



Special Areas & Selected Wildlife Use Areas

National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska



MAP FEATURES

- Whale feeding and migration areas
- Caribou concentrated calving area
- Polar bear denning and feeding areas
- Waterbird nesting, molting, and/or staging area (goose molting area indicated by green hatching)
- Raptor nesting area
- Marine mammal haulout area (walrus and spotted seal)
- Salmon stream
- BLM Designated Special Areas (Crosshatch indicates overlapping areas)

Kasegaluk Lagoon Special Area

Approximately 125 miles long, this sheltered, shallow lagoon is very important for calving and molting beluga whales, and a great diversity and abundance of birds. Hundreds of walrus and spotted seals haul out along the barrier islands, which are also frequented by denning polar bears.

Colville River Special Area

Draining much of the Brooks Range, Alaska's largest Arctic river is home to 22 fish species. Bluffs are high-density nesting habitat for raptors such as Peregrine Falcon, Gyrfalcon, and Golden Eagle. The river's delta is a haulout area for spotted seals, and home to 68 regularly occurring species of breeding birds.

Peard Bay Special Area

The 107,000 acre Peard Bay Special Area is a concentration area for three species of ice seals, polar bears, and various seaducks—particularly eiders. The Special Area is characterized by thousands of small thaw lakes adjacent to Peard Bay, which provide important habitat for nesting loons, Spectacled and King Eiders and Brant, other waterfowl, and shorebirds.

Utukok River Uplands Special Area

This is the core calving ground, insect relief area and migration corridor for the approximately 300,000-head Western Arctic Caribou Herd, which is Alaska's largest herd. The Colville River uplands are important habitat for moose, and high densities of raptors, wolverines, grizzly bears, and wolves. The Utukok River is home to pink and chum salmon.

Teshekpuk Lake Special Area

One of the most important wetland complexes in the circumpolar Arctic, 31 bird species breed here, and 50,000 geese molt in late summer. This is the core calving and insect relief area for the Teshekpuk Caribou Herd as well as habitat for 22 fish species and critical polar bear habitat. King and Spectacled Eiders and Yellow-billed Loons as well as other waterbirds and shorebirds nest in high densities throughout the area. Dease Inlet itself is home to ice seals, particularly ringed and spotted seals and the barrier islands are important for polar bears and nesting seaducks.

