

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/16/2022 4:59:24 PM

First name: Lisa

Last name: Kramer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed changes at Mendenhall Glacier.

I strongly disagree with allowing motorized boats on Mendenhall Lake. The letter written by Jim Sepel and published in the Juneau Empire gives many reasons why that is a terrible idea. Mine are less scientific, but the beauty of the glacier has everything to do with silence. Also, I can't imagine that much bus traffic on Montana Creek Road. The road would be destroyed.

I also feel there could be a better location for the Welcome Center. People go to the glacier for the view and seeing the glacier rather than a building as you drive up is much more Alaskan.

Both tourists and locals enjoy our home if it is not packed with people. The Dredge Lakes area is precious to us and having the undeveloped trails is crucial as more and more of our town becomes developed. Several of my friends and family spend time weekly in the Dredge Lake area and it is one of the few neighborhood areas where you can have dogs off leash and often not run into a lot of people. I'm happy to share our trails and glacial area with tourists, but we need some minimally developed areas where we can get away.

A few years ago, I visited Antelope Canyon in Page, Arizona. It was stunning, but my first thought in looking back at my experience was the size of the crowd there and how it felt as if we were cattle being herded through the canyon. The number of people partially ruined the experience. We talked with someone from Page and he said he never goes there because of the crowds. It would be a shame if people from Juneau felt they could no longer enjoy their home for that same reason.

Bigger and more is not always better. Let's keep the tourist experience a positive one for all by not continually having more and more people impact us every year.

Thank you,
Lisa Kramer