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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I would like to thank the USFS for this opportunity to comment on the MGRA SDEIS. I'm a local resident and I use the MGRA very often for hiking, skiing, and wildlife viewing. I appreciate the natural and scenic beauty that it holds and it adds greatly to my enjoyment of Juneau area.

I have commented 2 times before on this project. My concerns are mostly the same. I appreciated that you have developed an alternate that incorporates much of my concerns - Alternative 6.

I am completely opposed to any motorized access to Mendenhall Lake including boat, docks, remote visitors center, etc. This action would destroy the natural beauty of the area for everyone, including the tourists and especially local residents. Besides, the planned motorized access will compete with established non-motorized access. Also, motorized boats on the lake would be a precedent you probably don't want to start.

I'm opposed to the large change in the Management Unit Boundaries. Keeping it close to existing boundaries would be preferable. There is no need to include lake and beyond Nugget Falls.

I support the Lake Shore Trail development as outlined in Alternative 6. Because I am a member of the Juneau Nordic Ski Club, I support the SDEIS' embrace of Nordic ski trail development. It's heartening to have the USFS supporting and advocating for non-motorized winter sports activities in the MGRA Master Plan. Trails built to Nordic ski standards will also increase access for hikers, bikers and other users' year-around.

I don't support the Nugget Loop trail. It is unnecessary and would impact lake-side habitat.

I also support the concept of a new welcome center as describe in Alternative 6. By moving into the hill, it would be less destructive to the view shed of the glacier. I think that the welcome center is needed, but it should be not intrusive. Also, the traffic pattern should be better.