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First name: Michael

Last name: Wilson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Mendenhall Glacier Area draft EIS. My wife and I have visited this area for the past sixty plus years, and see the need to protect it for future generations.

We are opposed to Alternative 1, No Action, as something must be done to accommodate the summer tourists. We also very strongly object to Alternatives 2 and 3 because of their proposed use of motor launches and docks on the lake and the remote visitor center. The lake would become a congested eyesore with thousands of visitors embarking and disembarking in large groups. Mendenhall Lake is a world class viewing area and should not become a theme park with boats transversing the lake. There are numerous trails and guided tours that allow visitors to get into the wild spaces and enjoy the glacier without using a boat.

The new proposed Welcome Center is simply overkill. It is too big, and too tall, it should be scaled back and partially buried to reduce the visual impact to the panoramic vistas. We question the wisdom of having 13 full sized buses parked and unloading thousands of visitors multiple times each and every day during the summer. While the proposed plans will install acres of concrete to allow visitor movement, do we really need Mendenhall Glacier to become Juneau's 'Disneyland' for visitors? We don't believe that is appropriate or feasible.

We support the development of the proposed Lake Side trail system as outlined in Alternative 3. These trails should be kept back from the edge of the lake to minimize conflicts between wildlife and users. These trails should also be made wide enough to accommodate cross country ski equipment as outlined in comments from the Juneau Nordic Ski Club. These trails should also be elevated over many of the water spaces to avoid flooding by the local beaver populations.

We are against the proposed cabins inside the Campground. These cabins should be located at the entrance to the campground or closer to the West Side turnaround.

Skiing in the campground and adjacent areas is a vastly popular for local users. If cabins are used during the winter there location and user access should not affect the grooming and skiing areas.