



1
00:00:05,990 --> 00:00:50,020

yes

2
00:00:54,380 --> 00:00:52,490

Alaska's Glacier Bay has fascinated

3
00:00:58,009 --> 00:00:54,390

naturalists and glaciologists for

4
00:01:02,689 --> 00:00:58,019

centuries named the National Monument in

5
00:01:05,570 --> 00:01:02,699

1925 and a national park in 1980 Glacier

6
00:01:09,710 --> 00:01:05,580

Bay today attracts more than 250,000

7
00:01:12,700 --> 00:01:09,720

visitors a year just 200 years ago the

8
00:01:15,200 --> 00:01:12,710

entire Bay was covered by glacier ice

9
00:01:17,540 --> 00:01:15,210

with the help of ground and satellite

10
00:01:19,850 --> 00:01:17,550

measurements study of the recession of

11
00:01:21,859 --> 00:01:19,860

the glaciers of Glacier Bay as well as

12
00:01:24,320 --> 00:01:21,869

in other areas is providing us with

13
00:01:30,790 --> 00:01:24,330

important clues about changes in global

14

00:01:37,750 --> 00:01:33,790

a glacier is a dynamic system consisting

15

00:01:39,460 --> 00:01:37,760

of snow ice and often rock debris that

16

00:01:42,190 --> 00:01:39,470

transports material from higher

17

00:01:45,480 --> 00:01:42,200

elevations where snow accumulates to

18

00:01:49,390 --> 00:01:45,490

lower elevations where snow and ice melt

19

00:01:51,040 --> 00:01:49,400

snow becomes glacier ice over time when

20

00:01:53,700 --> 00:01:51,050

the pressure of increasing layers are

21

00:01:56,530 --> 00:01:53,710

snow accumulating year after year

22

00:01:59,590 --> 00:01:56,540

transforms the snow first into fern

23

00:02:08,290 --> 00:01:59,600

which is very dense snow and eventually

24

00:02:10,720 --> 00:02:08,300

into ice today there are over 200

25

00:02:13,270 --> 00:02:10,730

separate smaller glaciers in Glacier Bay

26

00:02:15,960 --> 00:02:13,280

National Park to the delight of park

27

00:02:21,190 --> 00:02:15,970

visitors who view them from cruise ships

28

00:02:22,870 --> 00:02:21,200

private boats and kayaks glaciers at the

29

00:02:25,840 --> 00:02:22,880

head of tar inlet of the most

30

00:02:29,740 --> 00:02:25,850

spectacular these include the Grand

31

00:02:31,960 --> 00:02:29,750

Pacific and the margaery together they

32

00:02:35,680 --> 00:02:31,970

comprise three kilometers of ice front

33

00:02:37,930 --> 00:02:35,690

which is cowlng into the sea the Johns

34

00:02:40,120 --> 00:02:37,940

Hopkins and Marjorie glaciers are each

35

00:02:44,530 --> 00:02:40,130

about one-and-a-half kilometres wide and

36

00:02:47,110 --> 00:02:44,540

22 kilometers long they are both dwarfed

37

00:02:49,510 --> 00:02:47,120

by the Grand Pacific glacier a tall

38

00:02:52,750 --> 00:02:49,520

towers 60 to 90 meters above the water

39

00:02:55,660 --> 00:02:52,760

at their term and I with another 120

40

00:02:57,729 --> 00:02:55,670

meters below the water surface these

41

00:03:00,550 --> 00:02:57,739

glaciers calve icebergs into the ocean

42

00:03:06,110 --> 00:03:00,560

on a regular basis grilling visitors

43

00:03:09,800 --> 00:03:08,270

written records of the glaciers in

44

00:03:14,240 --> 00:03:09,810

Glacier Bay began with George

45

00:03:16,610 --> 00:03:14,250

Vancouver's visit in 1794 ground

46

00:03:18,500 --> 00:03:16,620

observations beginning in the late 1800s

47

00:03:20,600 --> 00:03:18,510

and ground-based and satellite

48

00:03:23,809 --> 00:03:20,610

measurements in recent years have shown

49

00:03:32,500 --> 00:03:23,819

that many glaciers in and near Glacier

50

00:03:37,270 --> 00:03:35,259

when a glacier recedes water from the

51
00:03:40,990 --> 00:03:37,280
melting ice is released into the ocean

52
00:03:42,880 --> 00:03:41,000
and sea level rises though the greatest

53
00:03:44,289 --> 00:03:42,890
potential for sea level rise is from

54
00:03:47,380 --> 00:03:44,299
melting of the Antarctic and Greenland

55
00:03:49,990 --> 00:03:47,390
ice sheets the small glaciers of the

56
00:03:52,569 --> 00:03:50,000
world such as those in Glacier Bay would

57
00:03:54,640 --> 00:03:52,579
contribute to a sea-level rise of about

58
00:04:02,649 --> 00:03:54,650
six-tenths of a meter if they were to

59
00:04:04,330 --> 00:04:02,659
melt completely precise measurements of

60
00:04:07,449 --> 00:04:04,340
glacier changes may be made by

61
00:04:10,210 --> 00:04:07,459
ground-based surveying the light

62
00:04:12,250 --> 00:04:10,220
glaciologist William O field began

63
00:04:17,050 --> 00:04:12,260

photographing and measuring glaciers in

64

00:04:19,270 --> 00:04:17,060

Glacier Bay in 1926 many of the glacier

65

00:04:21,219 --> 00:04:19,280

terminus positions map by field and his

66

00:04:23,409 --> 00:04:21,229

colleagues are shown on the map of

67

00:04:27,700 --> 00:04:23,419

Glacier Bay prepared by the National

68

00:04:29,320 --> 00:04:27,710

Park Service glacier work in the early

69

00:04:32,700 --> 00:04:29,330

part of this century was even more

70

00:04:35,110 --> 00:04:32,710

difficult and hazardous than it is today

71

00:04:37,480 --> 00:04:35,120

scientists had to roll through iceberg

72

00:04:40,570 --> 00:04:37,490

laden water to reach many of the glacier

73

00:04:43,270 --> 00:04:40,580

fronts detailed measurements in Glacier

74

00:04:45,250 --> 00:04:43,280

Bay made by field and others have

75

00:04:47,770 --> 00:04:45,260

provided an excellent description of the

76

00:04:53,860 --> 00:04:47,780

dates and magnitude of changes in the

77

00:04:59,900 --> 00:04:57,620

the once enormous Muir glacier located

78

00:05:02,300 --> 00:04:59,910

in what is now mere Inlet in the East

79

00:05:05,390 --> 00:05:02,310

arm of Glacier Bay was named for John

80

00:05:07,939 --> 00:05:05,400

Muir the famous naturalist and explorer

81

00:05:12,560 --> 00:05:07,949

who visited Glacier Bay in the late 19th

82

00:05:15,670 --> 00:05:12,570

century in 1905 just 26 years after

83

00:05:17,719 --> 00:05:15,680

mirrors first visit Fremont Morris wrote

84

00:05:20,330 --> 00:05:17,729

formally the mirror presented a

85

00:05:22,640 --> 00:05:20,340

perpendicular front at least 200 feet in

86

00:05:25,280 --> 00:05:22,650

height from which huge Berg's were

87

00:05:27,350 --> 00:05:25,290

detached at frequent intervals the sight

88

00:05:29,540 --> 00:05:27,360

and sound of one of these vast masses

89

00:05:32,060 --> 00:05:29,550

falling from the cliff or suddenly

90

00:05:34,550 --> 00:05:32,070

appearing from the submarine I slit was

91

00:05:37,670 --> 00:05:34,560

something which once witness was not to

92

00:05:40,430 --> 00:05:37,680

be forgotten it was grand and impressive

93

00:05:42,620 --> 00:05:40,440

beyond description fortunately the

94

00:05:44,570 --> 00:05:42,630

recent changes in the mirror have not

95

00:05:46,820 --> 00:05:44,580

increased its impressiveness from a

96

00:05:49,250 --> 00:05:46,830

scenic standpoint instead of the

97

00:05:51,920 --> 00:05:49,260

imposing cliff of ice the front is

98

00:05:56,390 --> 00:05:51,930

sloping and seems to be far less active

99

00:05:58,400 --> 00:05:56,400

than formerly the Muir glacier is now

100

00:06:00,680 --> 00:05:58,410

but a small remnant of its former glory

101
00:06:03,800 --> 00:06:00,690
and has nearly retreated up out of the

102
00:06:05,900 --> 00:06:03,810
ocean in fact many of the large

103
00:06:08,870 --> 00:06:05,910
Tidewater glaciers that John Muir first

104
00:06:11,920 --> 00:06:08,880
observed in 1879 have been reduced to

105
00:06:14,570 --> 00:06:11,930
small glaciers that terminate on land

106
00:06:17,480 --> 00:06:14,580
land that is uncovered as glaciers

107
00:06:25,279 --> 00:06:17,490
recede from its plant and animal life to

108
00:06:27,490 --> 00:06:25,289
appear and flourish beginning with the

109
00:06:31,100 --> 00:06:27,500
launch of the first Landsat satellite in

110
00:06:33,469 --> 00:06:31,110
1972 we have with a spatial resolution

111
00:06:35,210 --> 00:06:33,479
of up to 30 meters been able to acquire

112
00:06:37,520 --> 00:06:35,220
detailed satellite images of the

113
00:06:41,089 --> 00:06:37,530

glaciers of Glacier Bay and measure

114

00:06:43,610 --> 00:06:41,099

changes in those glaciers to satellite

115

00:06:46,100 --> 00:06:43,620

sensors the multispectral scanner and

116

00:06:48,469 --> 00:06:46,110

the more advanced thematic mapper allow

117

00:06:55,159 --> 00:06:48,479

us to measure glaciers without having to

118

00:06:59,360 --> 00:06:57,589

maps drawn by earlier explorers of

119

00:07:01,879 --> 00:06:59,370

Glacier Bay can be registered to or

120

00:07:05,839 --> 00:07:01,889

overlaying on satellite images using

121

00:07:07,939 --> 00:07:05,849

computer techniques common stable points

122

00:07:10,070 --> 00:07:07,949

between the map and the images are

123

00:07:13,580 --> 00:07:10,080

located and digitally overlaying using

124

00:07:15,519 --> 00:07:13,590

image processing techniques one image is

125

00:07:18,619 --> 00:07:15,529

stretched in relationship to the other

126
00:07:20,330 --> 00:07:18,629
once the images are registered we can

127
00:07:22,550 --> 00:07:20,340
measure changes in glacier terminus

128
00:07:29,260 --> 00:07:22,560
positions from the time of the earliest

129
00:07:34,040 --> 00:07:31,820
using computer techniques we can

130
00:07:37,400 --> 00:07:34,050
register elevation data to satellite

131
00:07:39,170 --> 00:07:37,410
images this allows us to obtain a

132
00:07:42,260 --> 00:07:39,180
three-dimensional perspective and

133
00:07:54,760 --> 00:07:42,270
actually appear to fly by an area

134
00:07:58,900 --> 00:07:56,830
measurements of the Muir glacier have

135
00:08:00,850 --> 00:07:58,910
shown that the terminus retreated up the

136
00:08:03,210 --> 00:08:00,860
mirror inlet at a rate of about four

137
00:08:07,330 --> 00:08:03,220
tenths of a kilometer per year between

138
00:08:10,809 --> 00:08:07,340

1794 and 1892 for a total retreat to

139

00:08:12,640 --> 00:08:10,819

more than 40 kilometers satellite

140

00:08:19,659 --> 00:08:12,650

measurements derived from images

141

00:08:21,610 --> 00:08:19,669

acquired in 1973 1980 1983 and 1986 show

142

00:08:24,820 --> 00:08:21,620

that the Muir glacier terminus went back

143

00:08:27,730 --> 00:08:24,830

more than seven kilometres between 1973

144

00:08:36,920 --> 00:08:27,740

and 1986 with most of that retreat

145

00:08:42,990 --> 00:08:39,600

McBride glaciers the most active glacier

146

00:08:45,210 --> 00:08:43,000

and mirror inlet it is still receding

147

00:08:48,330 --> 00:08:45,220

and over the last two decades has formed

148

00:08:50,550 --> 00:08:48,340

an impressive Inlet as recorded by

149

00:08:52,530 --> 00:08:50,560

satellite datum the terminus of the

150

00:08:57,570 --> 00:08:52,540

McBride glacier retreated almost three

151
00:08:59,430 --> 00:08:57,580
kilometres between 1973 in 1986 and the

152
00:09:01,800 --> 00:08:59,440
nearby Burroughs glacier shrank

153
00:09:04,920 --> 00:09:01,810
considerably filling lakes with its

154
00:09:06,750 --> 00:09:04,930
meltwater note the increase in the

155
00:09:11,250 --> 00:09:06,760
amount of vegetation the vicinity of

156
00:09:13,830 --> 00:09:11,260
burrows glacier in 1986 the burrows is

157
00:09:21,370 --> 00:09:13,840
now a dying ice field having been cut

158
00:09:27,800 --> 00:09:23,750
still other glaciers have been in

159
00:09:29,960 --> 00:09:27,810
equilibrium or advancing some like the

160
00:09:31,850 --> 00:09:29,970
Johns Hopkins have stopped their retreat

161
00:09:35,960 --> 00:09:31,860
and have advanced during the period

162
00:09:39,350 --> 00:09:35,970
covered by the satellite record also the

163
00:09:43,030 --> 00:09:39,360

lamp Lou Reed Marjorie and Grand Pacific

164

00:09:45,800 --> 00:09:43,040

glaciers are all advancing at this time

165

00:09:49,880 --> 00:09:45,810

the nearby Brady glacier has been

166

00:09:51,830 --> 00:09:49,890

advancing since 1794 however the major

167

00:09:53,780 --> 00:09:51,840

feature of Glacier Bay is the

168

00:09:57,580 --> 00:09:53,790

large-scale retreat of its Tidewater

169

00:10:00,260 --> 00:09:57,590

glaciers and both mirror and tar inlets

170

00:10:03,430 --> 00:10:00,270

Tidewater glaciers like the mirror and

171

00:10:05,450 --> 00:10:03,440

the Marjorie terminate in the sea

172

00:10:07,520 --> 00:10:05,460

Tidewater glaciers follow their own

173

00:10:15,290 --> 00:10:07,530

cycles that are independent of

174

00:10:17,720 --> 00:10:15,300

short-term climate changes there are

175

00:10:21,950 --> 00:10:17,730

also non Tidewater glaciers near Glacier

176

00:10:23,960 --> 00:10:21,960

Bay many of which are receding recession

177

00:10:26,390 --> 00:10:23,970

of non Tidewater glaciers in the area is

178

00:10:29,660 --> 00:10:26,400

probably due to amelioration of the

179

00:10:32,330 --> 00:10:29,670

regional climate meteorological data

180

00:10:35,240 --> 00:10:32,340

from the nearby stations at Juneau Sitka

181

00:10:36,680 --> 00:10:35,250

and Yakutat show a tendency toward an

182

00:10:38,870 --> 00:10:36,690

increase in average summer air

183

00:10:44,689 --> 00:10:38,880

temperature since about nineteen forty

184

00:10:48,479 --> 00:10:46,859

combining the extensive records of

185

00:10:50,699 --> 00:10:48,489

explorers beginning the late 18th

186

00:10:53,099 --> 00:10:50,709

century with more recent efforts of

187

00:10:55,139 --> 00:10:53,109

glaciologists and computer scientists a

188

00:10:57,329 --> 00:10:55,149

wealth of information has been obtained

189

00:11:00,839 --> 00:10:57,339

about the d glaciation of Glacier Bay

190

00:11:02,879 --> 00:11:00,849

Alaska as these glaciers and others

191

00:11:05,609 --> 00:11:02,889

continue to change or if they remain

192

00:11:07,289 --> 00:11:05,619

stable over time the satellite record

193

00:11:09,359 --> 00:11:07,299

will permit assessment of the impact of

194

00:11:11,939 --> 00:11:09,369

changing climate on the glaciers and

195

00:11:14,549 --> 00:11:11,949

many of the non Tidewater glaciers are

196

00:12:42,440 --> 00:11:14,559

excellent indicators of regional climate