Developing a New Visitor Map of Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska

Tom Patterson
US National Park Service
Harpers Ferry Center
Part 1
Map planning
Visitors: 95 percent arrive by ship
Primary theme: change
Glacial rebound: Headquarters Cove

Impassable harbor entrance at low tide
Sedimentation: Taylor Bay
Ice dam bursts: Abyss Lake

Outlet dammed by floating ice
Tsunami: Lituya Bay

Trees swept from slope 525m (1720ft) above sea level
Part 2
Mapping challenges
Vegetation tint below 750 meters
Glacier mapping: less contrast above 2500 m
Inforain 25-meter bathymetry
Supplemental NOAA/NGDC 90-meter bathymetry
Part 3
Final map design
Type legibility: background halos

Before

Fairweather 13,200ft 4,000m
Mount Quincy Adams 13,650ft 4,161m
Mount Saint 12,000ft 3,658m
Lituya Mountain 11,750ft 3,582m
Desolation Glacier
Lituya Glacier

After

Fairweather 15,300ft 4,669m
Mount Quincy Adams 13,650ft 4,161m
Mount Saint 12,000ft 3,658m
Lituya Mountain 11,750ft 3,582m
Desolation Glacier
Lituya Glacier