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Comments:

To Everyone This Concerns,

You need to stop stripping our natural resources wantonly for the benefit of the few who make a profit. Our old growth forests belong to all of us and they provide habitat and ecosystems for so many other plants and animals besides the trees themselves. I used to commercial fish for salmon in SE Alaska and destroying the forests destroys the fishery too. You already know this. Much of the southern part of Prince of Wales was already logged in the 1980's when I was fishing there. The northern section was more intact. You know where the healthier and better fish runs were - where the ecosystems were more intact and the old growth provided the health of the streams for the fish. You already know this too. When are we going to learn to take care of the nature we have rather than demolish it for very short-term gain. We must think differently before we log it all and then wonder why we have a mess that no longer works for anyone.

One of the arguments for logging when I was younger was "jobs". When the forest is gone, those jobs are gone and the people only made a little money for a short time will have to find other work in probably a completely different sector while the forest is gone for hundreds of years with all the biodiversity that goes with it and healthy food we all eat in the form of wild salmon. Are we really that stupid and selfish that we want to take and take and take and ignore the consequences of what we are doing? It isn't right. It isn't ethical and it doesn't serve anyone long term.

I read a piece of history once that demonstrated the mentality of 100 years ago that we still seem to think is valid. There was a man who was in the timber industry in the Midwest of the United States. So this means he participated in the decimation of the hardwood forests of this country. (They aren't there now are they? When did you find black walnut recently?) He and his wife built a mansion in Chicago (and I bet they used outstanding building materials from the hardwood forests he had cut down for his profit). The mansion lasted from the early 1900's to the 1960's when it was torn down. All that decimation of old growth forests went into his bank account and mansion. He and his wife died - just two people. The house was lived in for a short period of time after that and then demolished for something else. 50 years plus or minus of the lifetime of the house and the man's profits and the cost to the forests irreparable. What kind of accounting and examples do you need to figure out that this system of taking and taking and decimating ecosystems is no longer functional?

Alaska has some of the last intact ecosystems in the world. Southeast Alaska has some of the last temperate rain forest old growth forests and the lives of so many that depend on them. What is truly more valuable? Logging them for a corporation to sell the timber overseas and take the money which will last only for a short time or keep the forests and ecosystems that are intact and manage them carefully for the benefit of the forests and for all of us who love them and need them as they are. We all truly benefit from leaving them intact; not pillaging them.

I hope you read this and think before you take action.

Sincerely,

Angie Dixon