

J.B. Gollop's definitive monograph, *Eskimo Curlew: A Vanishing Species?* in 1986.

For those interested, and for the record, I offer additional references to the scientific achievements of Roderick Ross MacFarlane.

REFERENCES

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Sincerely,
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Dear Editor:

James Raffan's review of *Last Great Wilderness: The Campaign to Establish the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge*, by Roger Kaye, which appeared in the December 2006 issue of *Arctic* contains some very fundamental errors. In the sixth paragraph of the review, Raffan claims: "On 28 April 2005, both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate voted to approve the 2006 budget and thereby opened the door for drilling in a portion of the refuge." At the end of the paragraph, Raffan mistakenly concludes, "With the door now open to drilling, ANWR has lost credibility as a 'symbol of restraint.'"

The April 2005 action referred to by the reviewer was only the first step in a long and complicated congressional budget process that never authorized Arctic Refuge drilling. Later in the year, in separate measures, both the U.S. House and the Senate specifically removed Arctic Refuge drilling from final legislation. In the end, the door for drilling in the Refuge was not opened, contrary to what Raffan claims. Each time that an attempt to open the Arctic Refuge to drilling fails, and there have been several such failures over the past 20 years, the Refuge gains credibility as a "symbol of restraint," as it was originally intended.

In the same paragraph, Raffan wishes that the book had addressed the current controversy over possible oil drilling in the Refuge, and suggests that by not doing so, Kaye has conveniently "compartmentalized" the subject to avoid the oil controversy. This is an unfair characterization because from the beginning, Kaye clearly specified that this is a history of the effort to establish the Arctic Refuge, which ended about 1960, not a history of the oil controversy that began after oil was discovered on Alaska's North Slope in 1968. A history of the prolonged oil drilling controversy would easily constitute a separate book. Raffan is also misleading by suggesting that the Arctic Refuge oil drilling controversy spans only five years, when in fact it has been a hot political topic for over a quarter century.

Sincerely,
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