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First name: Lisa Last name: Kramer Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for listening to the public regarding the use of motorized boats on Mendenhall Lake and for not commercializing the north side of MGRA.

Before I comment on some of the issues in the ROD, I would like to express two concerns about the process that I was unaware of when I wrote previously. I did not realize that the director of recreation, lands and minerals had a conflict of interest since he is part owner of an electric bike company. He must realize it is a conflict as he did not mention that he is the director or that he had anything to do with the MGRA when testifying before the Juneau Assembly. This really looks bad for the process and I'm sure some valid objections/lawsuits could be launched. Why hasn't this been disclosed?

Secondly, I did not know that the objection process is being handled by people so directly involved in the process. It seems as if this should be handled by a group of people who are one step away from the process, probably from a different region.

My objections to developing the trails in the Dredge Lakes area remain. There are lovely undeveloped trails there now that are enjoyed by locals year round, and the plan will destroy the intimacy of the forest. A 14 foot wide trail, and a trail that is elevated eight feet, will ruin the natural feel of the area. It will be great for ebikes though, which backs up my comment above about a conflict of interest. Making trails for fast moving bikes in a popular dog walking area is a good way to promote conflict and injury.

I'm happy to see the new visitor center location doesn't block 100% of the view, but one farther from the glacier or tucked up against the rocks near the present visitors center would allow a much larger view. Could it be smaller since the number of tourists should decline as the glacier disappears?

There was a survey asking people where they would like to see new cabins built in the Tongass and the replies I saw were strongly in favor of no cabins, or two at the max, in the campground. I was sorry to see that five are proposed there and that they are so large. Many people who book cabins want to get away into the woods, not be directly in a campground. I am also concerned about the cabins being heated by wood, as most cabins are getting away from that. Will extra employees be needed to cut the wood? Will trees in the campground be the source? What about creating more air pollution in the valley? What about burn bans---will one just be out of luck as far as heat goes?

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.