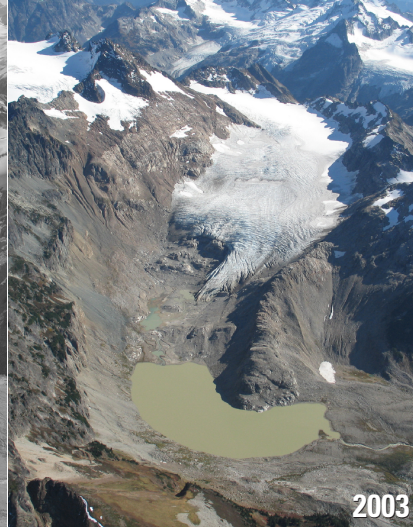


Changes in Glaciers

South Cascade Glacier

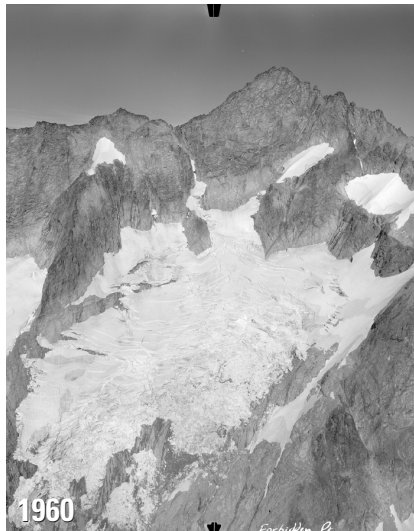
Lower slopes of Sentinel Mountain, North Cascades; flows into South Fork Cascade River



A glacier forms when winter snowfall exceeds summer melting. It shrinks or "retreats" when melting outpaces the accumulation of new snow. Glaciers are extremely sensitive to climate change. The warmer air temperatures have resulted in increased rates of melting and a longer melt season. As freezing elevations have moved higher over the past several decades, portions of some glaciers are not able to rebuild themselves in the winter through accumulated snowfall.

Forbidden Glacier

North slopes of Forbidden Peak, North Cascades; flows into Thunder Creek and Ross Lake



Silver Glacier

North side of Mt. Spickard, North Cascades; flows into Ross Lake

