most familiar with the issue reveal a significantly higher level of opposition (73 per cent).

Fairly low levels of awareness and familiarity

Awareness and familiarity with the issue are fairly low. Unprompted, just over one-third are aware of the initiative. When asked about their level of familiarity, only slightly more than 1 in 10 say they are very familiar with the issue.

Methodology

The survey results are based on a telephone survey using a random sample of 1,020 Canadians, 18 years and older. Surveying took place between July 6 and 12, 2005. The results are valid +/- 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. All the data were statistically weighted to ensure the sample’s regional, gender and age composition reflects that of the actual population of Canada according to Census data.