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Organization:

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Comments: My preferred option is Alternative 1, no action.

The number of tourists visiting MGRA, plus many of the changes proposed in the various options will have an increasingly negative effect on wildlife and the natural beauty of the area. For this reason, I hope you will consider a quota system to limit the number of tourists using the area at one time. MGRA offers world-class wildlife viewing opportunities. Allowing increased tourism will change animal behavior and is likely to drive wildlife farther away.

I am against the use of boats on the lake to transport tourists to more remote areas. Most tourists from the cruise ships have under two hours to explore the glacier area. It seems logistically impossible for anyone to be able to arrive at the parking lot, wait in line for a boat, take the boat across the lake, then be taken to a remote visitors' center and back within that time frame. I would like to see that addressed.

Having a restaurant in the vicinity surely goes against the present protocol of having no food in the area. This is an inconsistency which also needs to be addressed.

Regarding the Dipper Falls viewing area, the proposed change would involve clearing trees and building a viewing platform. This, plus the activity of people on the platform, will most likely have a negative effect on the dippers that commonly nest in the area, thereby making the opportunity to view dippers unlikely.

Chasing the glacier is expensive and ultimately futile. Protecting and sustaining a diverse wildlife population and preserving the natural beauty of the area seem to me to be more appropriate goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.