

THE WEATHERMAN IS CALLING FOR BLIZZARDS, 20 FOOT SEAS, AND -13° FAHRENHEIT.



IDEAL CONDITIONS FOR AN OIL SPILL.

In early July, with President Obama's approval, Shell Oil will begin offshore drilling in a remote region of the Arctic Ocean, an area known for some of the most hostile weather conditions on the planet. Twenty foot seas and gale force winds can bombard the area for days on end. Drifting ice and continual darkness in winter make the Arctic offshore region virtually inaccessible much of the year. If a blowout like the Gulf BP disaster did happen in the Arctic, mobilizing a response would be virtually impossible. The closest village (population 428) doesn't have the infrastructure, such as onshore docks, to support a serious cleanup operation. And the closest Coast Guard station is over 1,000 miles away. When you consider that the cleanup in the Gulf was postponed for days because of only eight foot seas, it could literally be months before a spill could be brought under control.

The devastation could be catastrophic not only for Alaska Natives, who depend on the sea to survive, but for myriad species including whales, walruses, polar bears, birds and fish that populate one of the earth's most fragile and vital ecosystems. The oil companies need to learn the lessons of the Gulf disaster. And so do our elected officials.

TELL PRESIDENT OBAMA:
STOP ARCTIC OCEAN DRILLING THIS SUMMER.
202-456-1414

