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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for listening to the comments submitted so far in this process and addressing them in the Draft SEIS. Although I strongly oppose expanding the MGRA for more cruise ship tourists, who are already crowding us out of our little town, I want to voice my support for the best options within the MGRA expansion plan. I also list what I do not support.

I support:

*Parking for busses and all tour vans at the bus/snow storage area with a new walking path/trail for tourists. It would be so nice to go to the glacier and not hear or smell diesel buses. Electric shuttles are not necessary. My mom is in a wheelchair and would be happy to be pushed along a walkway. *Encourage or mandate that cruise ship busses entering the area be 100% electric within five years.

*Parking for locals where it is, and expand the local parking by the current bear viewing area, if necessary.

*A trail along the lakeshore that connects to the campground. Please ban e-bikes from this trail and plan the trail so that bikes, hikers, walkers, and dog walkers can use it without conflict. A demarcated bike lane might help.

*Improved trails on the West Glacier side with the 3 caveats: 1) tour groups be capped, 2) mountain bike trails be separated from hiking trails, and 3) e-bikes be prohibited. Additionally, at least one day a week should be made a no-tour-groups day.

*Nugget Falls loop trail.

*Public use cabins and 3 remote camp sites (Alternative 6), as long as the vehicle traffic to the cabins does not affect xc ski trails.

*Skater's cabin parking expansion.

*Glacier Spur Road trailheads and parking.

*Steep Creek improvements, if and only if, fisheries and wildlife biologists are part of the process. Wildlife, including beavers, is more important than tourism.

*Wildlife underpass so that bears can cross the road more safely and without tourists crowding them.

*New Visitor Center on the east side of the road, built into the hillside, where the bathrooms are now. The visitor center design and colors should minimize its presence. The visitor center should be open to Juneau residents to rent at a reasonable rate for private events.

*Dredge Lake hiker and mountain bike trail improvements, as long as those trails are not made commercial. We have already lost west and east glacier trails to tour groups. I encourage you to separate as many bike and hiking trails as possible while you are making trail improvements. Also making single track bike trails one-way makes them more user friendly.

I do not support:

*Motorized boats on the lake. They are unnecessary. People do not need to touch the glacier. They can view it from afar, pay for a (loud) helicopter tour, or hike the on West Glacier trail that you are expanding. Boats will have a huge impact on the natural beauty of the area, and potentially seals, coho, and sockeye, especially if the dock is installed close to Steep Creek. I am also concerned about boat traffic's impacts on terns and dippers. Have the impacts of boats, docks and viewing platforms on birds been studied?

*Dock. If you must have boats, do not put a dock or ramp on the West Glacier side of the lake. The residents of the Montana Creek area do not need more traffic of any kind on Montana Creek road. Additionally, the West Glacier trailhead is already too busy with river raft tourism. Once the trail is extended from the visitor center to the Mendenhall Campground, there will be more users on the west side of the lake already. The floating dock in Alt 5 is the best of the bad boat options.

Overall, I am concerned about the MGRA expansion's impact on wildlife and locals. Many of us already avoid using the MGRA area in the cruise ship months because it's so crowded. The wildlife is also showing impacts of

tourism as well as climate change. The salmon numbers are down in Steep Creek. The dippers and terns must be affected by the number of people in their nesting and feeding areas, and the bears are definitely impacted by the hordes of cruise ship tourists that move in large groups and are more interested in getting a good photo than giving wildlife the space it needs. I also realize that the number of people coming to the MGRA is not going to decrease. I can only hope that the expansion's impact on wildlife and locals will be minimized as much as possible.