

From:
To: [FS-comments-alaska-tongass-juneau](#)
Subject: Comments to Mendenhall Visitor Center Scoping
Date: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 5:02:27 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Dear US Forest Service,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scoping for the Draft EIS for the proposed Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Facility Improvement Project. I am a resident and homeowner in Juneau, Alaska. I use the Tongass National Forest on a daily basis, including the Mendenhall Glacier area.

Increased tourist traffic over the last several years have displaced locals like me from numerous areas around Juneau. I am skeptical of the plan to drastically increase the number of tourists in the Mendenhall Recreation area because I think it will likely displace my use of this area.

Lakeshore Trail. I, and a dozen or so others locals, actively use Mendenhall Lake for kiteboarding. We launch and land on the South side of the lake right at "Point of Interest Zone #3" on this

map: https://www.fs.usda.gov/nfs/11558/www/nepa/109051_FSPLT3_5241554.pdf. This launch spit is really the only place we can access the lake. We don't launch in front of the mendenhall visitor center because of the large crowds and Arctic Terns that nest NE of the Center. I think this activity can co-exist with the suggested Lakeshore trail, but I ask the USFS to actively preserve our access to the lakeshore, at "Launch" spots in pic below.



Motorized boat dock and Remote Doc. I oppose the plan for docks and motorized boats and the remote facility at the north end of the lake near the face of the glacier. I use the lake for kayaking and kiteboarding and the motorized boats and increased tourism traffic will negatively impact my use. I also go ice climbing and explore the ice caves (when present) at the face of the glacier. Increased tourist traffic and motorized vehicles will have a negative enough impact that it will displace my use of this area.

Parking- Does this kettle pond that is planned to be filled have anadromous or resident fish in it? I oppose the distribution of any fish habitat and request that USFWS mitigate any filling of wetlands or waters of the US through compensatory mitigation.

Sincerely,

Rob Cadmus