ROCPS/42MA-P02

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
ESTES PARK, COLO.

October 27, 1942

Dr. Francois E. Matthes,
Chairman, Committee on Glaciers,
U. S. Geological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Mattes:

Enclosed is a copy of the 1942 report on Andrews and Tyndall glaciers in Rocky Mountain National Park.

In general, the survey indicates increment of the glaciers, following a year of extremely heavy winter precipitation and relatively low temperatures. The photographs in the plates will be helpful in estimating the condition of these small glaciers.

The writer is leaving the National Park Service in the immediate future to enter the U. S. Naval Reserve, so that it will fall into other hands to handle the measurements in 1943, barring unanticipated early end of the war. A complete record of all annual surveys is being left on hand in this office, so that my successor can continue this work. No doubt you will receive a report for 1943 from that person sometime next fall.

Yours very truly,

H. Raymond Gregg

H. Raymond Gregg
Associate Park Naturalist

Includes 15 plates.

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GLACIER SURVEY

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

1942

H;R. Gregg
Park Naturalist

ROCPS/42M4-P03

1942 GLACIER STUDIES
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

Annual (with exception of 1936, both glaciers; and 1941, Tyndall Glacier) measurements of glaciers have been made in Rocky Mountain National Park since 1932. Prior to that time, sporadic recorded observations and measurements as well as rate of motion studies were made or undertaken. The present report fits into the series initiated in 1932.

In 1942, both Andrews and Tyndall glaciers were visited and photographed; regular measurement data was secured at both points.

DATE

September 16, 1942

WEATHER

Clear, somewhat windy. Drifting clouds from the west rose by noon, forming fairly heavy cloudbanks in the west, less extensive, but considerable toward eastern horizon, broken and moving rapidly overhead. By mid-afternoon, the cloudbank in the west produced overshadowing of most of the range above 9,000 feet; in later afternoon, clouds cleared somewhat without storming. No precipitation occurred during the day in the course of the glacier trip. High wind, estimated at 40 miles per hour or more was encountered on the continental divide, particularly fresh at the heads of the gorges.

PARTY

The party was composed of Mr. C. S. Ziegler, of Chicago, Illinois, and Mr. Robert Weeks, of Birmingham, Alabama, with Park Naturalist Raymond Gregg of Rocky Mountain National Park.

ANDREWS GLACIER

Although the photographs which illustrate the report are misleading due to clean appearance in 1941 when new snow "cleaned up" the glacier, Andrews Glacier was in "healthier" condition in 1942 than was the case in the preceding year. The series of plates give a good impression of this body of ice from a number of angles. Comparable points are identified.

Measurement was made along two lines of measurement used in previous surveys. Simple tapeline measurement along groundslope was taken in each case, directly to the nearest connected ice, which could be distinguished as part of the glacier proper.