



Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

Report Title: Alaska Glaciers **Name:** Judy Biehl
Other Team Members:
Program: Nebraska Program
Trip Dates: 11/30/-0001 - 11/30/-0001 **Location Visited:** Alaska
Post Fellowship Reporting Template: PFR Template 0

Project Summary: For sixteen days I studied the tidewater, valley, and peidmont glaciers of Alaska. I traveled by helicopter to hike on the Colony Glacier. Visited the Columbia, Anderson, and College Glaciers by boat. I traveled overland and by boat to the Matanuska, Worthington, and Mendenhall glaciers

The helicopter trip and hike on Colony glacier gave me the opportunity to see the ruggedness of the glacier with its deep crevasses and areas of blue ice. In places the ice of the glacier is so dense that it can no longer reflect any color other than blue. On Colony we also found remnants of the ash from last year's eruption of Redoubt Volcano on Cook Inlet, several hundred miles away.

In the following days my companion and I drove to Valdez. On the way we hiked the terminal moraine of Matanuska Glacier in the Matsu Valley and climbed the Worthington Glacier near Thompson Pass. From Valdez, we cruised the glaciers of Prince William Sound.

The final leg of the glacier tour took us up through the Yukon Territory and British Columbia and back into Alaska at Skagway. We then traveled by boat to Juneau to visit the Mendenhall Glacier and its study center. Finally it was on to Fairbanks where I was fortunate to spend three days in study at the Arctic Research Institute. I was able to have discussions with Dr. Roger Smith the director of the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, and Dr. Carl Benson, professor emeritus of glaciology. From these two gentlemen I learned a great deal about the glaciers and their history. It was a fabulous trip.

Career Impact: Professional and Personal Growth

- *Opportunity to study at the Arctic Research Institute
- *Gained an understanding of the impact of the glaciers on the environment
- *Gained new perspective on the issue of global warming
- *Opportunity to experience the grandeur of tidewater, valley and piedmont glaciers
- *View terminal, medial, and radial moraines

Classroom/Community Impact:Benefits to Students and School Community

Experience gained while visiting the glaciers will facilitate learning in the classroom in the following ways:

- *Enhance the curriculum as it relates to glaciers
- *Provide an opportunity for students to communicate with experts in the area of glaciology
- *Help students gain an understanding of our planets history to be gained from studying the glaciers
- *Provide students with perspective on the issue of global warming

Open Response: Works in Progress

- *Power Point Presentation for the science staff
- *Enhanced curriculum on glaciers for Alternative Education students
- *Glacier curriculum at instructional level for Life Skills students
- *Interdisciplinary curriculum for Earth Science 8
- *Packet curriculum for use with non traditional students

Quote: The most fascinating part of the trip was the time I spent with Dr. Smith and Dr. Benson. They had so much to teach me.

Photos:



Colony Glacier by helicopter, Stop number 1



Hiking the Radial moraine was very educational



Here I am "contemplating" the climb on Worthington Glacier



We saw Columbia Glacier from the water of Prince William Sound



"The One Mile Desert" at Carcross Yucan Territory, the oddest glacial feature



The view of Mendenhall Glacier was breath taking.



With Dr. Roger Smith at the Arctic Research Institute



I learned a great deal about glacial research from Dr. Carl Benson