

Photoweeek Northwest

for the week of **IX.7.2009**

“(Lost) Glacier Peak”

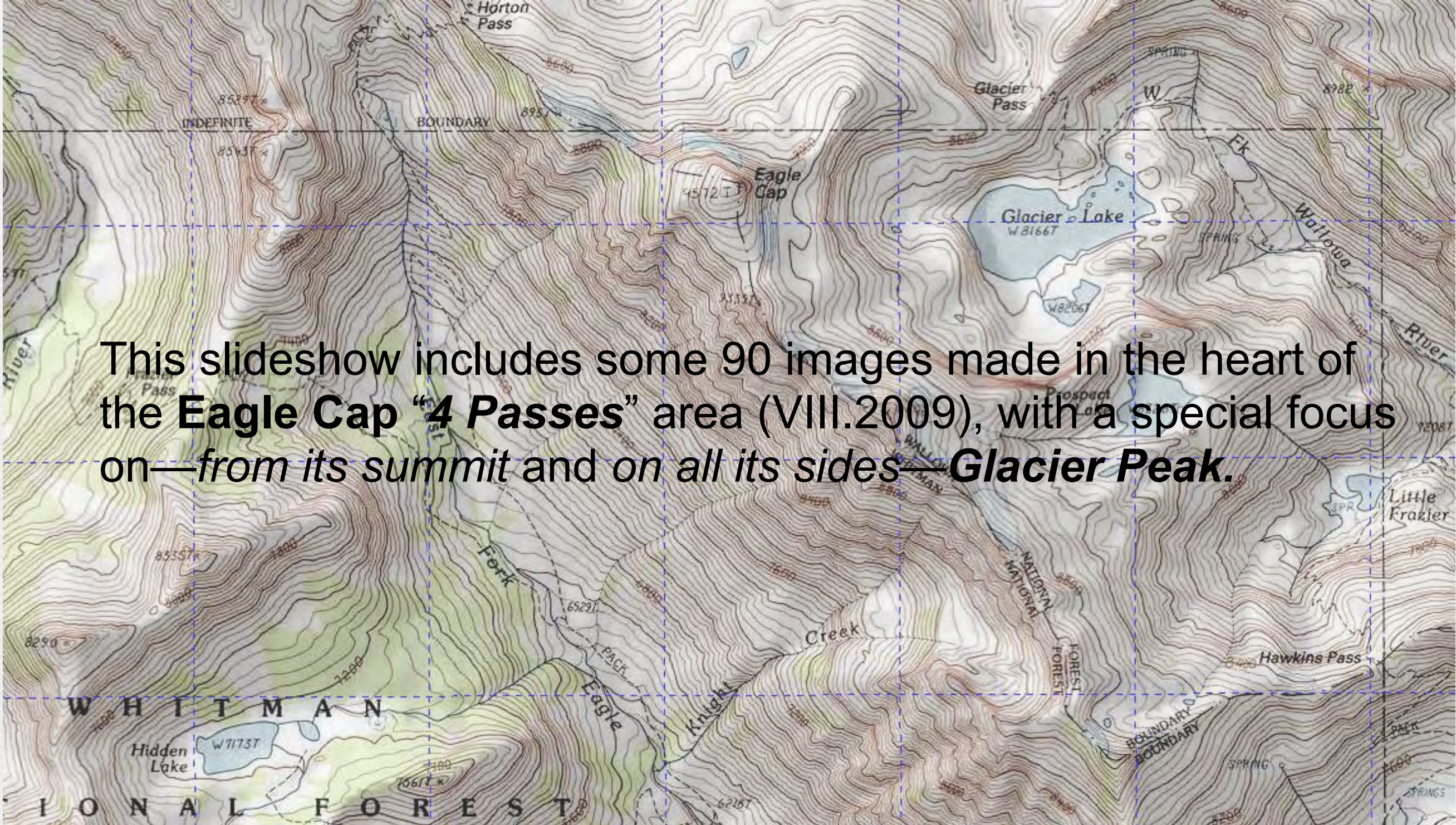
photos & texts by Cliff Crego

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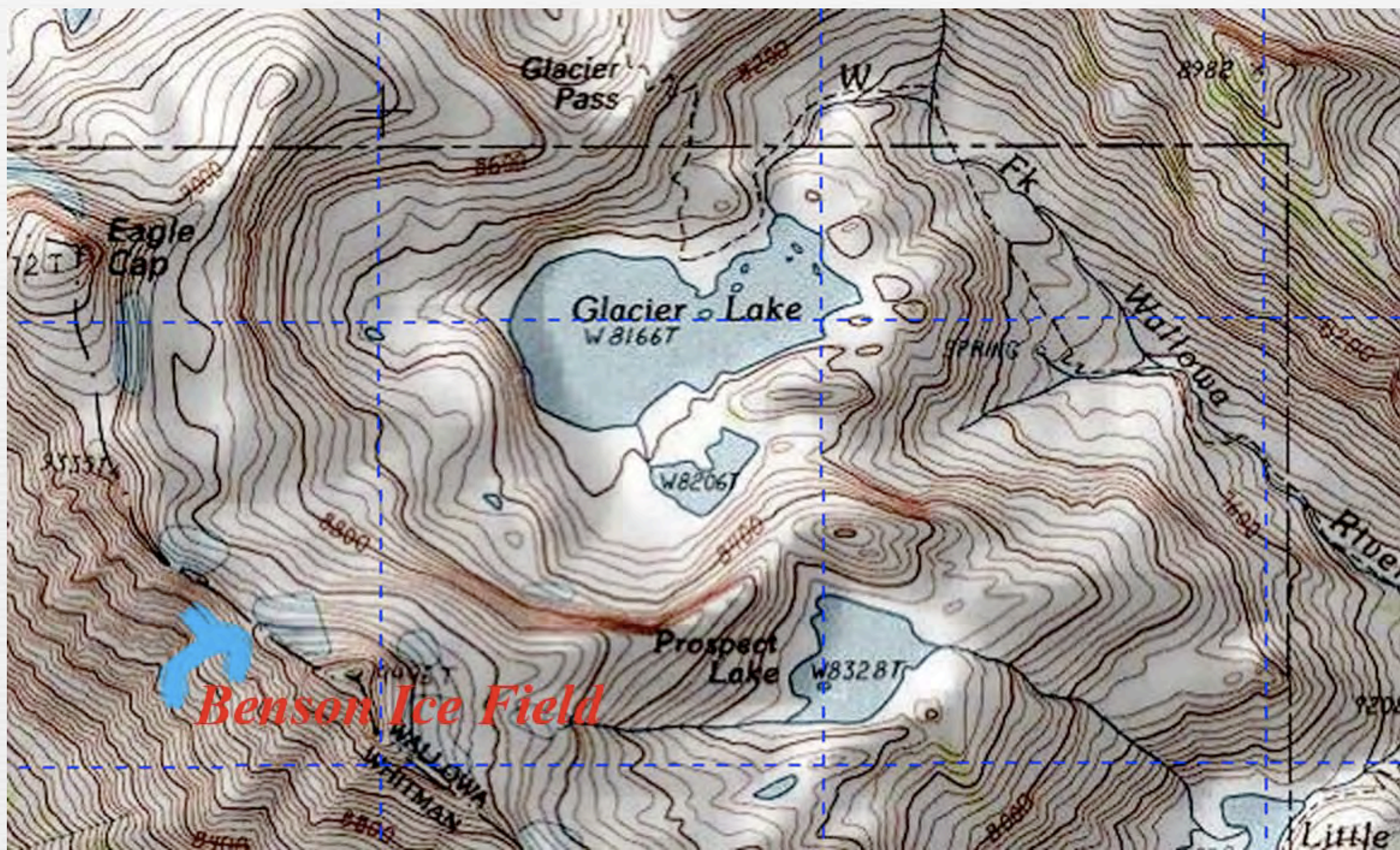


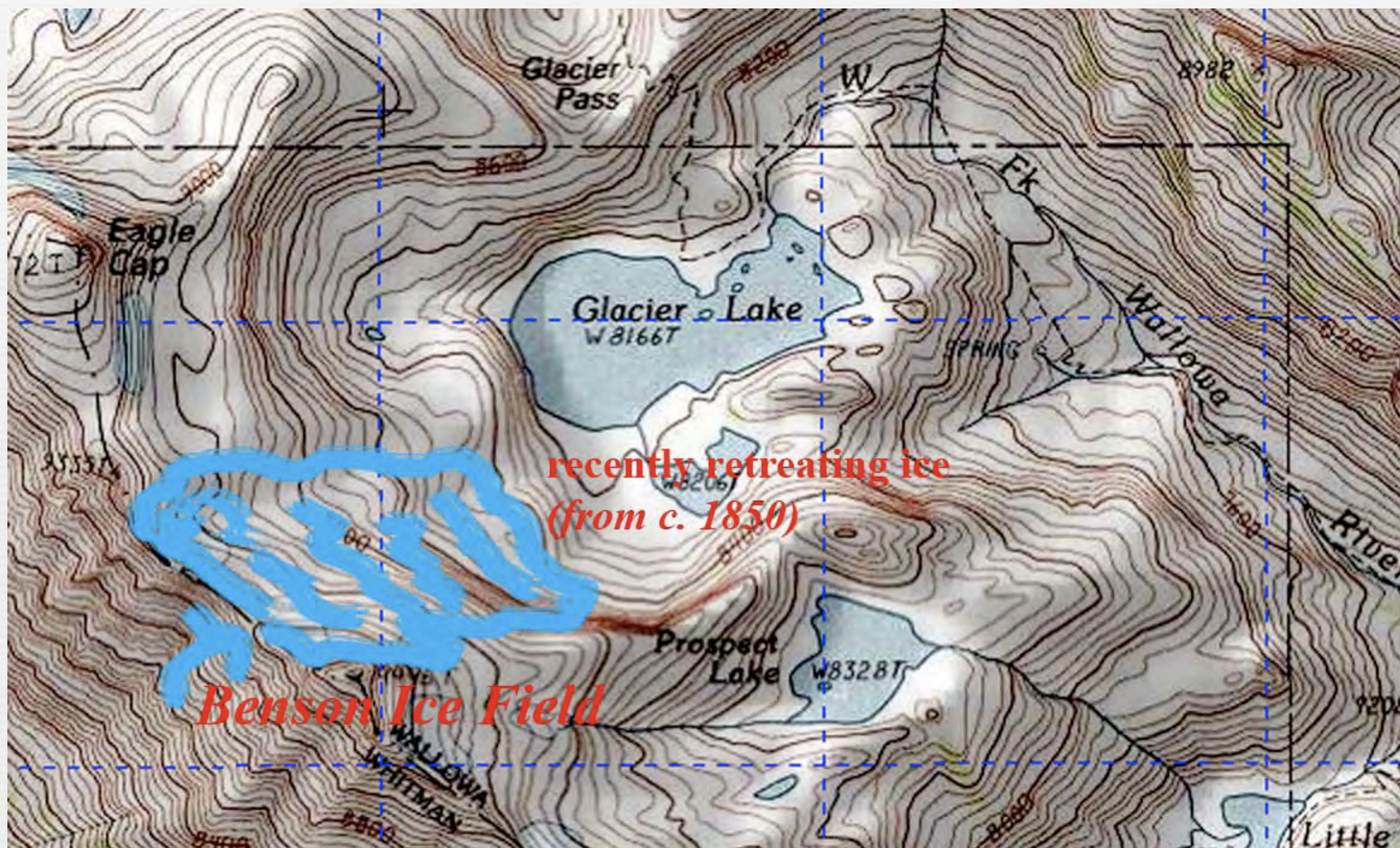
Glacier Peak with the Benson Ice Field, seen from Eagle Cap



This slideshow includes some 90 images made in the heart of the **Eagle Cap “4 Passes”** area (VIII.2009), with a special focus on—from its summit and on all its sides—**Glacier Peak**.







An historic 1920 photograph by Harley Richardson of the ***Benson Glacier***. Because of retreat, it lost its status as a glacier in 1937.



An historic 1920 photograph by Harley Richardson of the ***Benson Glacier***. Because of retreat, it lost its status as a glacier in 1937. The red line shows the c.1850 *moraine*, ie., the huge pile of unsorted rocks the ice left behind as it slowly pulled back.



**Glacier Peak, morning light VIII.25.2009—*vestigial
Benson Ice Field***



Glacier Peak, morning light VIII.25.2009—*vestigial Benson Ice Field*



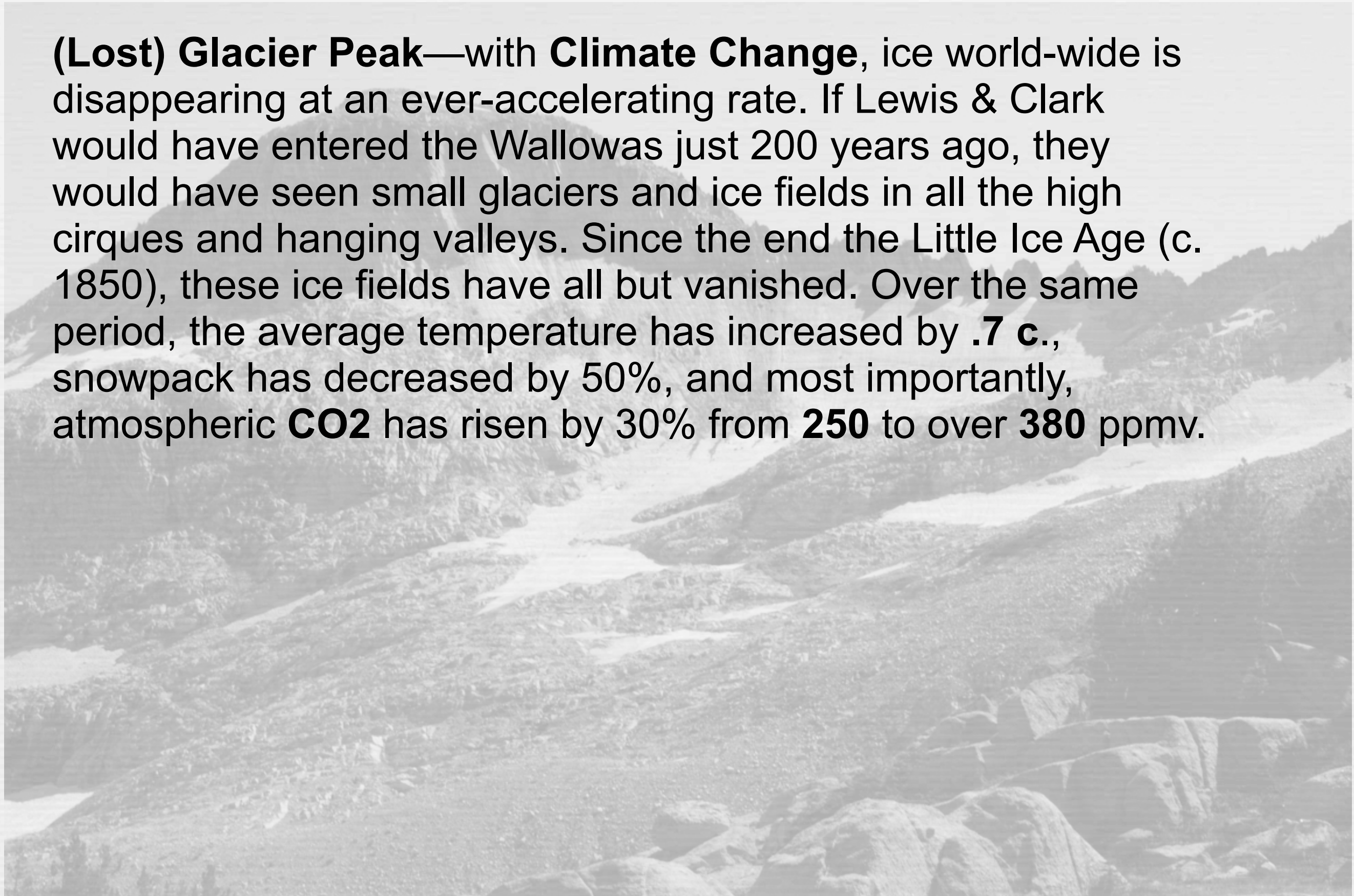
Glacier Peak, afternoon light VIII.25.2009—*vestigial Benson Ice Field* (view from above Glacier Pass with the “7 Dragon Teeth”)



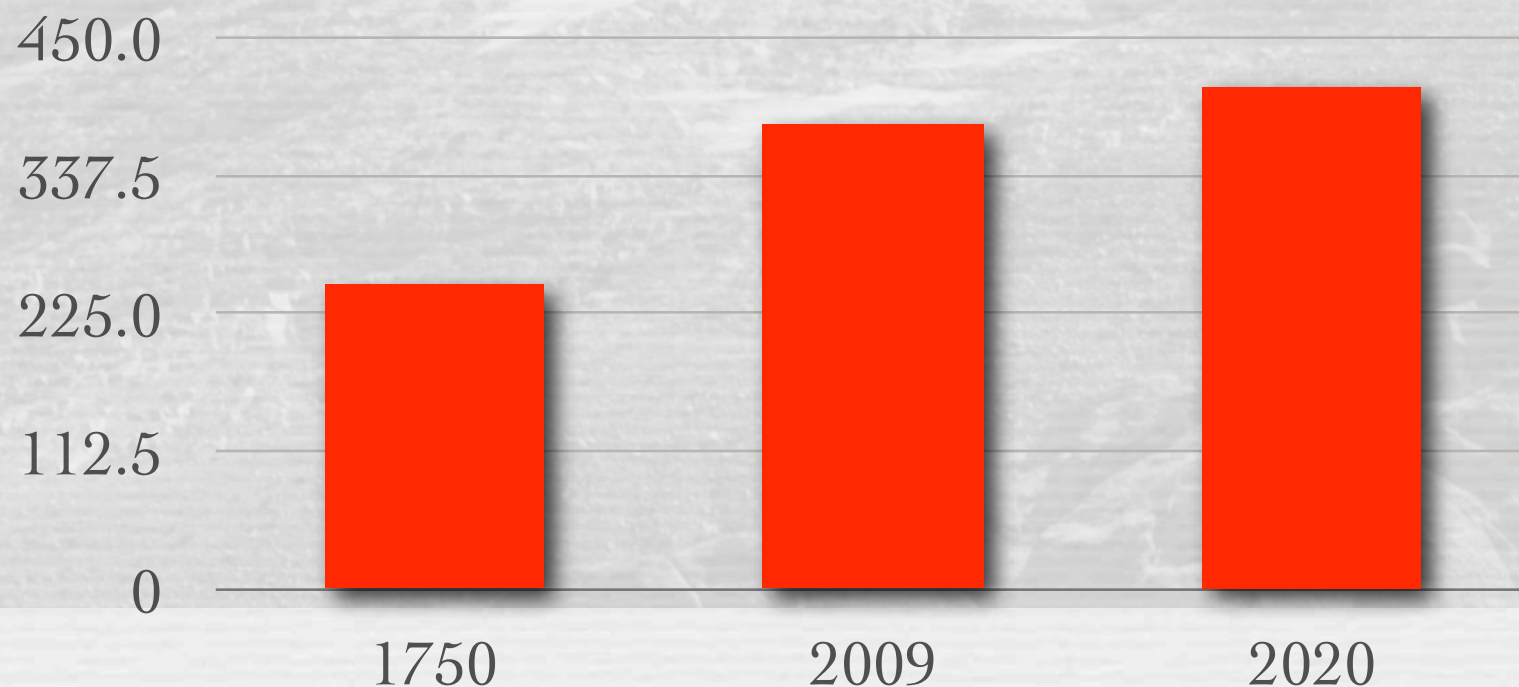
(Lost) Glacier Peak—with **Climate Change**, ice world-wide is disappearing at an ever-accelerating rate. If Lewis & Clark would have entered the Wallowas just 200 years ago, they would have seen small glaciers and ice fields in all the high cirques and hanging valleys.



(Lost) Glacier Peak—with **Climate Change**, ice world-wide is disappearing at an ever-accelerating rate. If Lewis & Clark would have entered the Wallowas just 200 years ago, they would have seen small glaciers and ice fields in all the high cirques and hanging valleys. Since the end the Little Ice Age (c. 1850), these ice fields have all but vanished. Over the same period, the average temperature has increased by **.7 c.**, snowpack has decreased by 50%, and most importantly, atmospheric **CO₂** has risen by 30% from **250** to over **380** ppmv.



(Lost) Glacier Peak—with **Climate Change**, ice world-wide is disappearing at an ever-accelerating rate. If Lewis & Clark would have entered the Wallowas just 200 years ago, they would have seen small glaciers and ice fields in all the high cirques and hanging valleys. Since the end the Little Ice Age (c. 1850), these ice fields have all but vanished. Over the same period, the average temperature has increased by **.7 c.**, snowpack has decreased by 50%, and most importantly, atmospheric **CO₂** has risen by 30% from **250** to over **380** ppmv. Because CO₂ holds warmth, this is like the Earth putting on an ever-thicker down coat. By 2020, the Benson—a telling relic of a different climate—will most likely also be gone.



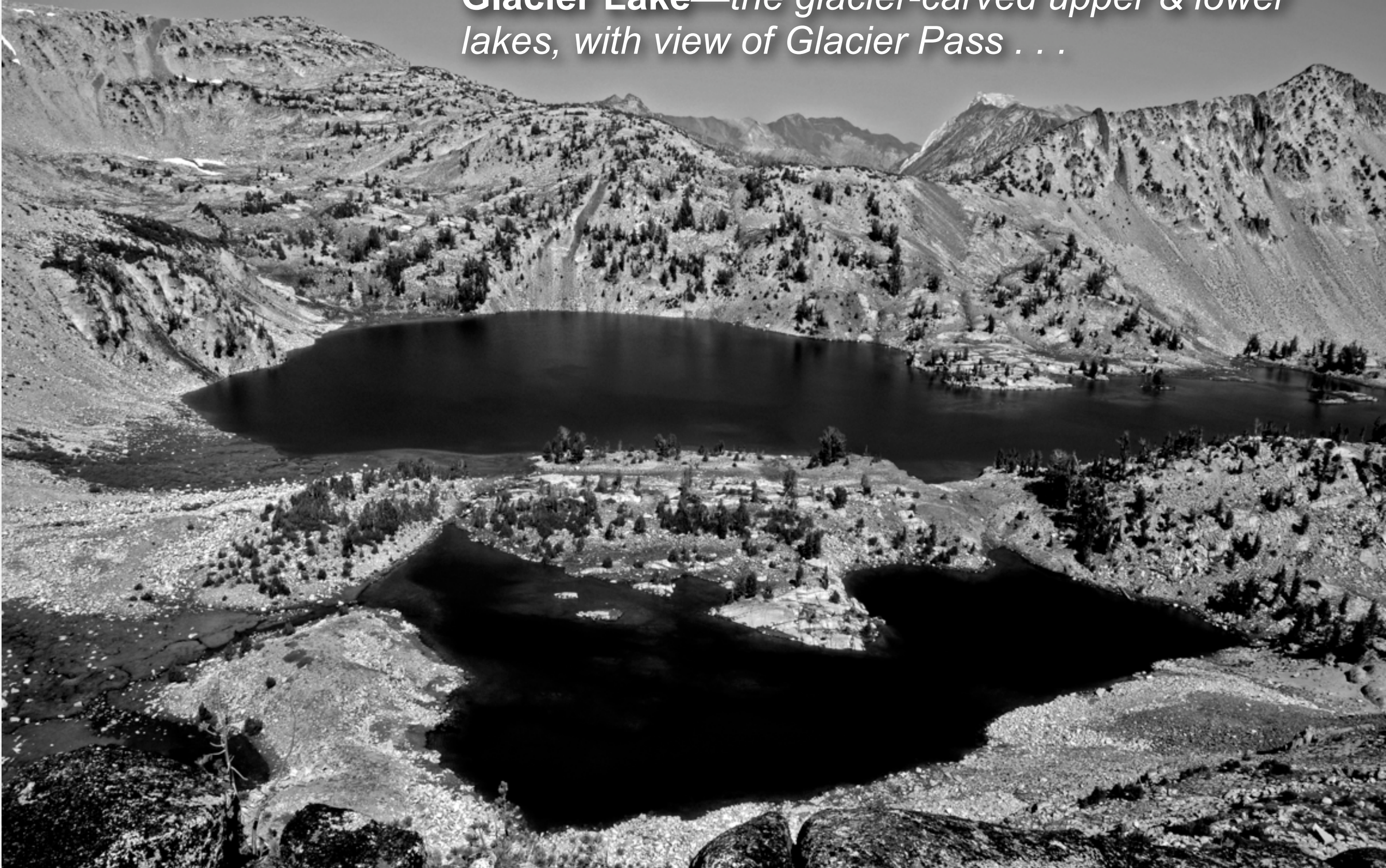


On the Benson,
view of Eagle Cap . . .



**Glacier Lake eastside, with its charming
rock islands, stonepines & spire firs . . .**

Glacier Lake—*the glacier-carved upper & lower lakes, with view of Glacier Pass . . .*






**Eagle Cap trail, view south
with *Krag Peak* . . .**



**Prospect Lake, with
*Cusick Mountain top left . . .***



Hidden Lake, *first light* . . .

A black and white photograph of a mountain landscape. In the center, a large, irregularly shaped snowfield (ice field) is visible on a steep, rocky slope. The snowfield has a distinct, darker, circular feature in its middle, which is the 'ice middle' mentioned in the caption. The surrounding terrain is rugged and rocky, with some sparse vegetation visible on the upper slopes. The sky is clear and light-colored. The foreground shows large, dark, angular rocks.

The ***Benson*** '***B***' ice field with ice middle,
and lingering snow from winters 07, 08, & 09

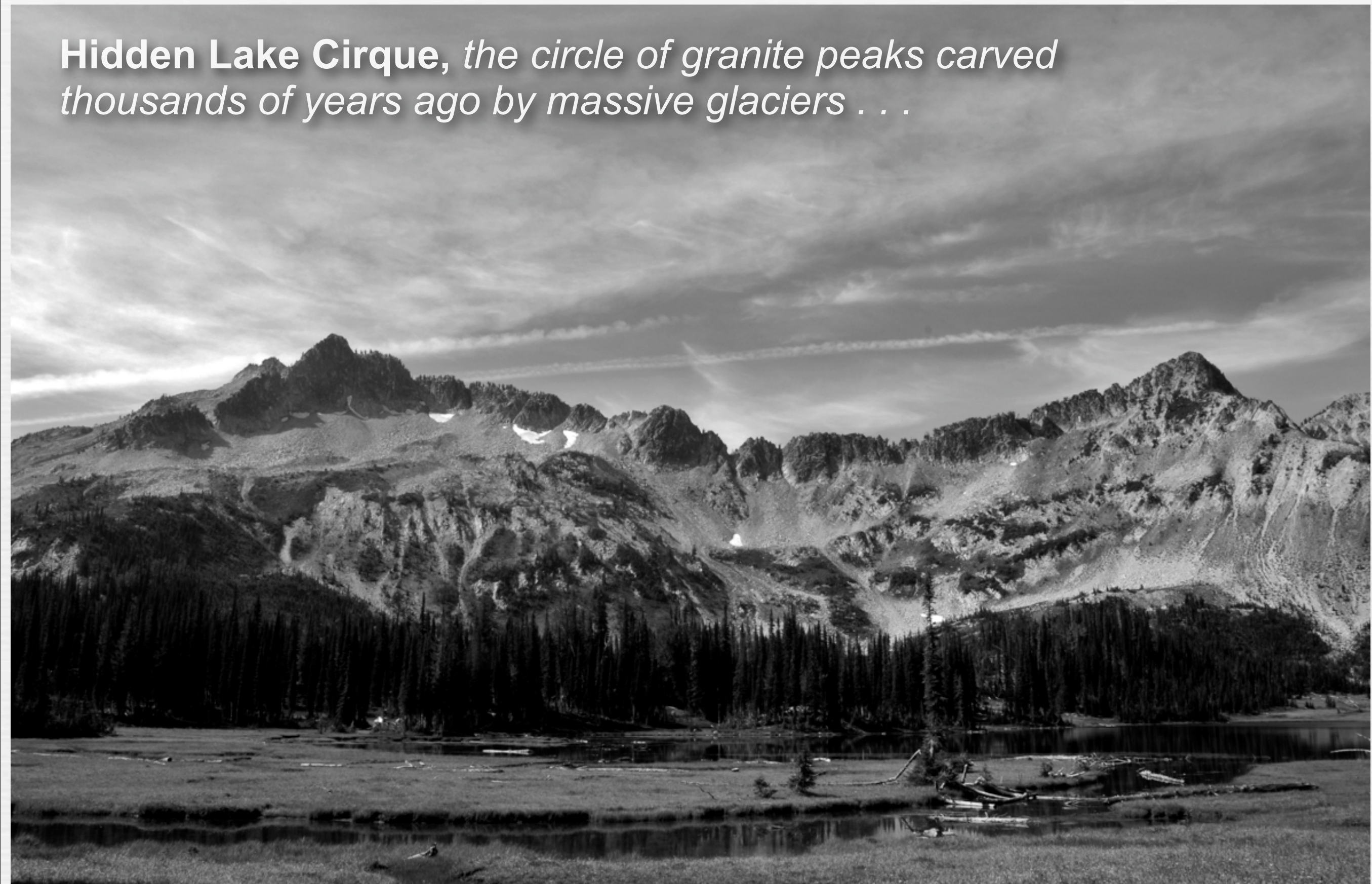


Hidden Lake, from the Glacier Peak
“7 Dragon Teeth” . . .



East Eagle—*granite /
water flowform*

Hidden Lake Cirque, *the circle of granite peaks carved thousands of years ago by massive glaciers . . .*

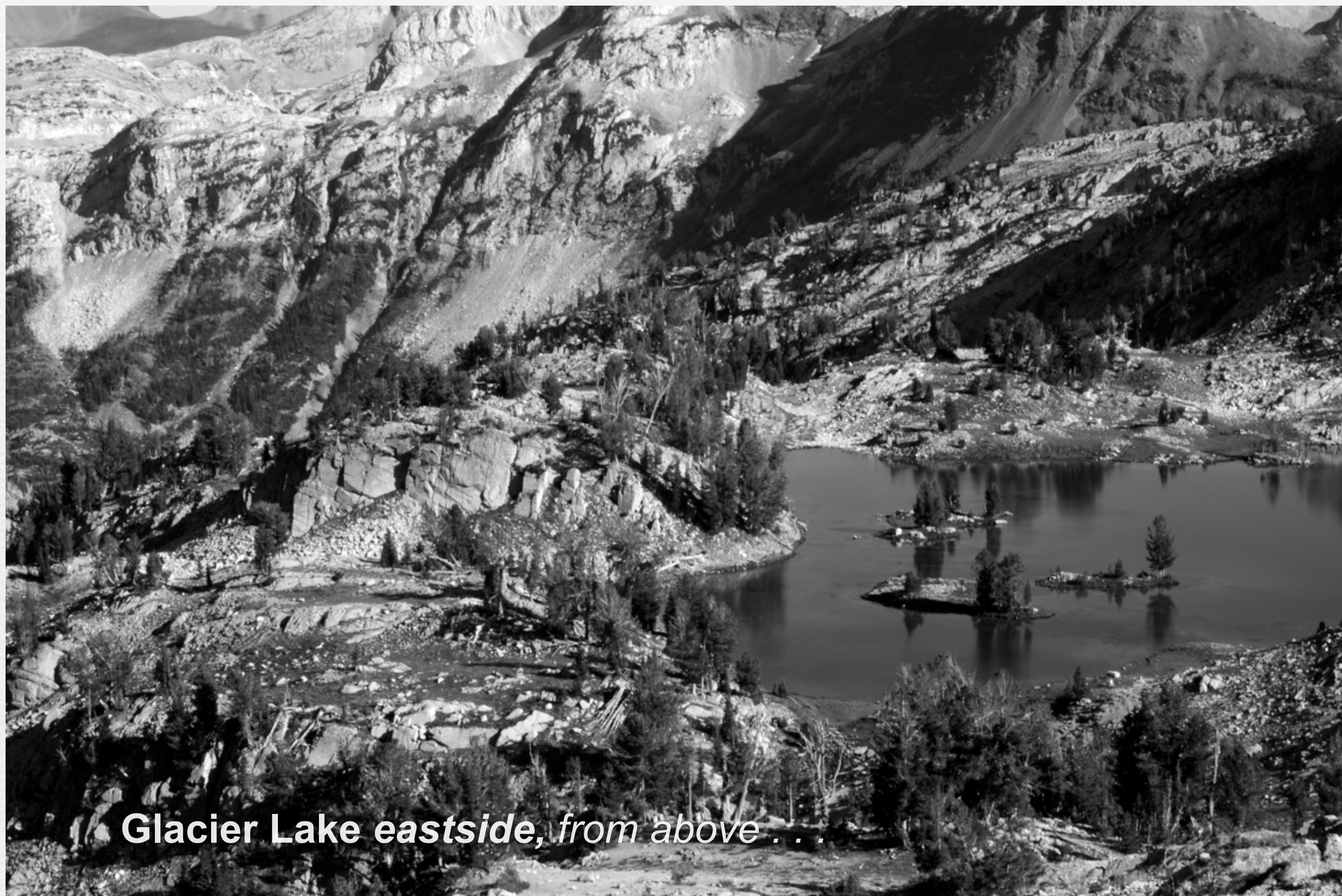




Holly Brook *with wild onions . . .*

Summer *flowforms* . . .





Glacier Lake eastside, from above . . .





Butterfly & Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*) most notorious weed of the West

Explorer's or Bog Gentian
(*Gentiana calycosa*)





Dwarf Alpine Groundsel (*Senecio fremontii*)
at 2750 m.



Dwarf Alpine Groundsel (*Senecio fremontii*)
leaf detail . . .

Alpine Spring Beauty (*Claytonia megarhiza*) at 2750 m.



Evening Ridgelines, *view north over the Lostine* . . .





Seep Monkey Flower
(*Mimulus guttatus*)



Yellow Monkey Flower
(*Mimulus tillingii*)



Moth on camera tripod—
textures . . .



Leaf Form, skyview—sessile, opposite,
smooth margins (Penstemon spp.) . . .



Pink Mountain Heather, *urn-shaped flowers*
(Phyllodoce empetrifomis) . . .



*From **Glacier Peak**—a perfectly preserved
c. 1912 moraine (rockwall line center image).
This is what the **Southern Alps** (Ticino) will look
like once the glaciers are gone.*



Fringed Grass of Parnassus—close-up with
fly & two stamens . . . (*Parnassia fimbriata*)





Leaf Forms, *Sitka Alder* (*Alnus sitchensis*)



Dunhead Sedge (*Carex phaeocephala*)



East Eagle—*Rolling Thunder Falls . . .*











Hidden Lake, *last light*
(c. 1850 glacier moraine top right). . .





Holly Brook, *above Hidden Lake*





Western St. John's Wort—*a native species*
(*Hypericum scouleri* var. *nortoniae*)



Western St. John's Wort—*a native species*
(*Hypericum scouleri* var. *nortoniae*)



Krag Peak, *from East Eagle . . .*



Pop Creek Pass, *from Hidden Lake*



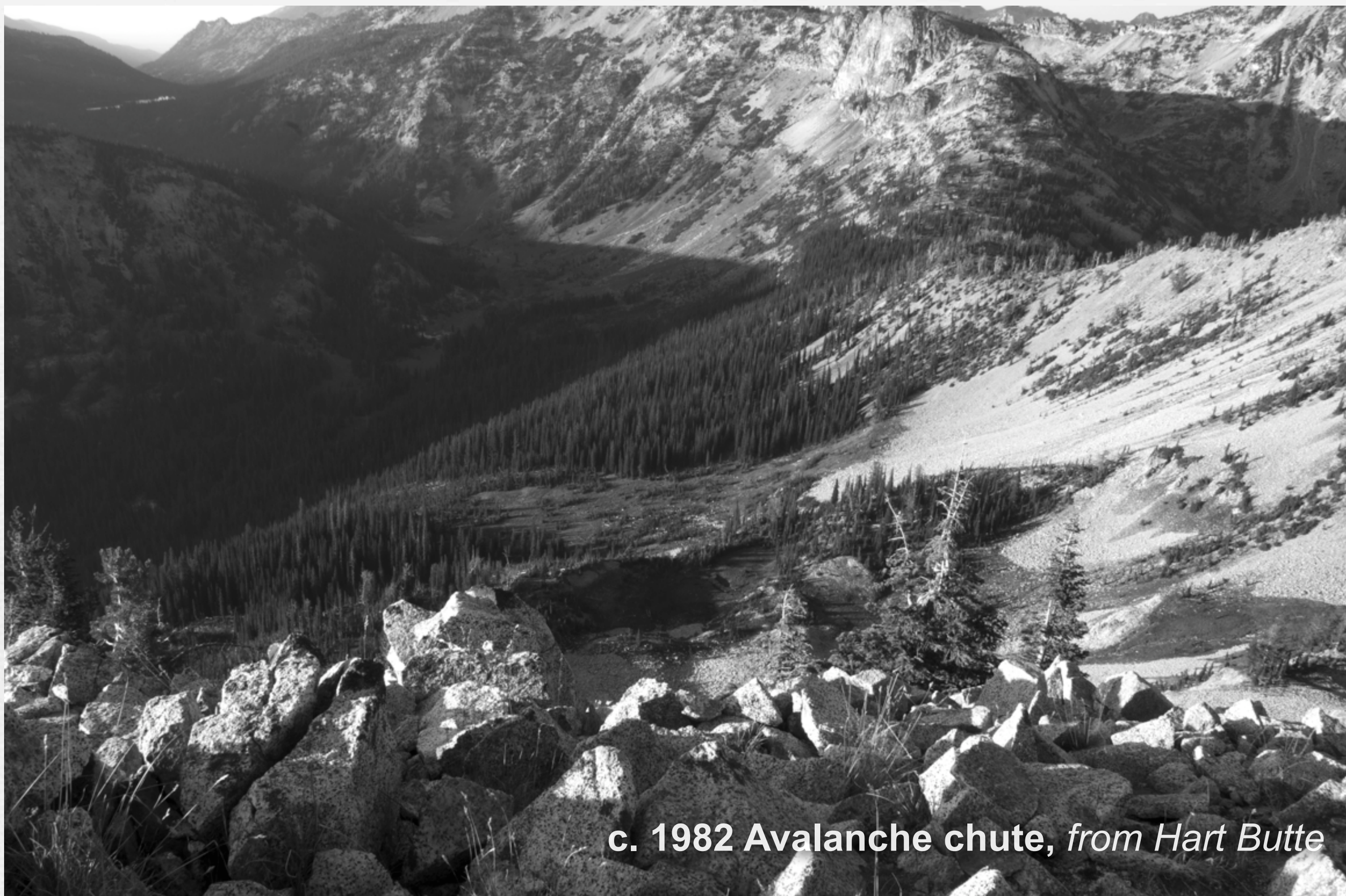
Shoreline *flowform*, Hidden Lake . . .



Minam Lake, *from Hart Butte*



Jackson Peak, *from Hart Butte . . .*

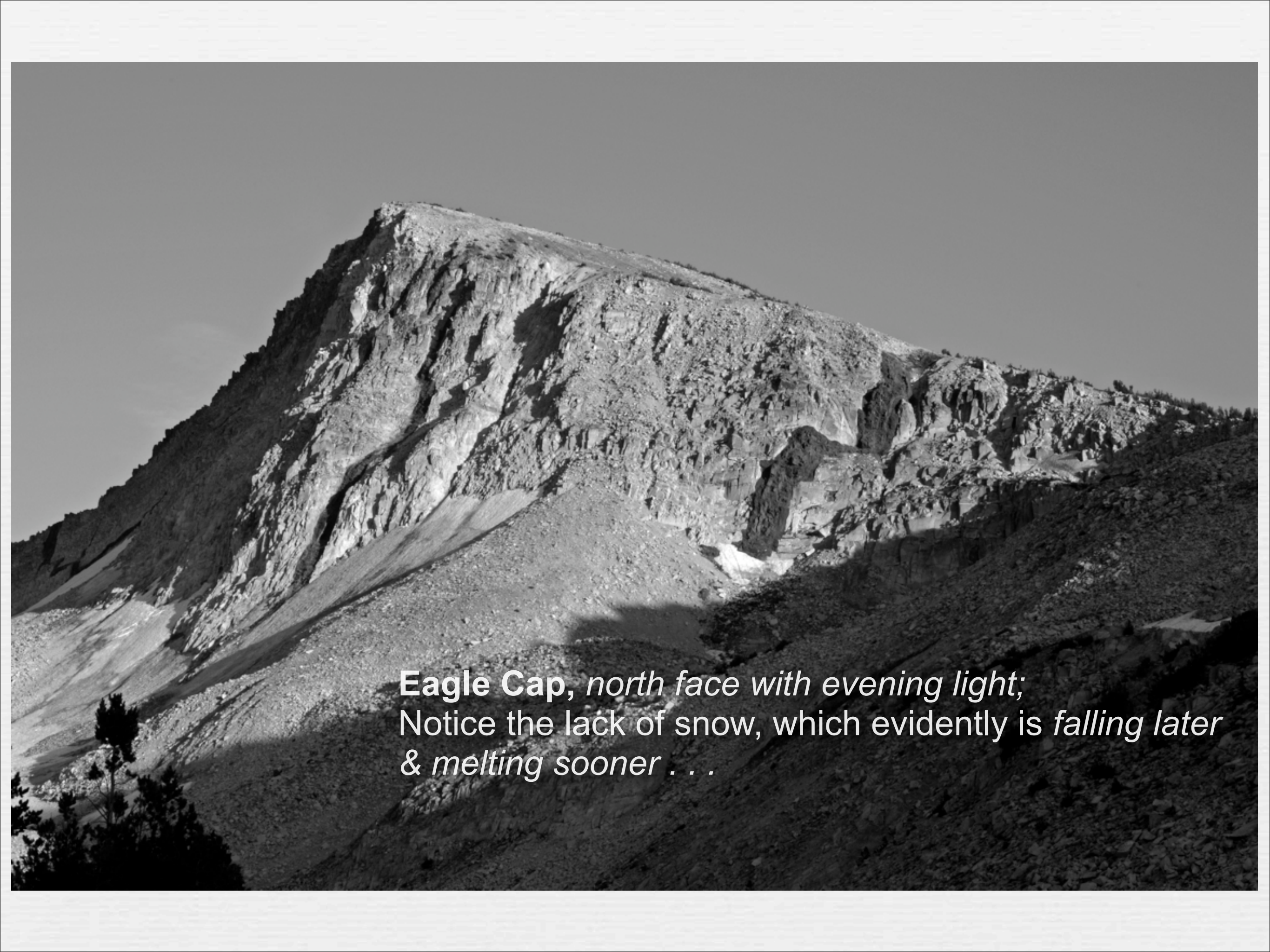


c. 1982 Avalanche chute, *from Hart Butte*

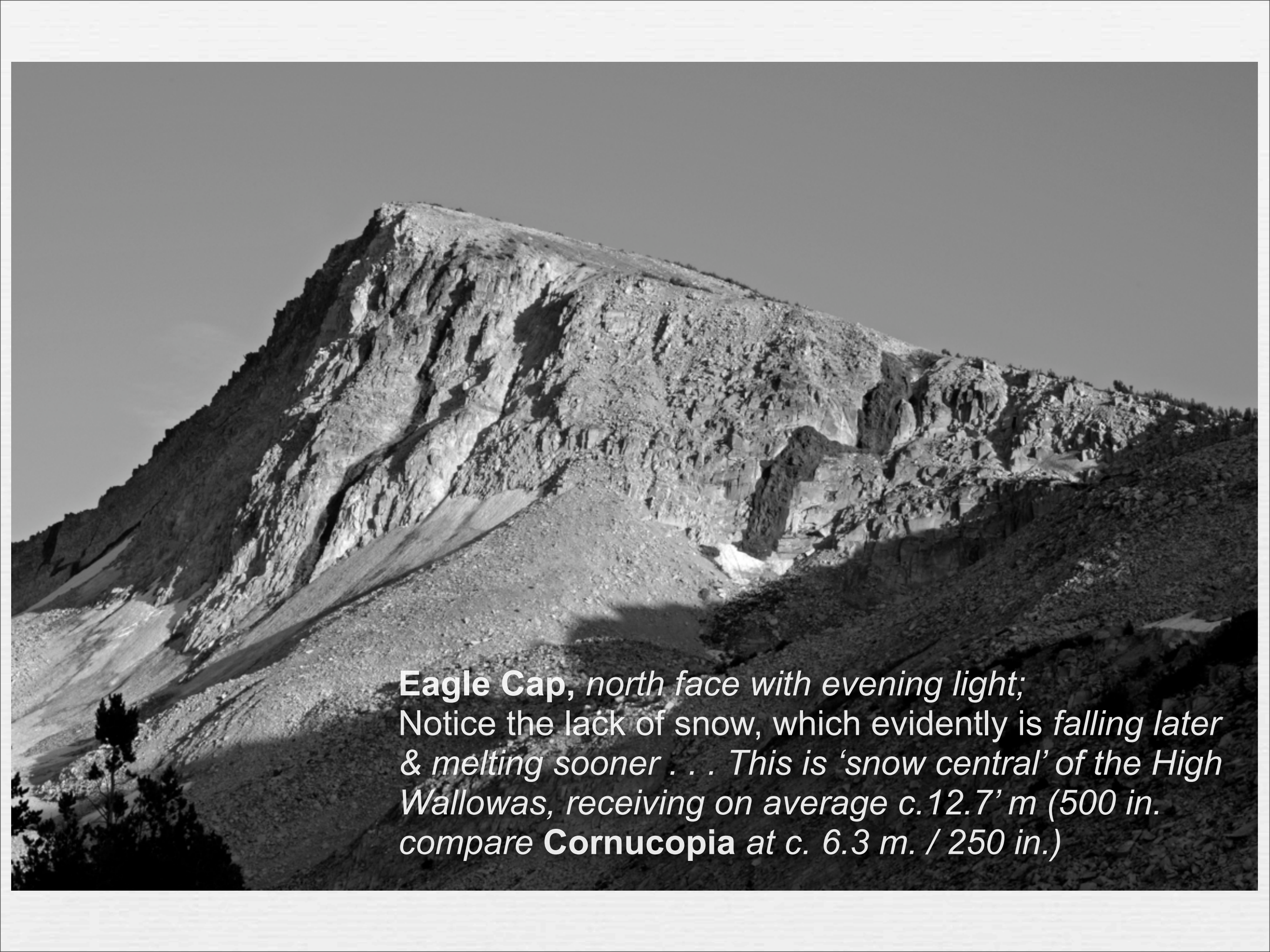


Stonepine Snags, from *Pop Creek Pass*

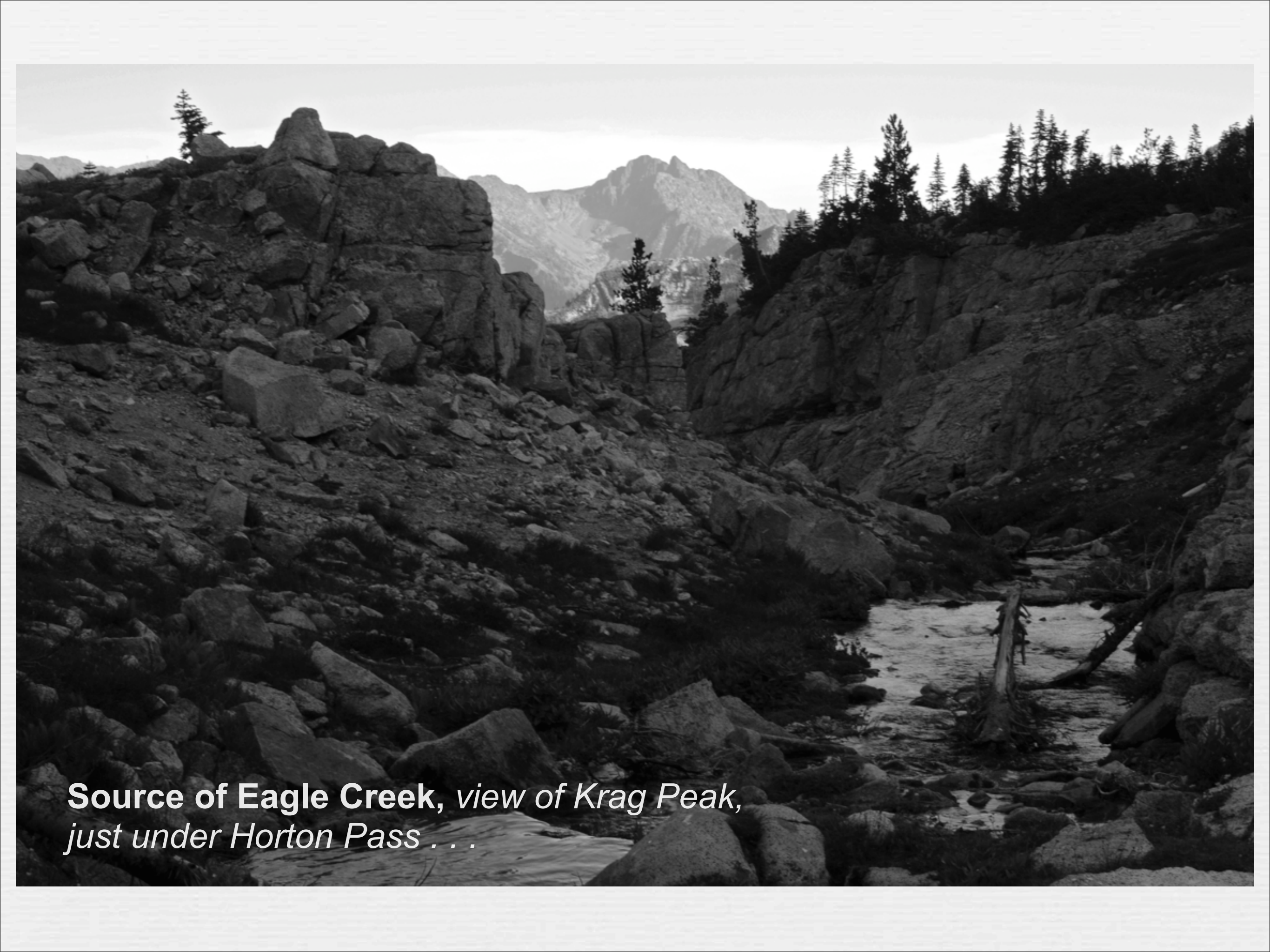


A black and white photograph of a large, rugged mountain peak, identified as Eagle Cap. The mountain's north face is the primary focus, showing steep, rocky slopes with visible geological layering and textures. The lighting is from the side, creating strong shadows that emphasize the mountain's craggy surface. At the base of the mountain, there are scree slopes and some sparse vegetation, including a few evergreen trees in the lower-left foreground. The sky is clear and light-colored. A text overlay is positioned in the lower-right area of the image.

Eagle Cap, north face with evening light;
Notice the lack of snow, which evidently is *falling later*
& *melting sooner . . .*

A black and white photograph of a rugged mountain peak, Eagle Cap, under evening light. The mountain's north face is prominent, showing steep, rocky slopes and a sharp summit. The lighting creates strong shadows, highlighting the textures of the rock and the steepness of the incline. The foreground shows a rocky, sparsely vegetated slope. The sky is clear and dark.

Eagle Cap, *north face with evening light;*
Notice the lack of snow, which evidently is *falling later*
& *melting sooner . . .* This is 'snow central' of the High
Wallowas, receiving on average c.12.7' m (500 in.
compare **Cornucopia** at c. 6.3 m. / 250 in.)

A black and white photograph of a rugged mountain landscape. In the foreground, a rocky slope descends towards a small, shallow creek. The creek is filled with water and has several large, fallen tree trunks or logs partially submerged. The surrounding slopes are covered in large, dark rocks and boulders. In the background, a prominent, jagged mountain peak rises above a line of evergreen trees. The sky is overcast with soft, diffused light. The overall scene is a high-altitude, mountainous environment.

**Source of Eagle Creek, view of Krag Peak,
*just under Horton Pass . . .***







Hidden Lake, *last light* . . .















Mountain Sorrel—a *circumpolar alpine*
species (Rumex acetosella)

Stonepine or Whitebark Pine on granite—
*signature species of the Wallowas above 2200
m., and, like glaciers, having difficulty dealing
with Climate Change (Pinus albicaulis)*





Sunclipse *at Pop Creek Pass . . .*



***The “Matterhorn” west face—
the Martin Bridge limestones & marbles of
an extraordinary mountain, in search of a better name . . .***

A black and white photograph showing a high-altitude mountain landscape. In the foreground on the left, a steep, rocky slope descends towards the bottom left corner. The rocks are large and angular, with some sparse vegetation. In the background, a vast mountain range stretches across the horizon under a sky with wispy clouds. A prominent, sharp mountain peak is visible in the distance, slightly to the right of the center. The overall scene is rugged and expansive.

View southwest from Eagle Cap, over *Neede Point* . . .



Eagle Cap, evening light . . .

A black and white photograph of an Alpine Aster flower, viewed from above. The flower is in full bloom, showing numerous long, narrow, pointed petals radiating from a central, dark, textured core. The petals are light in color, contrasting sharply with the dark background. The stem of the flower is visible, extending from the bottom left towards the center. The overall composition is minimalist, focusing on the intricate details of the flower's structure.

Alpine Aster, skyview (*Aster alpigenus*)



Grouse Huckleberries—*a tiny bright red huckleberry*
(*Vaccinium scoparium*)

Fieldwork on the Benson . . .



Fieldwork on the Benson, *view from on top of Glacier Peak* . . .





Glacier Lake eastside . . .







Buddhist Prayer Flag, *(Lost) Glacier Peak . . .*

**Fieldwork on the Benson, *view east & source of
the ice that carved Wallowa Lake . . .***



Hawkens Pass, *northside* . . .



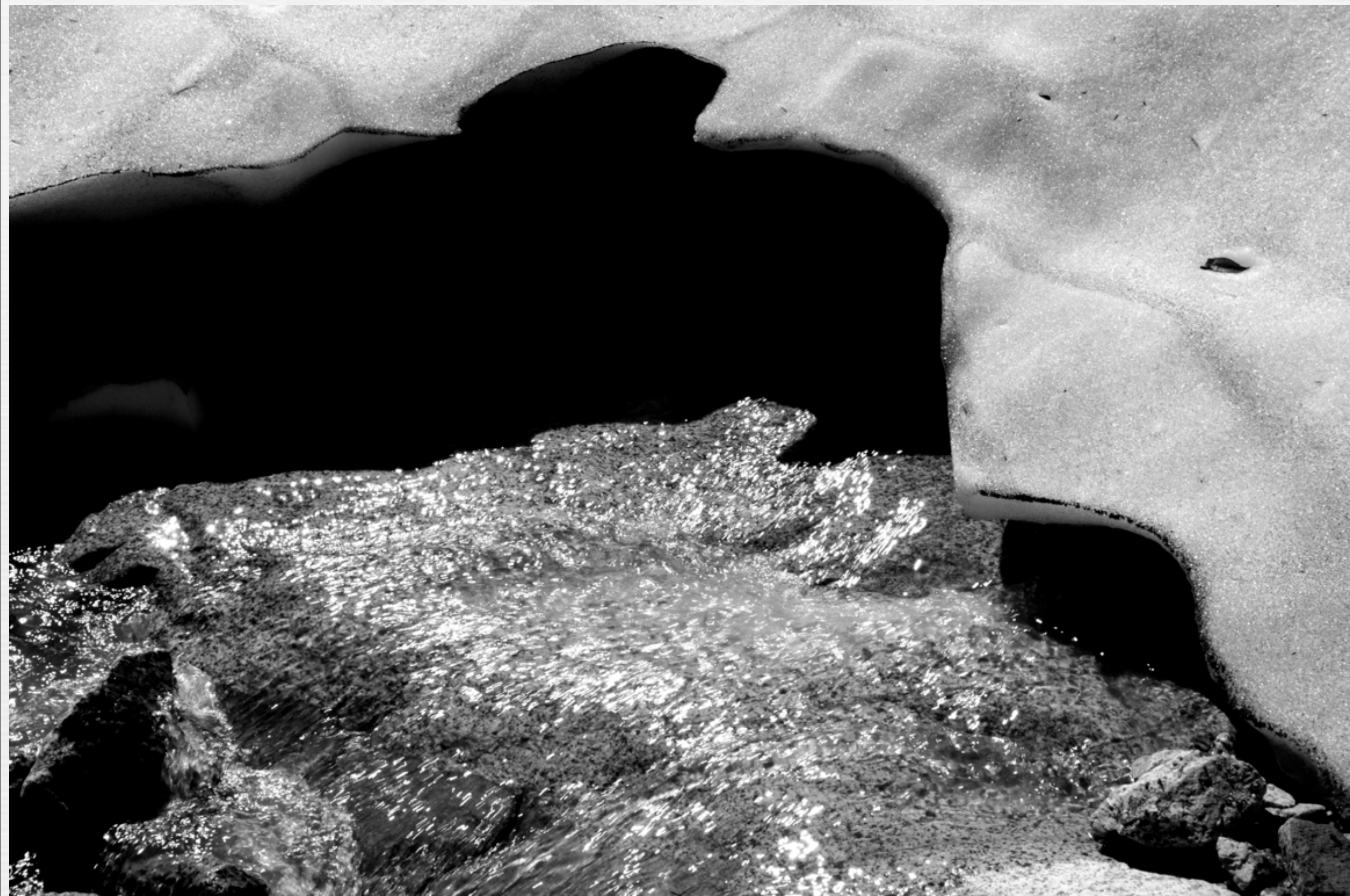
Glacier Peak & Eagle Cap Cirque, *first light* . . .

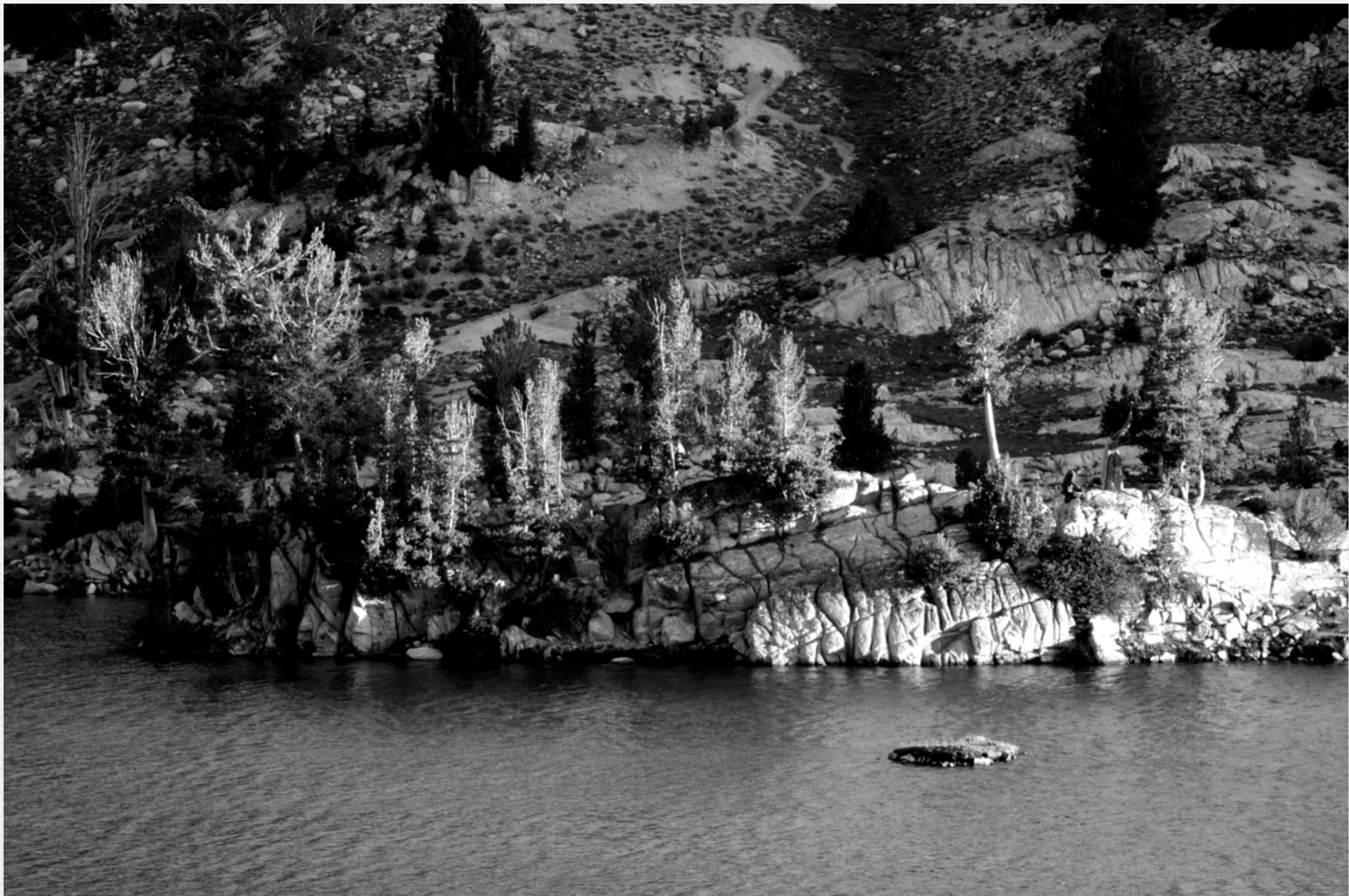














The sound of disappearing glaciers
is not the sound of raging torrents,
or of thundering cascades.

It is the faint murmuring sound
of a thousand rivulets and rills
flowing ceaselessly, day and night,
day and night, with each turn of the Earth:—

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a thousand more.





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IX.7.2009

*photos & texts
by Cliff Crego*

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Daniel Murray, *Lamplight Cafe at Hampton Station* (pop. 11)

Photoweeek Northwest I.26.2009

35 new images & texts

made in the winter

High Wallows—

by Cliff Crego

pdf—

4.3 Mb

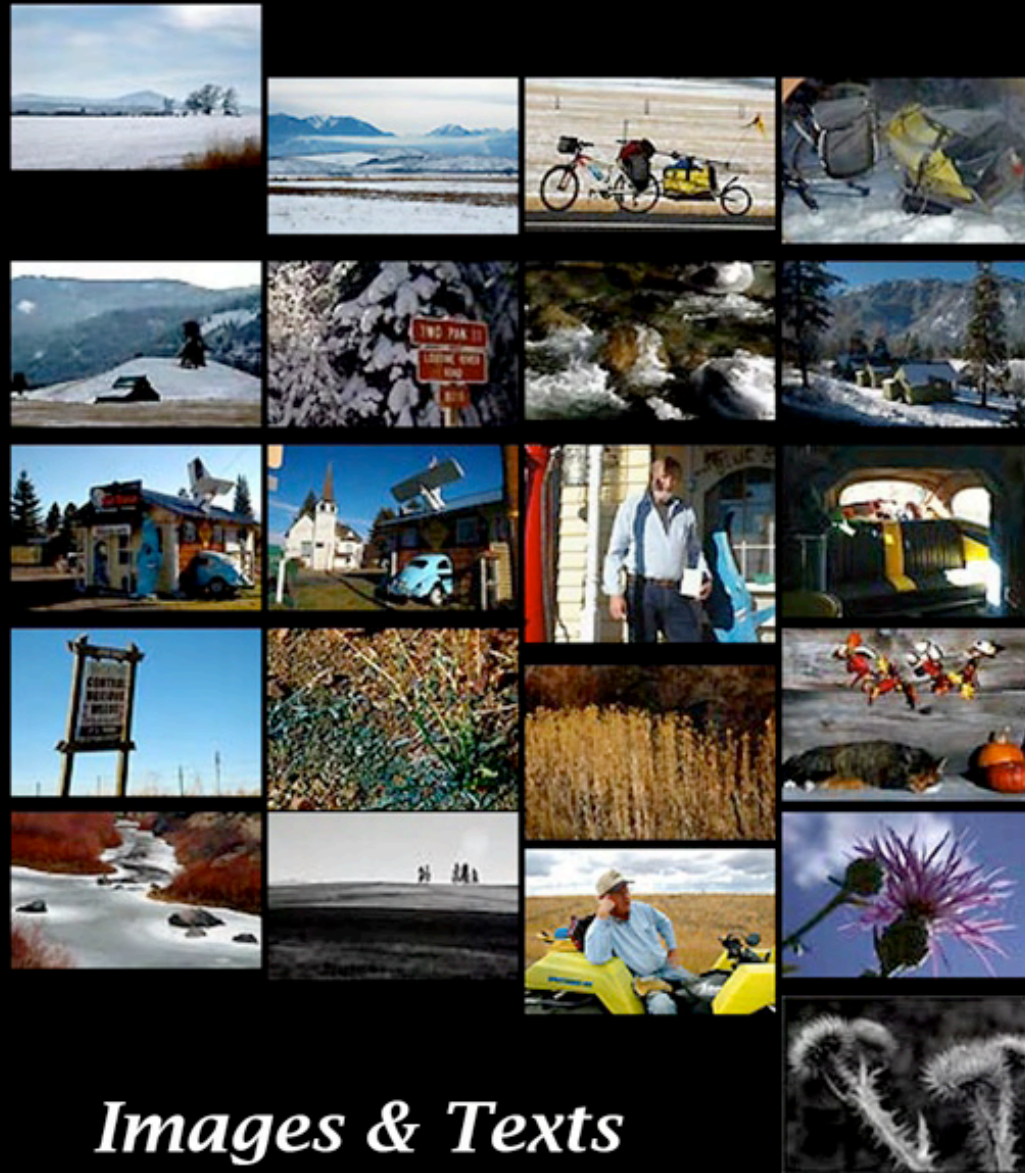
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CALENDAR 2009
The High Wallows
photos by Cliff Grege

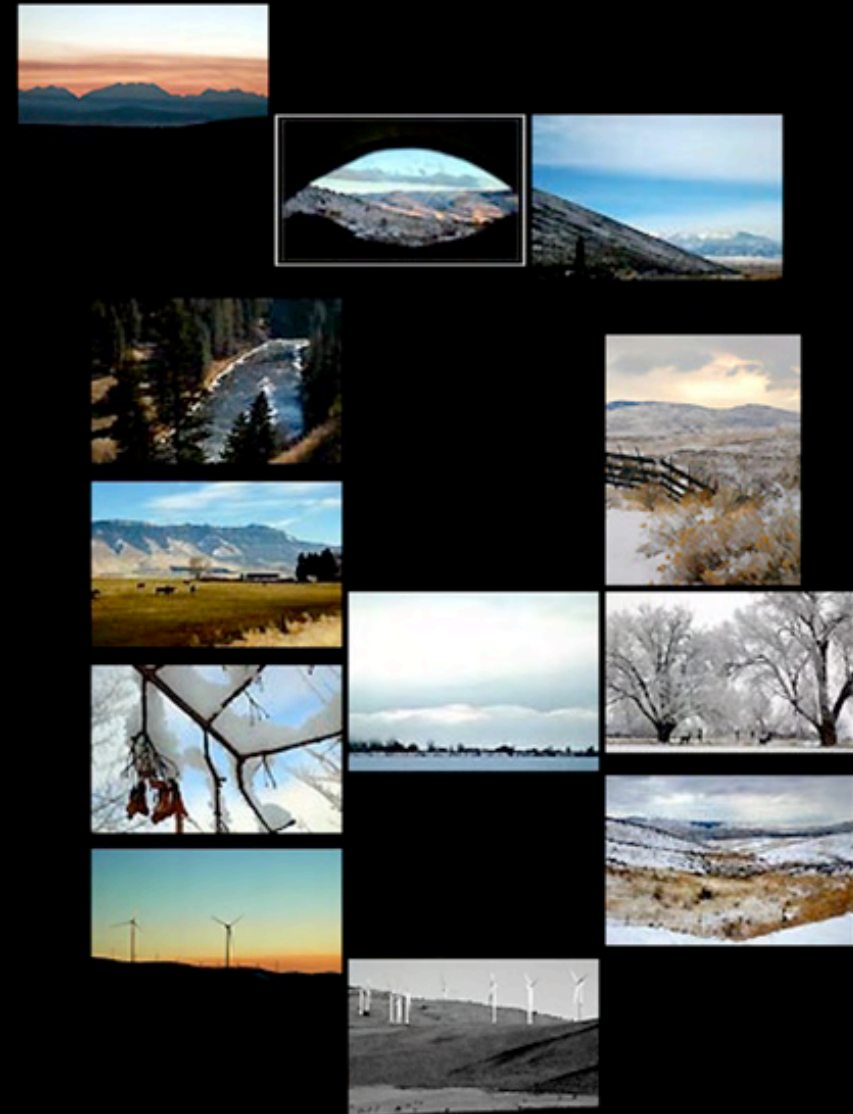
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