

From: [Connie Staska](mailto:Connie.Staska)
To: tommorphet1@gmail.com
Cc: [Alekkka Fullerton](mailto:Alekka.Fullerton)
Subject: ATV Glacier Point Tours
Date: Monday, February 26, 2018 4:42:49 PM

Dear Assembly Member Morphet, et al,

I am strongly opposed to ATV tours on the north side of Glacier Point by Alaska Excursions, i.e. Robert Murphy.

As a boat captain , I worked for Alaska X for 3 seasons transporting clients from Skagway to Glacier Pt. and disembarking clients for a canoe trip to the glacier, then returning same clients to Skagway harbor. Previously, I operated the same tour for 2 years with Chilkat Guides, i.e. Bart Henderson.

The contrast between the two companies in regard to client safety was a stark and obvious difference. Maintenance of 42' RIB tour boats diminished to substandard levels during my 3 seasons with Alaska X. On one particular excursion, I lost 2 engines while the third barely enabled navigation in ten foot seas off of Mud Bay Point. This close encounter with a rocky shoreline with clients was due in part to maintenance coupled with company pressure to commit to a trip in the face of poor weather forecasts. The captain is totally responsible once the trip is underway. The captain also cannot abandon clients once they are ashore on the Glacier Pt. tour. Separate tours from Skagway for the purpose of ATV tours in the pond/wetland habitat of north Glacier Pt. is, in my opinion, absurd.

I would be happy to supply furthers details.

Sincerely,
Capt. Ray Staska
Email: yukonray20@gmail.com