

Interactive comment on “Glacier annual balance measurement, prediction, forecasting and climate correlations, North Cascades, Washington 1984–2006” by M. S. Pelto

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Two glaciers that have disappeared are the Lewis and Spider Glacier. As H.Basagic noted there are two Spider Glacier's in the North Cascades. The one referenced here is located at 48.164 N, 120.882 W near Lyman Glacier. Having visited this "glacier" many times including this year. The judgement is based on the fact that the largest remaining relict ice piece is .006 square kilometers. This one piece does have one slit in it. It is not a crevasse formed from movement, just a gap caused by an underlying bedrock feature. With no movement the glacier cannot close this gap. For Lewis Glacier in fact no relict ice at all was left in 1994.

The editors comments correctly note that many revisions are needed to address the

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deficiencies of this paper. However, these are all relatively minor as noted in the authors previous comment. It is hardly accurate that the paper covers little new ground. The editor offers no comments to support this conclusion. The paper presents the author's first publication of a mass balance calculation from climate records. In addition the paper presents not just the author's but anybody's first attempt at forecasting glacier balance from climate data before the ablation season begins. This comprises the bulk of the paper, but cannot be done without presenting the data. The Anonymous reviewer did not identify any errors in scientific method that were more than perceived. One anonymous and not unbiased review is not a good basis for determining the quality of this paper. Based on the lack of specific editor comment that is evidently the only criteria used. I appreciate the comments of the reviewer as noted, and utilize them to enhance the paper, which I intend to submit.

Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., 1, 17, 2007.

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