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Organization:

Title:

Comments: It is always inherently unfair when a few people make comparatively large tangible profits from publicly owned natural resources while those not involved in the harvest only stand to benefit (hopefully) from positive side effects to the economy. Almost always some form of negative environmental degradation is caused.

There should be (and are) small scale logging operations working in southeast Alaska but I don't trust the US Forest service, they are compromised. A full exemption does the exact opposite to state's rights and will likely allow the federal government to push through timber sales in spite of public opposition.

The Forest Service opened with a position of support for full exemption. Why did they feel the need to take a position at all? It seems they are making a statement, "your trees are ours!"

Tongass old growth does not grow back as fast as trees located in more southern latitudes. Once it is gone it will effectively be gone forever. A few logging roads and brushy stands of slow growing timber won't replace the natural wonder that is old growth Tongass.

I am a lifelong resident of southeast Alaska, an Alaskan commercial salmon fisherman and owner of a wilderness lodge that is located in the Tongass.

[Position]