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Comments: While I have never had the pleasure to visit Mendenhall Glacier, I am concerned about how the cultural history of the Recreation Area when drafting this EIS. The Tlingit inhabited the Southeast Alaskan long before the arrival of Alaskan Settlers and the creation of geographical political boundaries. Before its renaming in English, the Tlingit named the glacier Aak'wtaaksit, or "the Glacier Behind the Little Lake" (Britannica, 2015). Clearly, this glacier was significant enough to be named. Because of this, have the Tlingit been consulted on their opinions of this plan? Since the arrival of the pilgrims, American Indians' opinions on their historical lands have been disregarded. My concern is that by not consulting the nearby tribal nations, Mendenhall will only further perpetuate this problem. Unfortunately, I do not see a section for "cultural significance" in the EIS. I wish to see a formal investigation of the cultural impacts of the Proposed Action as well as Alternative Actions. We have an obligation as Americans to make an effort to make amends for the atrocities that Alaskan indigenous people have been subject to.

Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2015, June 23). Mendenhall Glacier. Encyclopedia Britannica.
<https://www.britannica.com/place/Mendenhall-Glacier>