

Alaska in the Balance

30-40-30

A State of Equilibrium

For any state to prosper, it has to be economically balanced:

- Too much capitalism and the state tends towards monopolies, oligarchies, and politicians chasing the powerful.
- Too much socialism and the state tends towards an ownership state, crony capitalism, and the powerful chasing politicians.

For any state to prosper, it has to be asset balanced:

- Too much private land and money, then privileges and land ownership migrates to the few. When the owner is hungry, he over produces and tends to pillage the land. When the owner is not hungry, he tends towards reserves, preserves and the lands are set aside for private use only by the privileged.
- Too much public land, then we have inefficient producers, dependent on other people's capital, and the common man is eventually prevented from access to those lands. Those lands tend towards reserves, preserves and are set aside for private use only by the privileged.

The power and success of the United States constitution (as originally intended) was that the individual states had the ability to find their own balance.

The advance of the statist form of government has upset that balance. The individual states of the west have been forced to accept an imbalance to assuage the guilt of the imbalance of the eastern states.

It is our belief that Alaska must find its own balance. As a starting point, we believe that balance to be "30-40-30".

That is:

- Thirty (30) percent preserved. Thirty percent of all land within state borders (whether managed by the state government or the federal government) should be set aside or preserved in its natural state for future generation of Alaskans to experience.
- Forty (40) percent available for use by the people as public lands. Forty percent of all land within state borders (whether managed by the state government or the

federal government) should be developed for multiple use such as parks, recreation, tourism, fishing, hunting, mining, forestry, resource extraction (oil, gas, coal, or hydroelectricity) or otherwise managed to the economic benefit of the citizens.

- Thirty (30) percent in private taxable hands. Thirty percent of all land within state borders should be developed as private property and taxed by local municipalities. These taxes are the backbone of towns, cities, and boroughs. These taxes are how communities pay for the services that they consume. These taxes prevent the community from being dependent on state and federal welfare. These taxes are what prevents these communities from being financial burdens on the rest of the state.

In the case of Southeast Alaska, as a prime example, out of approximately twenty one million total acres, eighteen million acres are federal lands with sixteen million acres managed as roadless, therefore, wilderness. Of the seven hundred thousand acres remaining in state hands, nearly all taxable activity occurs on only eleven thousand acres.

This is not a balance. It is a recipe for economic disaster that has been unfolding since the federal government withdrew its support for industrial logging in the late 1990s.

Methods need to be devised to restore the balance.