

From:
To: [FS-comments-alaska-tongass-juneau](#)
Subject: MGRA NEPA COMMENTS March 19 2020
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020 9:41:26 PM

I want to comment on the proposed Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Facility Improvement Project by U.S. Forest Service (USFS).

As envisioned now, the Forest Service's proposals would turn the Mendenhall Glacier from a unique natural area into a congested theme park. However, if we thoughtfully develop the glacier we can continue to accommodate visitors, residents, and most importantly the wildlife that makes Mendenhall unique. We need creative ideas for the future, not just old pave-over plans.

1) I am completely opposed the concept of motorized tour boats in Mendenhall Lake. Any development in Mendenhall Lake would destroy the character of the lake. The current non-motorized boat traffic fits well with the natural scene and provides aesthetic experience for the boaters and the other people visiting the glacier. The docks, waiting shelters, and restrooms would destroy the natural feeling of the lake.

2) I oppose the "Remote Glacier Visitor Facilities". Remote glacier visitor facilities that connect to the proposed Remote Glacier boat dock via hardened trails. I recommend keeping all the tourist facilities near the current visitor center.

3) I support improving the West Glacier Spur Trail. The West Glacier Spur Trail would connect the to the existing West Glacier Trail and would end up with a good view of the glacier. I could consist of two segments: one low alignment along the peninsula in Mendenhall Lake, and one upper alignment. The two alignments would form a loop option. Now, people could have a nice hike and see the glacier.

I hope that you consider my comments.

Thanks.

Rodney W Flynn