Antarctic Tourism and Climate Change

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Background

- Rules by the International Maritime organization to limit use of heavy fuel oil and by Antarctic Treaty committee to limit ship size and require insurance lack support. U.S. has not signed.
- Could more tourists provide more support for protection? (or just destroy more...)

Tourist Origins

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Visitor Numbers

- 1980’s fewer than 2000 per year
- By 2007-8 increase to 46,000.
- Decline during recession to 27,000 in 2011-12

Visitor Types

- In 1990s mostly middle aged or older cruisers who went onshore in a few places to see wildlife and historic sites.
- Now younger, paragliders, skiers, water skiers, divers, hang-gliders, sky divers, etc...

Tourists and Temperatures

Selected Sources:

- Sources include: R. Lemelin, J.Dawson and E.Steart 2012. Last Chance Tourism: Adapting Tourism Opportunities in a Changing World Routledge

Climate change deniers?