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Comments: I have lived in Juneau nearly 50 years and my residence has always been within 1-3 miles of the glacier and the Mendenhall Lake. I use the trails for hiking and biking, love to walk along the shore on the west side, and enjoy skiing in the campground.

I think the development at the Glacier Visitor's Center is already extreme. It's not a place I enjoy visiting until all the busses, people and congestion are gone. I wonder if the tourists feel the same way?

The following are a few of my comments on the current proposals:

Welcome Center: I think the only viable option for the Welcome Center is the one putting the welcome center in the current bus parking lot and providing electric shuttle vehicles from an improved bus lot.

Development of West Glacier Area and Lake: I don't agree with any additional development on the West Glacier side of the lake, including boats, docks and bridges.

Having masses of people bussed and shuttled up and down the Montana Creek Road will deteriorate the natural beauty of that area adding noise, litter and congestion. And how about smell . . . the new toilets erected at the start of the West Glacier trail are so stinky by the first weeks of tourist season that you have to hold your nose as you approach the trail head. It will be exponentially worse if more tourists are allowed in that area (and more toilets are needed).

Food/Drink: Allowing any kind of food, snacks and drinks (other than water) is just an enticement for bear encounters anywhere in the area and should be prohibited.

New Trails: I think a few new, small, trails in the East Glacier area would be fine. But paved, extensive trails are not necessary, nor do they complement the natural environment.

Not every tourist needs to, or is interested in, visiting the glacier. Those that do, don't often want to be there for more than about an hour. There are so many other things to do in Juneau, DiPAC, Fishing, Whale Watching, visiting museums, hiking other trails, etc. etc. And how about the new Sealaska Heritage campus and the Totem Trail - these two things alone would entertain tourists in the downtown area, reduce pollution and road damage from all the busses, and give tourists a real sense of Alaska Native culture.

The bottom line for me is this . . . once you destroy the natural environment of the Mendenhall Glacier area (including the West Glacier, Mendenhall Lake & Dredge Lake) you can never recover it. It is gone for all future generations, including future tourists. All that will be left is a lot of out-buildings, paved trails, bridges and destroyed forests, ecosystems and animal habitats.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.