

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/9/2022 3:01:34 AM

First name: Dixie

Last name: Alms

Organization:

Title:

Comments: 5-8-22

Comments for Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center

As a 34 year Juneau and Alaska resident, I find most of the suggestions and options appalling as does my non-resident family. I picked up three family members from a ship two days ago (May 4, 2022) and told them about the plans to put a building across the main view that would obliterate the view of the glacier as we drive up. Their question: WHY WOULD ANYONE DO THAT?????

I also told them about the plan to fill in and pave over the ponds for parking. Again, they asked: WHY WOULD ANYONE DO THAT?????

Two of the three of them are unable to hike/walk any distance, so we did not get out of the car. As they were nine years ago, they were enthralled with the view of the glacier as we drove into the parking lot. They were amazed at the changes from nine years ago.

Personally, I AM AGAINST FILLING IN THE CURRENT MAIN DRIVE UP VIEW WITH ANY TYPE OF BUILDING STRUCTURE. The drive up view of our receding glacier is extremely important to maintain!

I AM AGAINST FILLING IN AND PAVING OVER THE PONDS. I can't imagine that ANY EIS statement would approve eliminating current animal habitats. Our pristine glacier area is home to many bears, porcupines, beavers, birds, fish and plants. Disruption of the habitat will displace and eliminate many of these animals and plants.

I AM ALSO AGAINST ANY TYPE OF BOATING on the lake other than the kayaks and Native canoes. There are no navigational charts of the area, and I have seen no plans for any kind of boating emergency that could leak all kinds of pollutants into our pristine lake.

I AM ALSO AGAINST A VIEWING PLATFORM AT DIPPER FALLS. This is the only spot where there is an active dipper nest. A viewing platform would ruin the view, add a lot of noise and drive the dippers from their home. This would be another blatant destruction of habitat being actively used by our wildlife.

Please be sensitive to our beautiful area and don't destroy it by eliminating all the animals and their habitat in addition to all the drive up beauty. Thank you for reading my comments.