Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/16/2023 9:57:35 PM First name: Deedie Last name: Sorensen Organization:

## Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my opposition to the development of the west side of Mendenhall Lake. The idea of motorized boats on the lake is appalling. In general the trip to the glacier is an outing for tourists to look at something and experience the pristine aspects of nature on somewhat large natural canvas. Glacier, lake, ice, waterfall, wildlife are appropriately on this experiential canvas. Any construction beyond the existing visitor center is destructive to this experience, as is anything that adds noise or visual distractions to the lake. Juneau has numerous motorized boat opportunities for tourists thirsty for the roar of an engine and the smell of exhaust. Any development that encroaches on or adversely impacts wildlife habitat is actually destructive to the unique tourist experience that the current glacier setting provides. Motorized boats could be devastating polluters and food vending could be deadly for both wildlife and people. The glacier is a place that can be accessed (especially with some limit on the numbers of tourists at any one time) by older or less physically inclined individuals and can provide an amazing tranquil immersive experience for a tourist. The tourist can, with or without accessing a modest trail system, appreciate the vastness and richness of clean air, sparking water, or the sound of the falls. Rather than trying to turn the glacier into a fake Disney attraction, it should be the tourist destination with the smallest carbon footprint. There is no place as genuinely wild and accessible anywhere. Don't ruin this unique and fragile experience. We have eagles at the glacier, we don't need the Forest Service building infrastructure the the vultures chasing the tourist dollars. The experience is already there, your job is to protect it and enhance the soul affirming experience of being a witness to the surviving flora and fauna in and around the glacier.