

**From:** Emily Sullivan (Northern Alaska Environmental Center)  
NorthernAlaskaEnvironmentalCenter@mailman.bloomerang-mail.com 🚩  
**Subject:** A decision that will define the Biden Administration's climate legacy.  
**Date:** July 21, 2022 at 3:07 PM  
**To:** Loren Karro lorenk@mtaonline.net

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7/21/2022



## Tell BLM to stop the Willow project



*Caribou herd of Teshekpuk Lake. Photo by Keri Oberly*

On July 8, 2022 the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released a [Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement \(SDEIS\)](#) for ConocoPhillips' Willow project in Alaska's Western Arctic. This oil project will be a defining decision for the Biden administration's climate legacy, and we must pressure the administration to consider the weight of the decision. The Willow project would do irreversible damage to the Arctic landscape: accelerating climate change, endangering public health, harming wildlife, and threatening subsistence hunting. We encourage you to submit comments urging BLM to reject the project by choosing the no action alternative.

**[Tell BLM to stop the Willow Project.](#)**

Comments must be submitted by 10pm AKST on August 29.

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## Protect Mother Kuskokwim: #NoDonlinGold

The massive proposed mining project in southwest Alaska threatens the health of the Kuskokwim River, and in turn, the food sovereignty, water access, and culture of 38 communities.

Indigenous organizers, including Sophie Swope, [are speaking out in opposition](#) of the proposed Donlin Mine. If permitted, this would be the largest open-pit gold mine in the world at around 25 square miles. Donlin Mine would create two square miles of toxic water, 2.5 billion tons of waste rock, a dam to contain four square miles of toxic chemicals, and a 300 mile natural gas pipeline from Anchorage. Any leak, break, or spill from the mining infrastructure could destroy the Kuskokwim's ecosystem and Indigenous lifestyles.

Learn more about the organizing efforts to oppose this mine at [nodonlingold.org](https://nodonlingold.org).

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## Northbound Music Fest Tickets Available Now!



# NORTHBOUND MUSIC FEST

THE NORTHERN ALASKA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER • 830 COLLEGE RD.

JULY 30, 2022

JULY 30, 2022

**[Get Your Northbound Music Fest Tickets Here](#)**

Northbound Music Fest is a backyard music festival highlighting Alaskan musicians and artists. Proceeds from this event support the Northern Center's programmatic work.

This year's event starts at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 30 at the Northern Center, 830 College Rd. Drinks will be available for purchase from Goldie's. The following artists will be featured:

Wasabi  
Tim Easton  
Fireweed Fiddle  
James Dommek Jr.  
AK Rebel

**[Please sign up here if you'd like to volunteer during this event.](#)**

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**Chena Tool Library**



Chena Tool Library is a local community funded nonprofit established in 2018,

whose mission is to lend tools in order to support DIY projects, enhance self-sufficiency, and build a stronger community. Chena Tool Library is 100% community and member funded with an annual donate-what-you-can membership model and their tools are free to borrow, meaning anyone in the community can borrow the tools they need regardless of their situation. This library of tools is meant to help the community share resources, learn from each other, and check out tools for their own and community projects.

Check out the Chena Tool Library at [chenatoollibrary.org](https://chenatoollibrary.org).

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## Welcoming New Staff

At the end of June, Alex Petkanas (he/him or they/them) joined our staff as the Communications Assistant / Outreach Coordinator.



Alex grew up in the northeast, spending a lot of time in the Adirondacks and on lakes in New York and Connecticut. They worked in public policy and communications before studying at Brooklyn Law School, where they met their partner who grew up in Alaska. After “visiting” for a month in 2020, Alex fell in love with the land and has been here since.

Alex is excited to be a part of the Northern Center team and learn more about conservation that centers Indigenous practices and leadership. Outside of the office, Alex can be found hiking, biking, walking their dog, or working on a small-scale organic vegetable farm in Palmer.

This year's music fest is sponsored by Running Reindeer Ranch.

[If your business would like to sponsor this or other Northern Center events, please click here.](#)

When you sponsor a Northern Alaska Environmental Center event, you are helping us to address emerging threats to our state, people, and land in real time. Thank you!

## Events & Announcements



### **Saturday, July 23: Camp Habitat 30th anniversary celebration**

Head to Creamer's Field to share stories, play games, hike around the refuge, share food and



sing! All ages welcome. Please send a photo or memory to [camphabitat30@gmail.com](mailto:camphabitat30@gmail.com).

#### MISSION

The Northern Alaska Environmental Center promotes conservation of the environment and sustainable resource stewardship in Interior and Arctic Alaska through education and advocacy.



#### **Our Contact Information**

Northern Alaska Environmental Center  
830 College Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
9074525021  
<http://www.northern.org>

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