

## Rothman Meets with Alaska Wilderness League

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Rothman  
Meets with the Alaska Wilderness League

(Washington, DC)-On Wednesday, March 5, 2008, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) met with members of the Alaska Wilderness League, including Kate Liebhold of Englewood, New Jersey. They discussed their mutual support for protecting and preserving Alaska's wilderness.

In particular, Liebhold and her fellow Alaska Wilderness League members also thanked Rothman for co-sponsoring legislation to prohibit the Bush Administration from selling any oil and gas lease for any tract in the Lease Sale 193 Area of the Alaska Outer Continental Shelf Region until the Secretary of Interior determines whether to list the polar bear as a threatened species or an endangered species.

They also discussed legislation to protect the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, which make up America's Arctic Ocean, and, together with the inextricably linked Northern Bering Sea, comprise one of the most abundant marine ecosystems in the world. The Bush Administration is currently allowing massive leasing and exploration of the Beaufort Sea, despite strong opposition from local native interests. Under the Administration's current five-year plan for the Arctic Ocean, Bush would move to lease 33 million acres in the Beaufort Sea and 40 million acres in the Chukchi Sea.

You  
can learn more about these issues at <http://www.alaskawild.org>

Pictured  
above (l-r): Earl Kingik (Alaska), Julia Shaw (Alaska Wildlife League New Jersey Field Organizer), Rep. Rothman, Kate Liebhold of Englewood, and Rosemary Ahtuanguak (Alaska)

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