Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/23/2020 2:25:38 AM First name: Kimberly Last name: Metcalfe Helmar Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am not looking forward to the return of huge crowds brought by cruise ship tourism at the Mendenhall Glacier. This past summer was wonderful for those of us who call Juneau home. I was appalled when using trails near the glacier during the past few summers. The crowds were impassable. The diesel busses parked for blocks with engines running created disgusting amounts of air pollution. As a member of the public, I would like to see the area restricted in the number of visitors allowed. It is nearly impossible to walk in the area due to the number of bodies crowding the area. The U.S. Forest Service should be looking to ways of preserving the area, not adding more vehicular traffic that pollutes the air (and water when considering leaking fuel and run-off). The U.S. government owes nothing to foreign-flagged cruise ships that pay nothing in U.S. taxes. I do not want my tax dollar used to enrich ships that are flagged off-shore in order to avoid paying taxes and being subject to U.S. labor standards and safety regulations. I respectfully request that the government limit numbers of tourists to the area, require electric, non-polluting busses and any other type of vehicle serving the tourist trade, and absolutely no use of commercial boats on Mendenhall Lake. Also, please limit commercial use of trails. It is not a wilderness experience when you can barely pass groups of cruise ship tourists. Limit, limit, limit the numbers of cruise ship visitors and other large-scale commercial tourism.