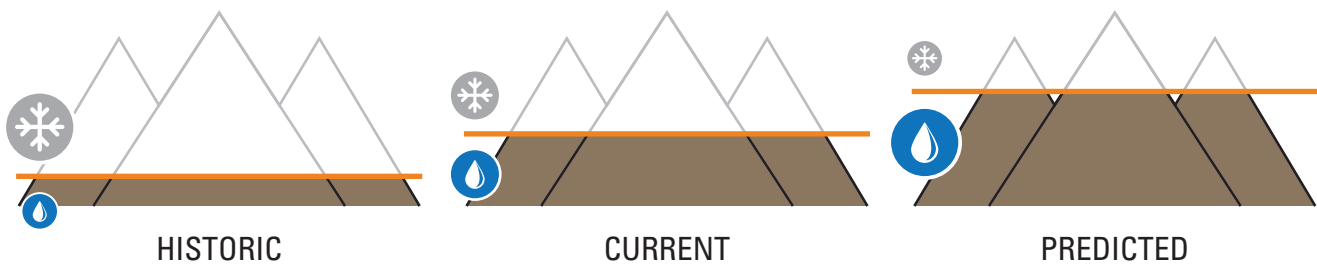




Rising Winter Freezing Levels



 When precipitation falls as snow, it is stored as ice and snow that slowly melts, providing water to the Skagit River throughout the year, including late summer and drought periods.

FREEZING LEVEL

 When precipitation falls as rain, water quickly enters the Skagit River during fall and winter, often contributing to flood risk. As freezing levels rise, the area potentially susceptible to flooding increases.

In the Skagit, the average winter freezing elevation has risen consistently since 1948.