

Alaska's Don Young Throws Alaska Jobs DOWN THE DRAIN

6/11/13 Edna Bay Alaska
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

A third generation West Coast logger today called Alaska's Don Young a traitor who has sold out his Alaska logging constituents.

"If Don Young cared a whit about the buckers, fallers, truck drivers, choker setters, whistle punks, and saw mill operators on Prince of Wales Island in our towns, he would not be pushing the Sealaska Lands Bill HR 740, which is scheduled for Mark Up in the House Natural Resources Committee on June 12th," said Myla Poelstra, the postmistress and lodge owner in the town of Edna Bay.

"When Sealaska starts strip mining trees around our towns, the deer are going to go and when the deer go, the wolf goes. That wolf on our island is about to be listed as Endangered and when it is, the National Forest Lands will be shut down to logging. My family already fled the Pacific NW after the owl was listed and we never dreamed it could happen again here."

Here's what BLM testified to before the Senate in April: *"In addition, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service notes that if S. 340 is enacted as proposed and the Tongass Forest Management Plan is modified, the Service may have to review its findings not to list the southeast Alaska distinct population segment (DPS) of Queen Charlotte goshawk and the Alexander Archipelago wolf."* <http://tongasslowdown.org/TL/docs/BLM%20ConnellFINALS.340SealaskaDOI.pdf>

Our small saw mills won't be able to get the high quality logs they need. Our loggers will be displaced and our lodges will be shuttered, because even Sealaska admits they don't want to look at their strip mine type logging that our visitors don't want to see.

"According to a newly released internal Forest Service comparison obtained last week under a FOIA, Young's legislation is giving Sealaska Corporation land that is worth 2-300 percent more than the entitlement Congress gave them in 1976."
http://tongasslowdown.org/TL/docs/3_Comparison%20of%20land%20values%20sealaska%20bil.pdf

"Congress should never approve ruining towns and displacing workers just to enrich one corporation. Don Young only cares about those who line his pockets with campaign cash," Poelstra said.

The bill is opposed by nine towns in Alaska

<http://tongasslowdown.org/TL/docs/Senator%20Wyden%20-%20S%20340-Signed.pdf>

NRA chapter in Alaska

<http://tongasslowdown.org/TL/docs/Sen.%20John%20Thune%20Chairman%20CSC%20%20R%20SD.pdf>

Two million sportsmen

<http://tongasslowdown.org/TL/docs/AWCP%20Sealaska%20letter%20final.pdf>

Audubon Society Opposition Letter to S. 340

<http://tongasslowdown.org/TL/docs/Senator%20Wyden%20-%20Sealaska%20S%20340%204-19-13%20final.pdf>

BLM could give Sealaska their land today

<http://tongasslowdown.org/TL/docs/2013%20Answer%20from%20BLM.pdf>