Dam type and lake position characterize ice-marginal lake area change in Alaska and NW Canada between 1984 and 2019

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Abstract. Ice-marginal lakes impact glacier mass balance, water resources, and ecosystem dynamics, and can produce catastrophic glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs). Multitemporal inventories of ice-marginal lakes are a critical first step in understanding the drivers of historic change, predicting future lake evolution, and assessing GLOF hazards. Here, we use Landsat-era satellite imagery and supervised classification to semi-automatically delineate lake outlines for four ~5-year time periods between 1984 and 2019 in Alaska and northwest Canada. Overall, ice-marginal lakes in the region have grown in total number (+183 lakes, 38% increase) and area (+483 km^2, 59% increase) between the time periods of 1984–1988 and 2016–2019, though 56% of inventoried lakes did not experience detectable change. Changes in lake numbers and area were notably unsteady and nonuniform. We demonstrate that lake area changes are connected to dam type (moraine, bedrock, ice, or supraglacial) and the spatial relationship to their source glacier (proglacial, detached, unconnected, ice, or supraglacial), with important differences in lake behavior between the sub-groups. In strong contrast to all other dam types, ice-dammed lakes decreased in number (–6, 9% decrease) and area (–51 km^2, 40% decrease), while moraine-dammed lakes increased (+56, 26% and +479 km^2, 87% for number and area, respectively) at, a faster rate than the average when considering all dam types together. Proglacial lakes experienced the largest area changes and rate of change out of any lake position throughout the period of study, and moraine-dammed lakes which experienced the largest increases are associated with clean-ice glaciers (<19% debris cover). By tracking individual lakes through time and categorizing lakes by dam type, subregion, and location, we are able to detect trends that would otherwise be obscured if these characteristics were not considered. This work highlights the importance of such lake characterization when performing ice-marginal lake inventories, and provides insight into the physical processes driving recent ice-marginal lake evolution.

1 Introduction

Ice-marginal lakes are located adjacent to glaciers, commonly forming at glacier termini, tributary junctions, along glacier margins, or where glacially eroded bedrock or sediment creates topographic depressions (overdeepenings; Carrivick and Tweed, 2013; Cook and Quincey, 2015). These lakes can impact human societies in a multitude of ways, ranging from water resources (Immerzeel et al., 2020) and tourist attractions (Wang and Zhou, 2019; Welling et al., 2020) to destructive and lethal hazards (Carrivick and Tweed, 2016; Cook et al., 2016; Emmer, 2017). Formation or drainage of lakes can impact ecosystem dynamics by providing or removing a source of stored freshwater, altering the sediment flux within a basin, creating new habitat (e.g., Milner et al., 2008), or altering downstream flow characteristics (Tweed and Carrick, 2015; Jacquet et al., 2017). Glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs; when a lake dam fails or is overtopped; Clague and Evans, 2000) from ice-marginal lakes can have massive impacts on downstream river channel morphology and sediment supply (e.g., Jacquet et al., 2017), disrupt ecosystems (e.g., Meerhoff et al., 2018), destroy infrastructure, and cause the loss of human lives (e.g., Carrivick and Tweed, 2016). Time-varying inventories of ice-marginal lakes are a critical first step in predicting future lake evolution and assessing GLOF hazards.

Global (Shugar et al., 2020) and regional (Wang et al., 2013; Carrivick and Quincey, 2014; Glasser et al., 2016; Nie et al., 2017; Song et al., 2017; Emmer et al., 2020) lake inventories document recent increases in ice-marginal lakes, however, many studies report solely on the change in total frequency and cumulative area of lakes within the study region, or consider only one type of lake (e.g., moraine-dammed or ice-dammed). By not accounting for individual lake characteristics and individual lake changes through time, important trends could be aliased and limits the understanding of processes controlling area change. For example, if a subset of lakes grow while other lakes drain, the positive and negative growth will offset one another, and the overall lake frequency and area change would be small and therefore misleading. Alternatively, if a few large lakes dominate the documented area change for a region, applying the regionally-averaged lake growth to all lakes would overestimate growth, therefore preventing an accurate physical understanding of this change. In addition, the ecological consequences of lake changes may differ based on where lake growth occurs: a change from no lake to a 1 km^2 lake could have larger ecological and hazard implications than a large lake (e.g., >10 km^2) expanding by a few square kilometers (Dorava and Milner, 2000). Cumulative regional studies provide a first-order estimate of regional changes, however, individual lake change must be analyzed to develop a process-based understanding of area change in order to predict future lake growth and watershed-scale impacts.

Recent studies parse lakes by characteristics which predict lake behavior, such as dam type and evolution phase (Emmer et al., 2015, 2020), or the spatial relationship to their source glacier (e.g., proglacial, supraglacial, unconnected, detached; Nie et al., 2017; Rounce et al., 2017; Chen et al., 2021). In the Himalaya, proglacial lakes (located at the glacier terminus, in contact with ice) contributed to 83% of the total lake area increase from 1990 to 2015, while only composing 55% of the lake population (Nie et al., 2017). In this same region, supraglacial lakes (located on debris-covered glacier surfaces) experienced the greatest percent increase in area (367%) since 1990, though they only constitute 1.2% of total lake area in 2015 (Nie et al., 2017). Himalayan proglacial lakes tend to be persistent and contribute the most to regional area growth, whereas supraglacial lakes are small and experience large spatio-temporal variation in area and location (Nie et al., 2017; Rounce et al., 2017; Chen et al., 2021). In the Cordillera Blanca of Peru, many lakes shifted from proglacial to detached (no longer in contact with ice) and the dominant dam type for proglacial lakes shifted from moraine-dammed in 1948 to bedrock-dammed in 2017 (Emmer et al., 2020). In both the Himalaya and the Cordillera Blanca, dam type and lake position help characterize lake behavior; this variability would be lost if only cumulative changes were reported. These studies support the inclusion of dam type and topological position (used throughout to indicate spatial relationship of lakes to their source glacier) in comprehensive regional ice-marginal lake studies.

Alaska's large glacier extent (86,723 km^2; second largest area outside the ice sheets; Fig. 1; Kienholz et al., 2015; Zemp et al., 2019) and recent retreat (Larsen et al., 2015) allow for the presence of many ice-marginal lakes, while a wide range of climate zones (maritime, transitional, continental, and Arctic; Miller et al., 1999), glacier morphologies (valleys, cirques, debris, icefields) and bedrock lithologies/surficial deposits (Wilson et al., 2015) lead to a variety of lake characteristics (e.g., dam type and topological position; Fig. 1). Two unique aspects of the Alaska region are the numerous large, low-elevation coastal lakes

(e.g., Bear Glacier Lake, Malaspina Lake, Grand Plateau Glacier Lake), and that lakes tend to be larger than ice-marginal lakes found around the world (e.g., High Mountain Asia, Central Europe, and Alaska have median lake areas of 0.11 km^2, 0.11 km^2, and 0.17 km^2, respectively; Shugar et al., 2020). In addition, the lakes in this region are quite dynamic, as both the largest number and highest frequency of recorded GLOFs globally have occurred here, accounting for 25% of all recorded historical events (Carrivick and Tweed, 2016).

Previous studies of glacial lakes in Alaska have examined ice-dammed lakes (Post and Mayo, 1971; Wolfe et al., 2014), a subset of ice-marginal lakes (Field et al., 2021), individual case studies (e.g., Sturm and Benson, 1985; Anderson et al., 2003; Pelto et al., 2013; Kienholz et al., 2020), or as a regional subset within a global study (Shugar et al., 2020). These studies are limited in their ability to comprehensively characterize regional trends for all lakes. Glaciers in this region are losing mass on the order of –75 Gt/yr (Larsen et al., 2015; Zemp et al., 2019), which represents the largest mass change and one of the highest specific mass changes for any region of the world. This change underscores the need for a time-varying lake inventory, given that ice-marginal lakes with different dam types and topological positions respond differently to glacier mass loss (e.g., Field et al., 2021).

The aims of the current study are to systematically inventory and characterize all ice-marginal lakes in Alaska using Landsat satellite imagery between 1984 and 2019. We aim to: (i) characterize ice-marginal lakes and decadal scale lake area change in Alaska; (ii) determine whether factors such as dam type, topological position, and region can characterize area change; and (iii) explore the interplay between the spatial distribution of lakes and regional characteristics such as glacier area, glacier complexity, and debris cover.
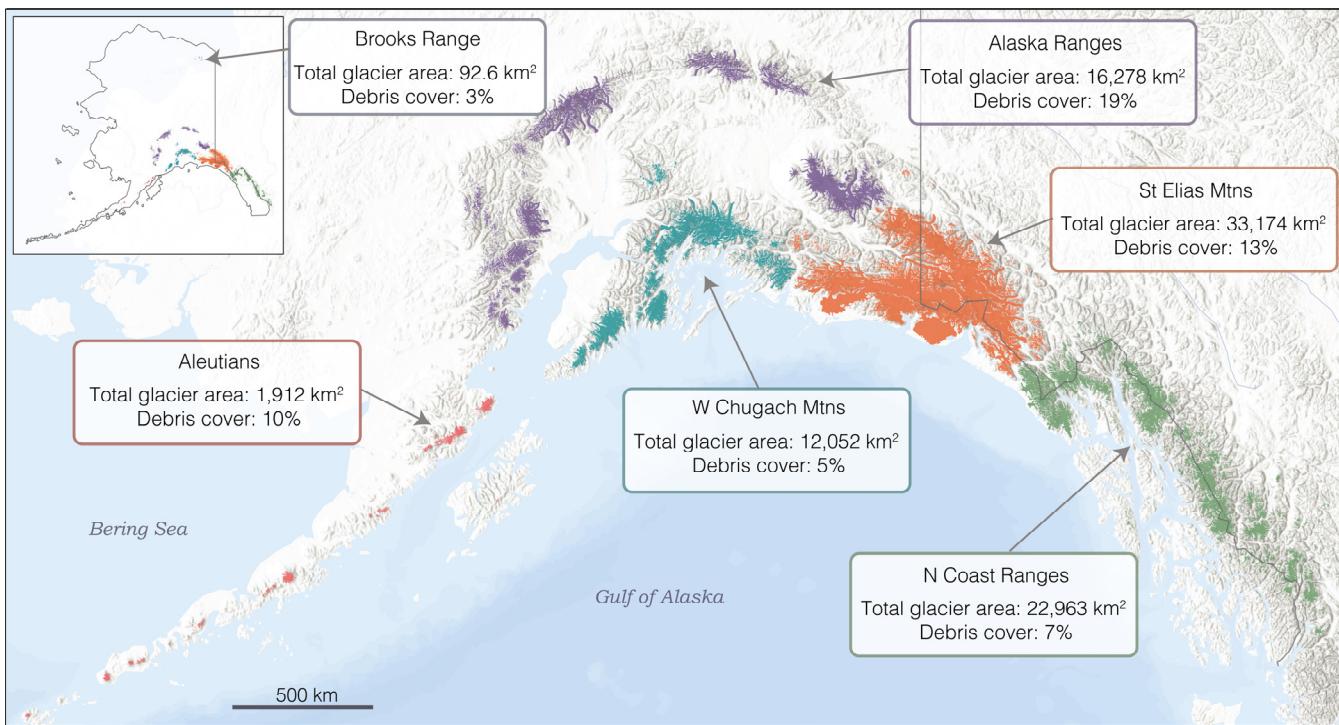
Figure 1: Distribution of glaciers as mapped by the Randolph Glacier Inventory (RGI Consortium, 2017) and subregions used to separate glaciated areas in Alaska and NW Canada (basemap provided by ESRI, 2021). Total glacier area (km^2) and percent debris cover (percent of glacier surface covered by debris; Herreid and Pellicciotti, 2020) are displayed for each subregion.

2 Data and methods

2.1 Imagery and datasets

Cloud-free mosaics were compiled in Google Earth Engine (GEE), an open source, web-based remote sensing platform. Landsat 5 Thematic Mapper (TM), Landsat 7 Thematic Mapper Plus (ETM+), and Landsat 8 Operational Land Imager (OLI) surface reflectance Tier 1 images were used to create 5-year composites (Table 1). Intervals were selected based on available imagery and to capture average lake outlines for a five-year period within each decade (1980s to 2010s). Few images are available for the late 1980s to early 1990s, and therefore this time period was excluded. Imagery was limited to a 10 km buffer around the Randolph Glacier Inventory, which was created with source imagery for glacier outlines mostly from 2004 to 2010 for Region 01 (RGI v6.0; RGI Consortium, 2017; Wang et al., 2012; Kienholz et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2018). For each pixel within the region of interest, the mosaicking algorithm calculates the median value of all cloud-free pixels between July 1st and September 31st for each year within the given time period (Fig. S1). Five-year mosaics minimize the impact of frequent cloud cover in Alaska, which complicates region-wide assessments on shorter timescales. In theory, 5-year composites allow for an average shoreline delineation, capturing longer term trends rather than seasonal variation. However, ice-dammed lakes are known to fill and drain on sub-annual (e.g., Lago Cachet Dos; Jacquet et al., 2017) to annual (e.g., Hidden Creek Lake;

Anderson et al., 2003) timescales, so a lake may be characterized as persistent (present at every time step) even though it has

110 undergone multiple fill/drain cycles between composites. Owing to this limitation, our focus here is on decadal changes in lake number and area, not sub-annual lake dynamics relevant for GLOF frequency.

Table 1: Dataset and the resolution of the dataset used for each time step.

Time interval	Dataset	Sensor	Resolution	# of images used
1984–1988	Landsat 5	ETM	30 m	683
1997–2001	Landsat 5 & 7	ETM/ETM+	30 m	1312
2007–2011	Landsat 5 & 7	ETM/ETM+	30 m	2630
2016–2019	Landsat 8	OLI	30 m	1754

2.2 Generating lake inventories 1984–2019

115 Image composites were classified in ArcGIS Pro using an object-based supervised classification (Support Vector Machine; Figure 2). Manual training samples were selected for snow, ice, water, bedrock, supraglacial debris, and vegetation for each individual time step as snow, ice, and water can vary from year to year. To reduce false positives from mountain shadows, which have a similar spectral signal as water (Fig. S3), a slope threshold of 10° was implemented (Zhang et al., 2018; Shugar et al., 2020; Chen et al., 2021). We used a digital elevation model (DEM) composed of the national elevation dataset (NED;

120 10 m resolution) and Worldview-derived DEMs (resampled to 10 m resolution; DEMs created by the Polar Geospatial Center from DigitalGlobe, Inc. imagery). A minimum area threshold of 0.05 km^2 (~55 pixels) excludes pixel-level noise and small lakes with minimal hydrological impact and GLOF potential (Carrivick and Quincey, 2014; How et al., 2021). Lakes with margins entirely outside a 1 km buffer from the RGI were eliminated to minimize the inclusion of lakes disconnected from a glacial system (Shugar et al., 2020). Wet, supraglacial debris bands are often misclassified as lakes, likely due to the

125 presence of supraglacial water and therefore similar spectral properties (Fig. S4). A length to area threshold of 0.3 was implemented to remove these long and thin features with atypical lake shape. For this study, any lake within 1 km of the RGI was considered an ice-marginal lake, acknowledging that some low-lying lakes (e.g., Vitus Lake) may have tidal influence. Lakes which are within 1 km of the RGI and unconnected from a glacial system are noted (Sect. 2.3.2) and treated separately (Table 2).

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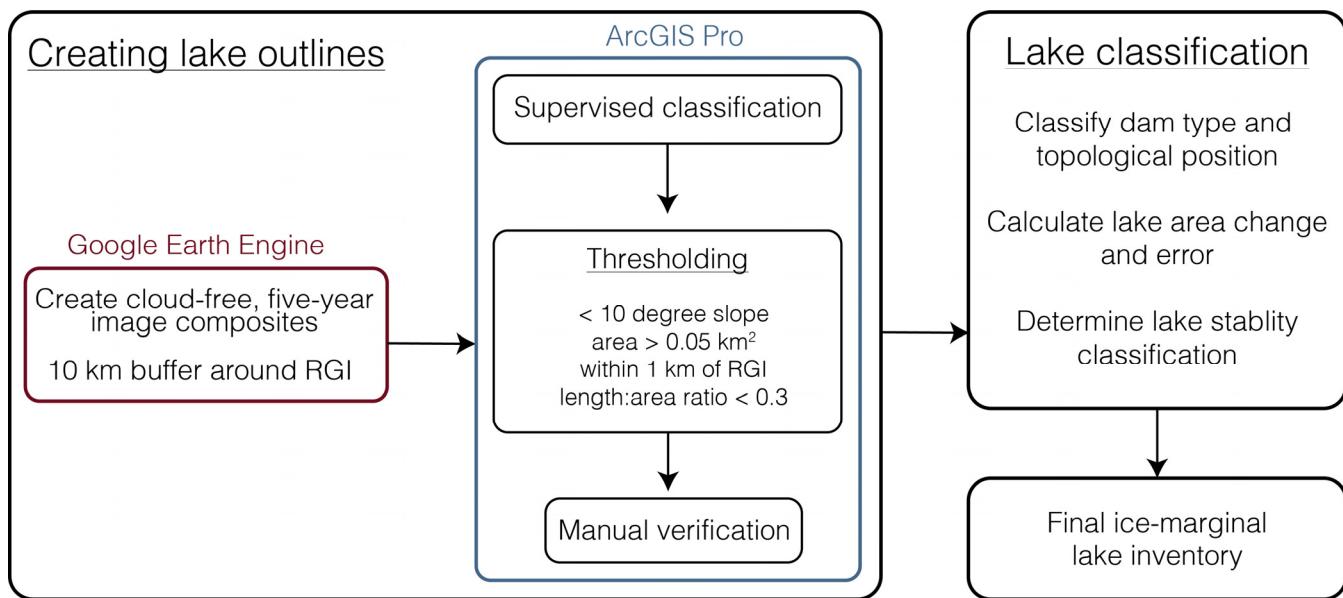
Figure 2: General workflow for creating the ice-marginal lake inventory for time periods 1984–1988, 1997–2001, 2007–2011, and 2016–2019.

All lake outlines were visually inspected and, if necessary, the lake margins were manually adjusted to produce a final delineation (Fig. S2). Lakes were added or excluded based on visual inspection and consideration of all four time steps together;

135   lakes <0.05 km² were manually added back in if the lake grew in subsequent years to minimize false signals of lake formation. Lakes which coalesced or separated over time were given the same Lake ID to minimize misclassification of a lake forming or draining. Every lake in each time step was then classified by i) dam type (Sect. 2.3.1), ii) topological position (Sect. 2.3.2), and iii) stability (Sect. 2.3.3).

2.3 Lake characteristics

140   **2.3.1 Dam type classification**

Using a combination of DEMs and high-resolution satellite imagery (i.e., Maxar Technologies in Google Earth), each lake's dam type was visually interpreted and manually classified (Buckel et al., 2018). Four different dam types were identified in this study (Fig. 3):

i) Moraine-dammed lakes: most frequently located at the glacier terminus, impounded behind a terminal or lateral moraine

145   (Otto, 2019);

ii) Ice-dammed lakes: located along glacier margins or within tributary valleys and blocked by glacier;

iii) Supraglacial lakes: found on the surface of the glacier, often dammed by glacier surface topography (ice or debris) within the ablation zone. For this study, we only observe supraglacial lakes within debris cover; and

iv) Bedrock-dammed lakes: frequently located in cirques with minimal remaining glacial ice, or in other overdeepenings
150 created from glacial erosion (Otto, 2019).
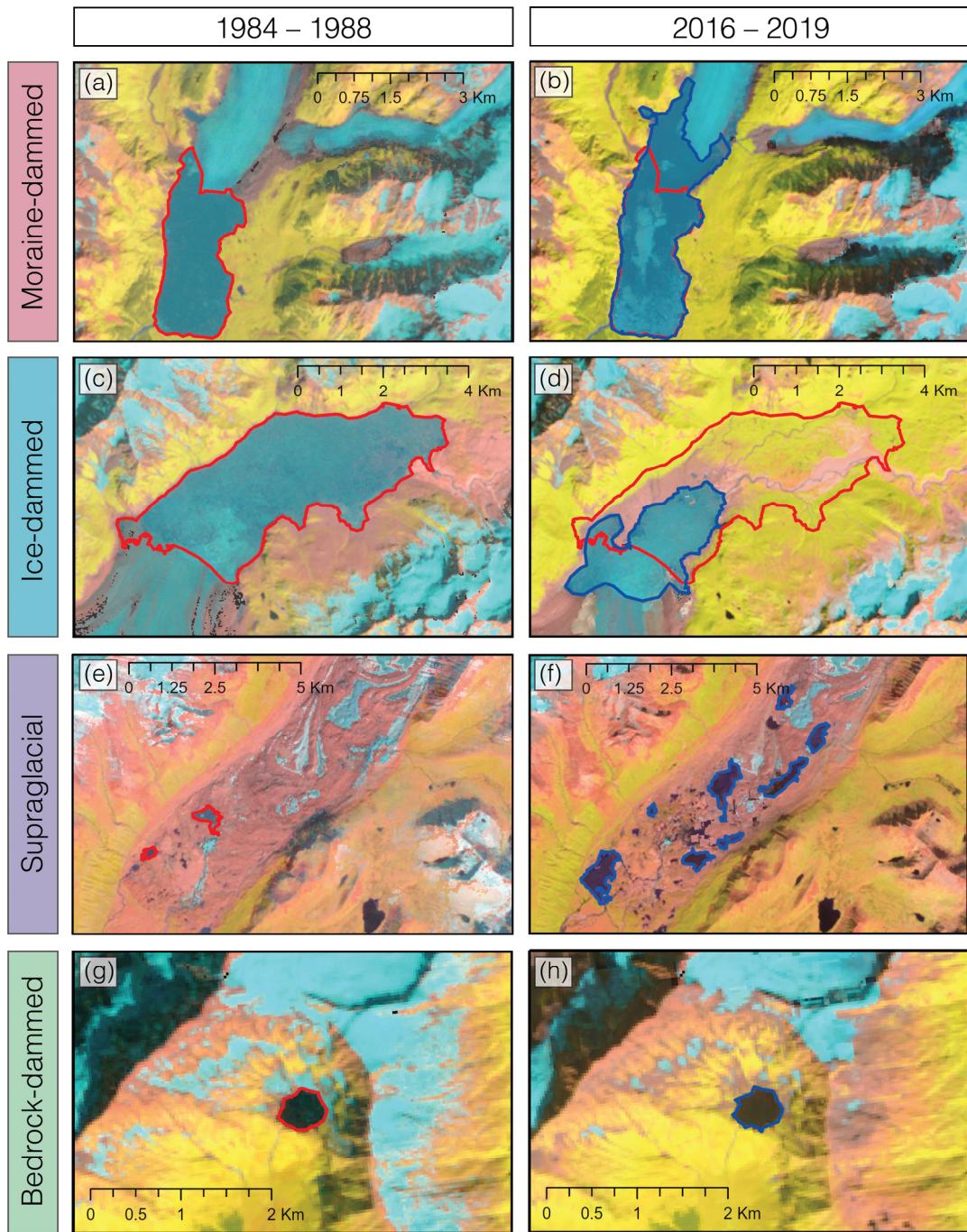
Figure 3: Examples of typical lake behavior for each dam type (moraine (a-b), ice (c-d), supraglacial (def), and bedrock(g-h)), and changes in lake area from 1984–1988 (left; red) and 2016–2019 (right; blue). False color images using Landsat bands for shortwave infrared (SWIR), near infrared (NIR), and red.

2.3.2 Topological position

In addition to dam type, all glacial lakes were classified based on their spatial relationship to their source glacier (Nie et al., 2017; Rounce et al., 2017), into one of the following categories:

i) Proglacial: lakes at the terminus of the glacier, in contact with the ice;

ii) Supraglacial: lakes on the surface of the glacier, most commonly within debris;

iii) Detached: lakes fed by glaciers but not in contact with ice;

iv) Unconnected: detached lakes not fed by glaciers; or

v) Ice: ice-dammed lakes located at ice margins or in tributary valleys.

2.3.3 Lake stability classification

Lake stability simply refers to whether or not a lake is present, rather than the stability of the lake shoreline. Five stability classifications are identified within this dataset:

i) Forms: lakes which appear after 1984–1988 and are present in every mosaic through 2016–2019;

ii) Forms-Drains: lakes which form after 1984–1988 and drain by 2016–2019;

iii) Drains: lakes which were present in 1984–1988 and disappear by 2016–2019;

iv) Drains-Refills: lakes which are present in 1984–1988, are not present for one or two time steps, then reappear by 2016–2019; or

v) Persistent: lakes which are present in all four time steps.

2.4 Lake area change

Absolute area change (ΔA) was calculated for all lakes present in the latest time step (2016–2019), taken as the difference between the last (2016–2019) and first (either 2007–2011, 1997–2001, or 1984–1988) outline for each lake. For lakes which first appear in the 2016–2019 composite, ΔA is equal to lake area in 2016–2019. Rate of change (km^2 per decade, calculated between the midpoint of each interval) was also calculated to minimize bias of longer standing lakes having a larger area change. Rate of change per time step was also calculated to compare rates of area change over time.

2.5 Error

Error in lake delineation was calculated assuming an error of ± 1 pixel for the entirety of each lake perimeter (Chen et al., 2021):

$$E = P * R, \tag{1}$$

where P is the perimeter of the lake (km), R is the pixel resolution of the imagery (0.030 km for Landsat), and the resulting error (E) is in km^2. This error calculation is more generous than numerous lake inventories which assume ± 0.5 pixel error (e.g., Fujita et al., 2009; Salerno et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2015; Nie et al., 2017; Rounce et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2020).

185 Error for the difference in areas was calculated using the theory of propagation of uncorrelated error:

$$E_{diff} = \sqrt{E_x{}^2 + E_y{}^2}. \tag{2}$$

Where E_x and E_y are the error for the first and second lake outlines, respectively. Lakes where the area difference was greater than E_{diff} were determined to have detectable area change.

3 Results

190 ### 3.1 Lake evolution 1984–1988 to 2016–2019

The overall number of lakes in the Alaska region increased from 484 in 1984–1988 to 667 in 2016–2019, and total area grew from 815.5 km^2 in 1984–1988 to 1298.5 km^2 in 2016–2019 (Fig. 4). The distribution of lakes of each dam type has remained fairly consistent over time, with 40–44% of all lakes being moraine-dammed, 26–30% bedrock-dammed, 9–14% ice-dammed, and 16–23% supraglacial. However, the contribution of each dam type to the total lake area has changed. The contribution of

195 ice-dammed lakes decreased (16% in 1984–1988 to 6% in 2016–2019), while moraine-dammed lakes increased (67% in 1984–1988 to 79% in 2016–2019). While supraglacial lakes have increased in number over time, their contribution to total lake area has remained consistent around 2–3%. Supraglacial lakes accounted for 20% of lakes by number in 2016–2019, though they only contributed to 3% of the total area. Conversely, moraine-dammed lakes composed 41% of all lakes yet contributed to 79% of the total area.

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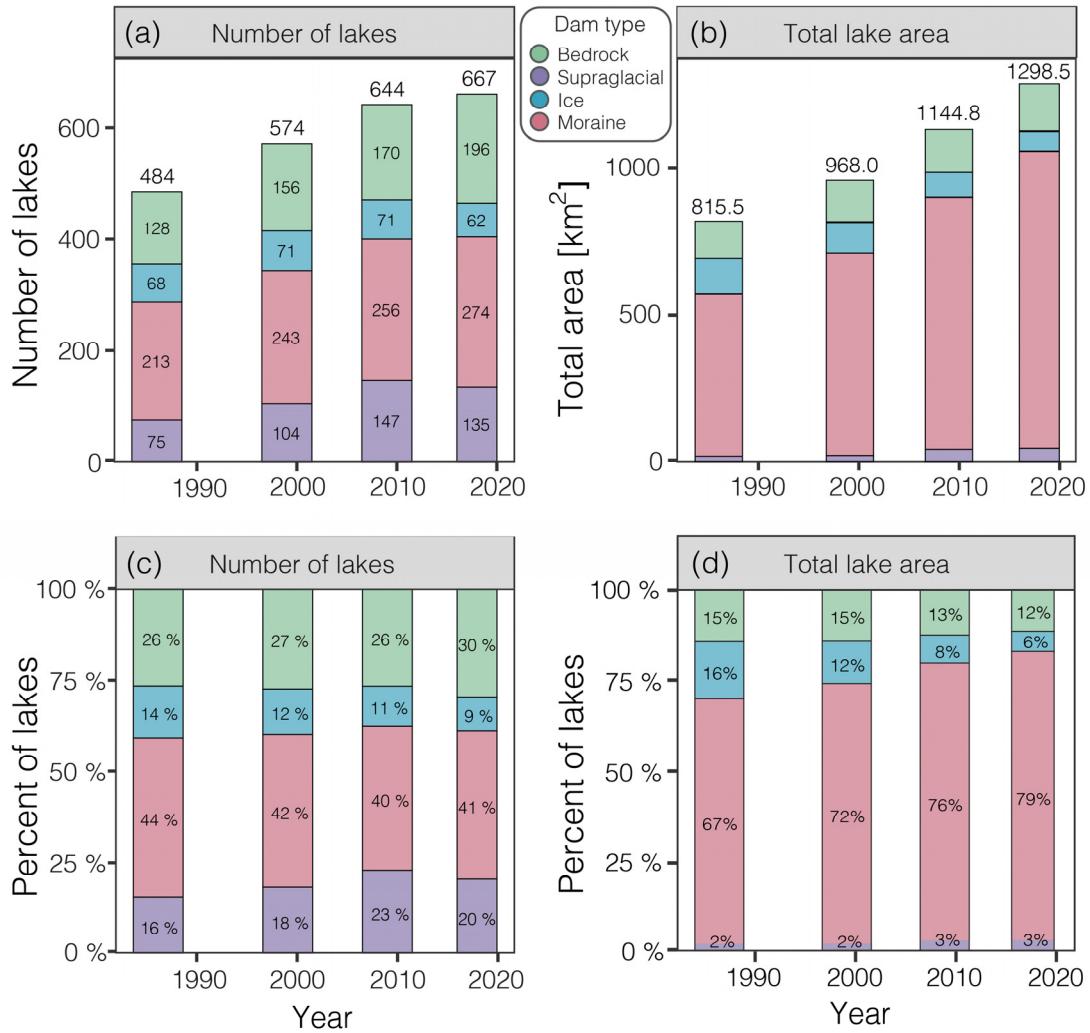
Figure 4: Time evolution of ice-marginal lakes in terms of (a) unscaled number of lakes, (b) unscaled lake area, (c) number of lakes scaled by total number of lakes in that timestep (percent), and (d) lake area scaled by the total lake area in that timestep (percent). Lakes are colored by lake dam type (legend between panels a and b). Bar widths correspond to imagery time intervals.

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Lake stability describes whether a lake is persistent, or if it formed or drained during any of the four time intervals used for analysis. Lakes that appear in all four time intervals ("persistent lakes") dominate both the number and area of bedrock-, ice-, and moraine-dammed lakes (Fig. 5). Supraglacial lakes are the least stable, as this class is dominated by non-persistent lakes. Changes in the number of persistent lakes from interval to interval is due to lakes either splitting or merging. The rate of

210   formation of new bedrock and moraine-dammed lakes appears relatively constant over time, with ~10–30 new lakes of each dam type first appearing in each time interval.
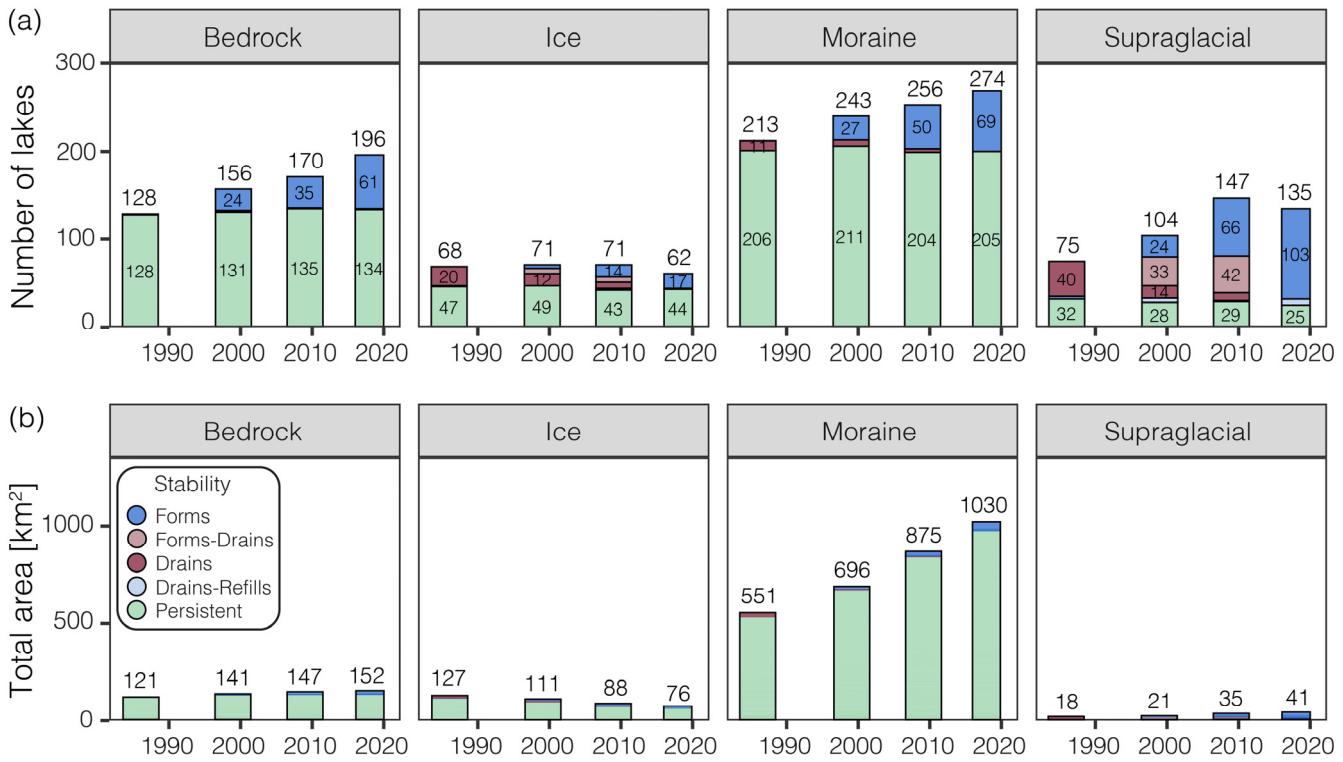
Figure 5: Number of lakes (a) and total area (b) of each dam type through time. The number of lakes in blue indicates the total number of lakes in that time period that were not present in 1984–1988; the number of lakes in red indicates the number of lakes present in that time period which drain in a subsequent time period. Light red indicates lakes which form after 1984–1988 but drain before 2016–2019. Bar widths correspond to imagery time intervals.

Moraine-dammed lakes added 56 lakes (+26%) and grew by 479 km^2 (+87%) from 1984–1988 to 2016–2019, while bedrock-dammed lakes added 68 lakes (+53%) and grew by 31.8 km^2 (+26%; Fig. 5). Though they added a similar number of lakes, moraine-dammed lakes increased in total area more rapidly than bedrock-dammed lakes, primarily through the growth of pre-existing lakes.

While bedrock and moraine-dammed lakes steadily increased in lake frequency and area, supraglacial lakes exhibited more variability. This class increased by 72 lakes from 1984–1988 to 2007–2011, yet lost 12 lakes from 2007–2011 to 2016–2019, resulting in an overall increase of 60 lakes (80% increase). Despite varying frequency, supraglacial lakes grew in total area between each time period, resulting in a total increase of 22.8 km^2 (+127%) from 1984–1988 to 2016–2019. Supraglacial lakes had the largest percent increase in area; however, they contributed the least (2–3%) to total lake area across different dam types.

230 Ice-dammed lakes are the only dam type with decreasing number and area, losing 6 lakes (–9%) and 51 km^2 (–40%) overall from 1984–1988 to 2016–2019. However, a total of 20 individual lakes drained and 17 formed throughout this time period, with an additional three lakes merging, resulting in an overall loss of six lakes.

Lake frequency, dam type, and area change distribution varies with lake area (Fig. 6). A The majority of lakes (77%) in the region are less than 1 km^2, yet theybut collectively contribute to justconstitute only 9% of total lake area 6% of the total area

235 change from 1984–1988 to 2016–2019. Moraine-dammed lakes dominate the proportion of lakes greater than 1 km^2. Lakes greater than 1 km^2 thus constitute >90% of the total lake area and are dominated (69%) by moraine dams. The lake area change distribution by lake area from 1984–1988 to 2016–2019 closely reflects the total lake area distribution, with lakes greater than 1 km^2 experiencing 94% of the total lake area change. In particular, tThere are 19 lakes (17 moraine-dammed, one bedrock-dammed, and one ice-dammed; see Table S1), each with individual areas greater than 10 km^2, accounting forthat constitute

240 ~60% 288.7 km^2 (60%) of the total lake area and area growthgrowth from 1984–1988 to 2016–2019. Of these 19 lakes, 14 occupy piedmont lobe depressions (defined here as a basin which is not constrained by valley walls), and about half are found within a coastal plain environment, with four lakes located within 2 m of sea level. Lake basin geometry and elevation have previously been linked to lake area change in Alaska, with low elevation lakes growing the most rapidly (Field et al., 2021). Excluding lakes greater than 10 km^2, the total lake area in the Alaska region grew by 4241.5% (compared to the 59% area

245 increase when considering all lakes).
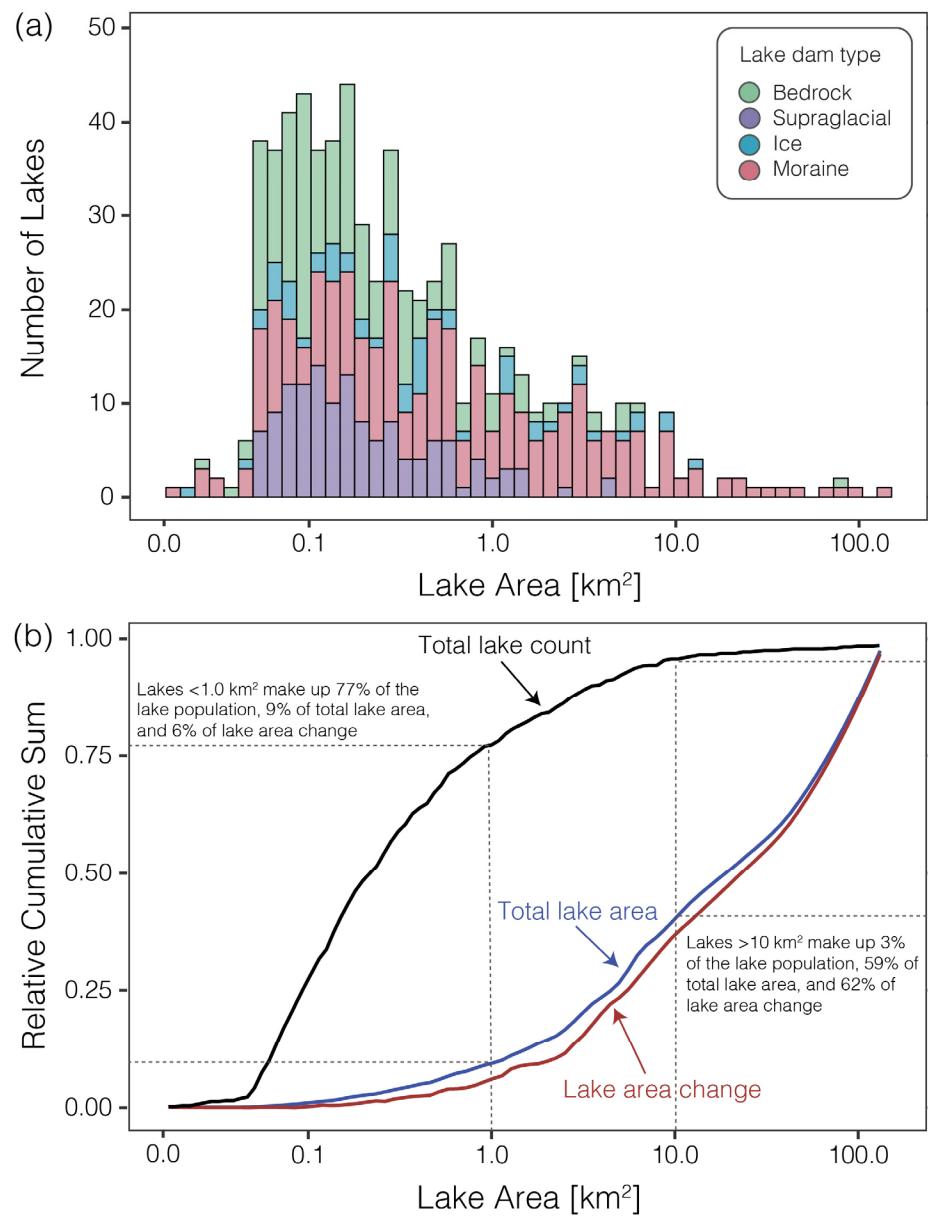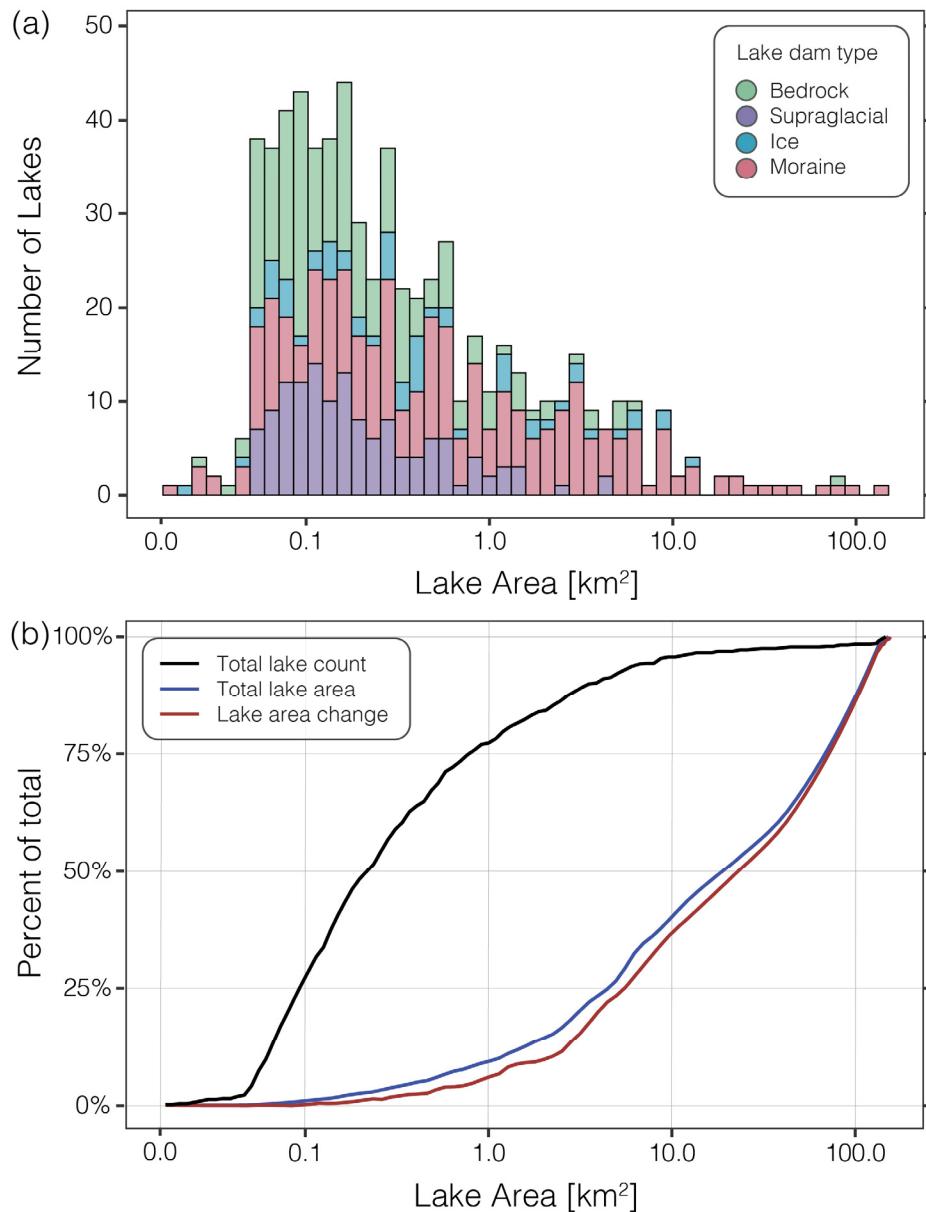
Figure 6: Distribution of lake area frequency in 2016–2019 by lake area (colored by dam type; a) and ~~relative cumulative sum~~ cumulative distribution function **of total lake number, total lake area, and total lake area change (1984–1988 to 2016–2019; b). Note that the x-axis is logarithmic.**

3.2 Individual lake area evolution

From 1984–1988 to 2016–2019, 791 distinct lakes were identified, 667 of which were still present in 2016–2019. Of the 124 lakes which drained, 97 (78%) were supraglacial, 20 (16%) were ice-dammed, and 7 (6%) were moraine-dammed. Absolute area change was calculated for each individual lake, with drained lakes considered to have an area of zero km^2 after drainage

(Fig.7). Detectable change (error < area change) occurred for 334 of the total 791 lakes (44%). Within each dam type, 63% of moraine-dammed, 45% of ice-dammed, 39% of supraglacial, and 24% of bedrock-dammed lakes experienced detectable change.

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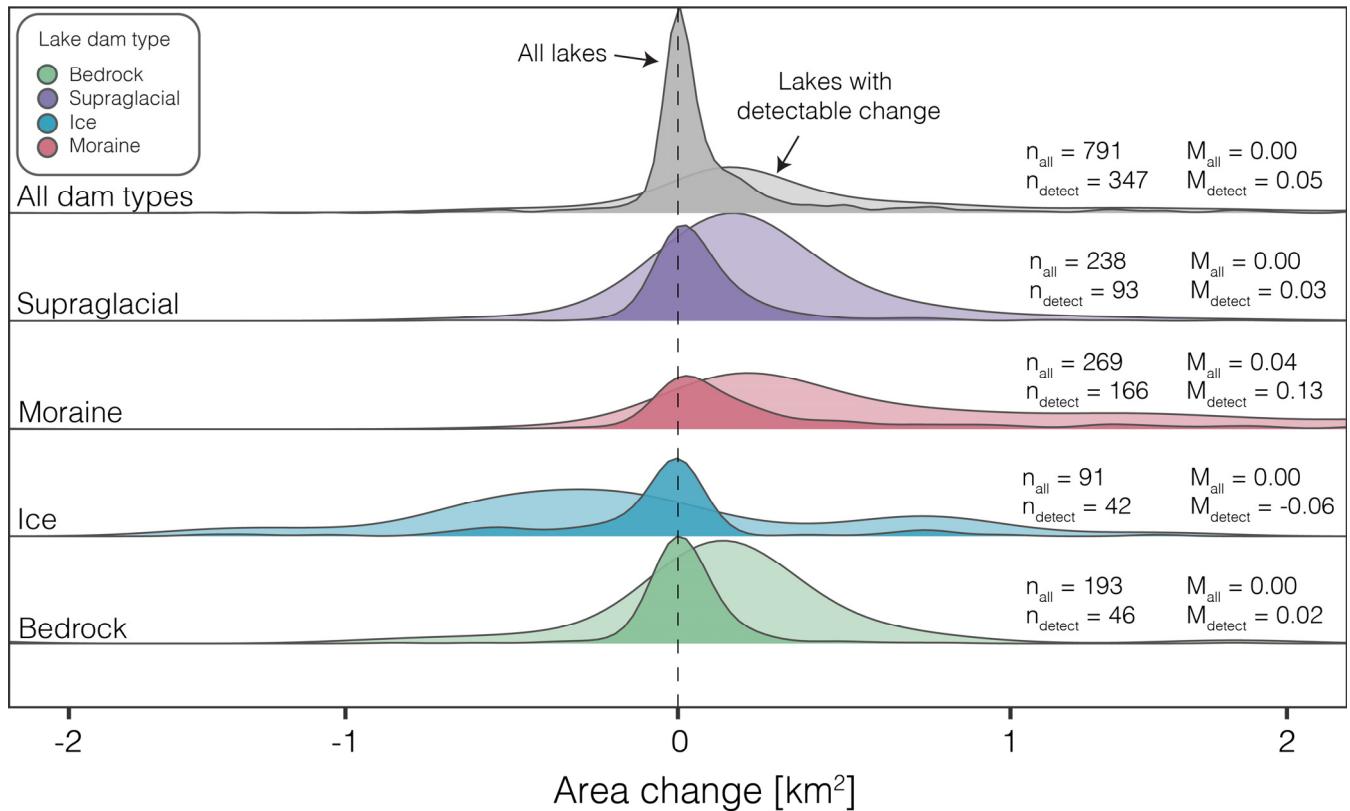
Figure 7: Smoothed density distribution (normalized to 1 for each dam type) of absolute lake area change for all lakes (dark curves) compared to that for only lakes with detectable change (light curves) for each dam type, with number of lakes (n) and median lake area change (M). Note that the x-axis has been limited to –2 and 2 km². For the full distribution, see Fig. S5.

265 The median area change for lakes of all dam types with detectable change (n = 344) is 0.05 km² between 1984–1988 and 2016–2019 (Fig. 7). Considering only lakes with detectable change, the median change for moraine-dammed lakes (n = 166) is 0.13 km², ice-dammed lakes (n = 42) is –0.06 km², supraglacial lakes (n = 93) is 0.03 km², and bedrock-dammed lakes (n = 46) is 0.02 km². Median change values remain relatively stable even when lakes > 10 km² are excluded from analysis (Fig. S6). Proglacial lakes (moraine- and bedrock-dammed) experienced the largest median detectable change (0.14 km²), while ice-

270 dammed lakes are the only dam type to experience negative median detectable change (–0.06 km²; Table 2; Fig. S7). Unconnected and detached lakes have a median change of 0.02 km² for lakes with a detectable change. Proglacial moraine-dammed lakes have a wider distribution and higher median change than detached or unconnected moraine-dammed lakes

(Table 2). Proglacial moraine-dammed lakes also have a wider distribution and higher median change than proglacial bedrock-dammed lakes.

275 **Table 2:** Count (area, km^2) of glacial lakes by dam type and location between 1984 and 2019, as well as median area (km^2), range of areas (km^2), and median area change (km^2) for all lakes. Median area change for lakes with detectable change (km^2) are within the parentheses.

Dam Type	Location	1984–1988	1997–2001	2007–2011	2016–2019	Change 1984–88 to 2016–19	Median area	Area range	Med change 1984–88 to 2016–19
Moraine	Proglacial	172 (539)	193 (674)	193 (849)	201 (999)	26 (460)	0.71	0.01–143.1	0.3 (0.75)
	Detached	37 (9.6)	46 (19.3)	59 (24.5)	69 (28.8)	32 (19.2)	0.12	0.02–5.9	0.0 (0.08)
	Unconnected	4 (2.1)	4 (2.2)	4 (2.0)	4 (2.0)	0 (−0.1)	0.40	0.05–1.2	0.0 (0.0)
Bedrock	Proglacial	12 (4.0)	10 (2.7)	13 (5.0)	16 (7.1)	4 (3.1)	0.19	0.04–2.2	0.1 (0.19)
	Detached	57 (92.6)	75 (103)	77 (105)	85 (106)	28 (13.4)	0.13	0.03–76.4	0.0 (0.11)
	Unconnected	59 (23.9)	71 (35)	80 (36.7)	95 (38.7)	36 (14.8)	0.16	0.02–5.6	0.0 (0.09)
Ice	Tributary	42 (113)	41 (96.0)	44 (71.3)	38 (66.2)	−4 (−46.8)	0.75	0.01–22.0	0.0 (−0.36)
	Margin	26 (13.4)	30 (14.9)	27 (16.9)	24 (9.6)	−2 (−3.8)	0.16	0.03–7.0	0.0 (−0.13)
Supraglacial		75 (17.8)	104 (21.1)	147 (34.7)	135 (40.7)	60 (22.9)	0.12	0.03–4.1	0.0 (0.03)
Total		**484 (815.5)**	**574 (968.0)**	**644 (1145)**	**667 (1298.5)**	**183 (483.0)**	**0.21**	**0.01–143.1**	**0.00 (0.21)**

280 Rate of area change (km^2 per decade) follows a similar distribution as absolute area change (Fig. S8). The median change rate for lakes of all dam types with detectable change (n = 344) is 0.02 km^2 per decade. When considering all lakes within each dam type, moraine-dammed lakes are the only dam type with a change rate greater than zero (0.05 km^2 per decade). Supraglacial and bedrock-dammed lakes experience very small changes on a decadal scale, with a median change rate of 0 for all lakes as well as the subset of detectable lakes. Ice-dammed lakes with detectable change experienced a median change rate

285 of −0.02 km^2 per decade.

3.3 Regional lake distribution

Distribution of lake dam type and total lake area varies spatially by subregion (Table 3; Fig. 8), though median lake area change does not vary substantially when considering all lakes with detectable change per region (ranges from 0.04–0.06 km^2). Ice-dammed lakes occur most frequently in the St. Elias Mountains (n = 26 in 2016–2019) and least frequently in the W Chugach

Mountains (n = 6 in 2016–2019), Brooks Range (n = 0), and the Aleutians (n = 0). The N Coast Ranges are dominated by moraine- and bedrock-dammed lakes, whereas the Alaska Ranges and St. Elias Mountains are dominated in number by supraglacial lakes. Supraglacial lakes occur in the regions with the highest debris cover (19% of glacier area in the Alaska Ranges, and 13% in the St. Elias Mountains; Herreid and Pellicciotti, 2020). However, supraglacial lakes contribute little to the total lake area. The number of lakes within a region does not directly predict lake area; the N Coast Ranges host the highest number of lakes (n = 234, 382.5 km^2), yet the St. Elias Mountains have the greatest total lake area (n = 181, 545.5 km^2).

Table 3: Number of lakes, glacierized area, debris covered area, percent debris cover, normalized lake frequency, normalized lake area, normalized lake area change, and specific glacier mass balance (from Jakob et al., 2021) per subregion.

Region	# of lakes 2016–19	Total glacier area (km^2)	Total debris cover (km^2)	Total lake area (km^2)	Percent debris cover	Normalized lake freq (# per 100 km^2 ice)	Normalized lake area (km^2 per 100 km^2 ice)	Normalized lake area change (km^2 per 100 km^2 ice)	Specific mass balance (m w.e. yr $^{-1}$)
Brooks Range	11	346	10.3	0.7	3.0	3.2	0.2	0.1	N/A
Alaska Ranges	103	16278	3135.5	143.0	19.3	0.6	0.9	0.2	-0.41 ± 0.05
Aleutians	25	1912	198.7	30.0	10.4	1.3	1.6	0.6	-0.64 ± 0.10
Chugach Mtns	107	12052	586.2	182.8	4.9	0.9	1.5	0.6	-0.80 ± 0.09
St. Elias Mtns	181	33174	4446.3	545.5	13.4	0.5	1.6	0.6	-1.03 ± 0.10
N Coast Ranges	234	22963	1553.8	382.5	6.8	1.0	1.7	0.6	-1.08 ± 0.09
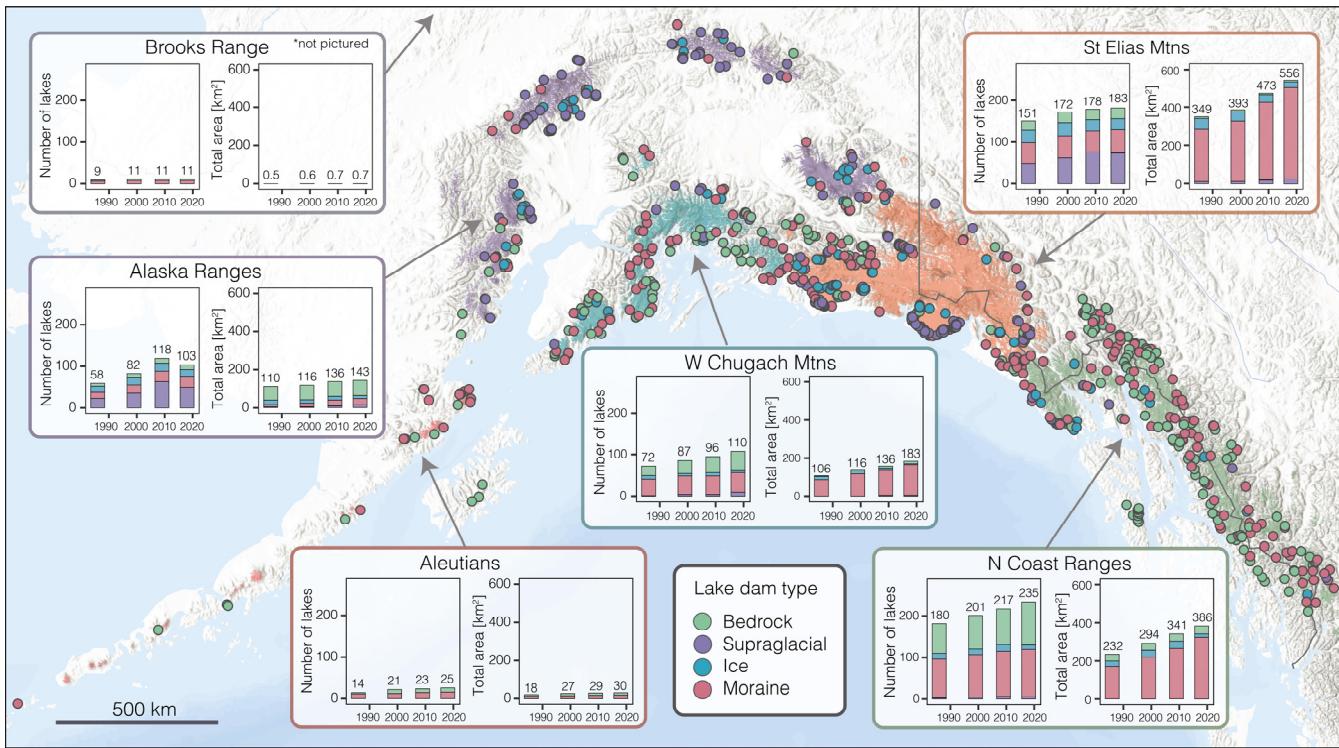
Figure 8: Dam type distribution (spatial, frequency, and total area) for each Alaska subregion. Note: Brooks Range not pictured on map; see Fig. 1. Basemap provided by ESRI, 2021.

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Persistent lakes dominate the total area for each subregion, likely because new lakes tend to be small. The N Coast Ranges have the most persistent lakes (n = 175 in 2016–2019), with 57 lakes forming yet contributing little to the total area (Fig. S9). Changes in persistent lake numbers between time steps is due to lakes splitting or coalescing through time. The Alaska Ranges and St. Elias Mountains have the largest number of lakes that ultimately drain, likely due to the high frequency of supraglacial

310 lakes in these regions and their spatial and temporal heterogeneity.

4 Discussion

Our inventory of ice-marginal lakes in Alaska from 1984 to 2019 demonstrates that lake area changes vary based on lake dam type and a lake's topological position. By tracking individual lakes through time and categorizing lakes by dam type, region, and spatial relationship to their source glacier, we are able to identify trends that would otherwise be overlooked if lakes within

315 Alaska were considered as a whole.

Overall, ice-marginal lakes in Alaska have grown in both number and area between 1984 and 2019, following the trend in both regional (Wang et al., 2013; Carrivick and Quincey, 2014; Nie et al., 2017; Song et al., 2017; Emmer et al., 2020) and global

(Shugar et al., 2020) studies. However, ice-dammed lakes have decreased in number and area whereas moraine-dammed lakes have increased at a faster rate than the average when considering all dam types together. By examining individual lakes, we identify that the majority (56%) of lakes have not experienced a detectable area change over the period of study, and that 19 large (>10km^2), primarily moraine-dammed lakes contributed to 60% of total area growth. Analyzing all dam types together would fail to identify decreases in number and area of ice-dammed lakes, underestimate the increases in proglacial moraine-dammed lakes, and likely overestimate the importance of the appearance of small, supraglacial lakes.

4.1 Alaska's ice-marginal lakes

Lake position and dam type, which are often linked, provide a simple, physically-based metric for parsing ice-marginal lakes in Alaska. The majority of moraine-dammed lakes are proglacial, located behind a Little Ice Age (LIA; ~1250–1850 AD) moraine at the front of a retreating glacier (e.g., Wiles et al., 1999; Santos and Córdova, 2009; Solomina et al., 2015, 2016). They tend to be associated with clean-ice glaciers (82%), defined by Brun et al. (2019) as <19% debris cover (Fig. 9). The growth rate of moraine dammed lakes appears to be coupled to the amount of debris cover, as the lakes with the largest area increase are associated with clean-ice glaciers, with the exception of Vitus Lake at Bering Glacier (Fig. 9). Moraine-dammed lakes occur with both large and small glaciers, as most temperate glaciers can form a moraine during a period of advancement (e.g., the LIA), as long as sediment supply to the terminus is high. Basin geometry and glacier hypsometry likely play a large role in determining the lake expansion rate and maximum lake area, as the underlying bed slope influences how quickly the glacier retreats (depending on glacier mass balance; see Sect. 4.5). For example, large, coastal proglacial lakes can fill piedmont lobe basins (such as Vitus Lake, Malaspina Lake, and Grand Plateau Glacier Lake), which accommodate larger lake expansion than proglacial lakes confined to smaller, steeper valleys (Field et al., 2021). Basin geometry also determines the maximum lake level and the point at which the glacier detaches from the lake.
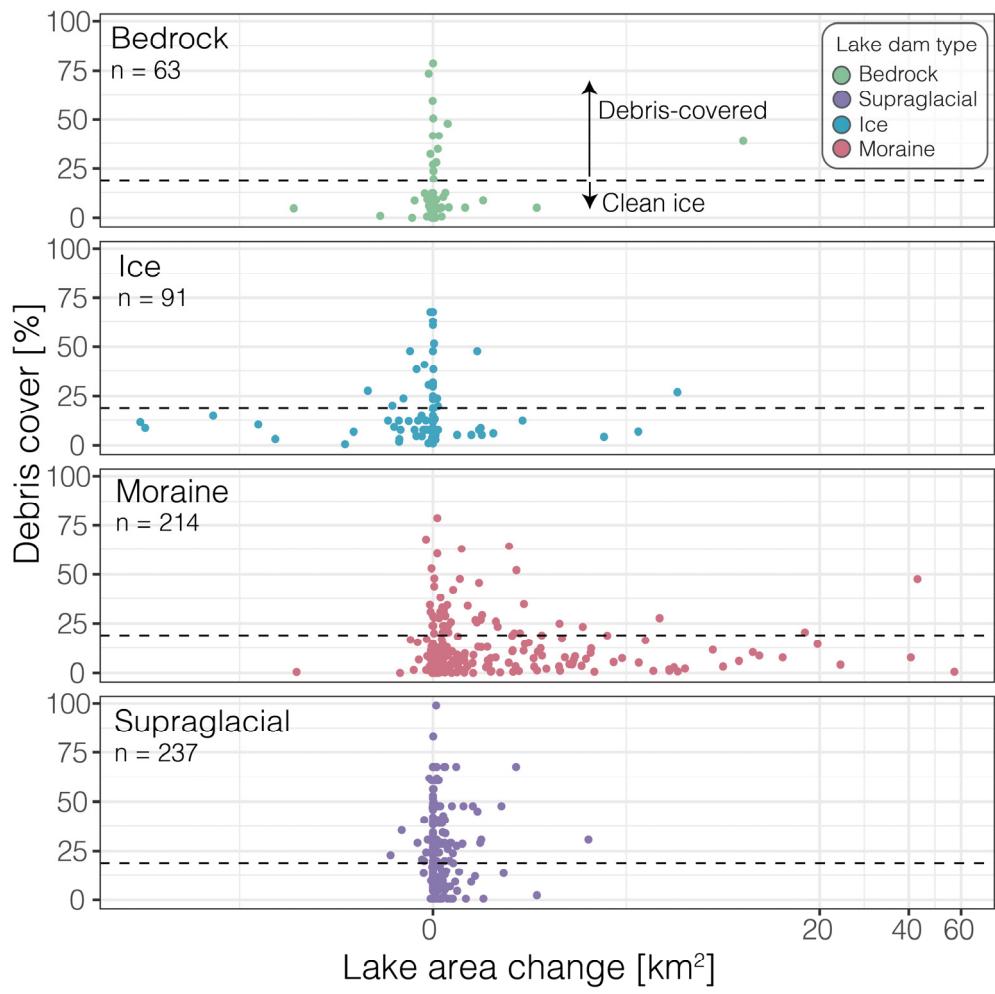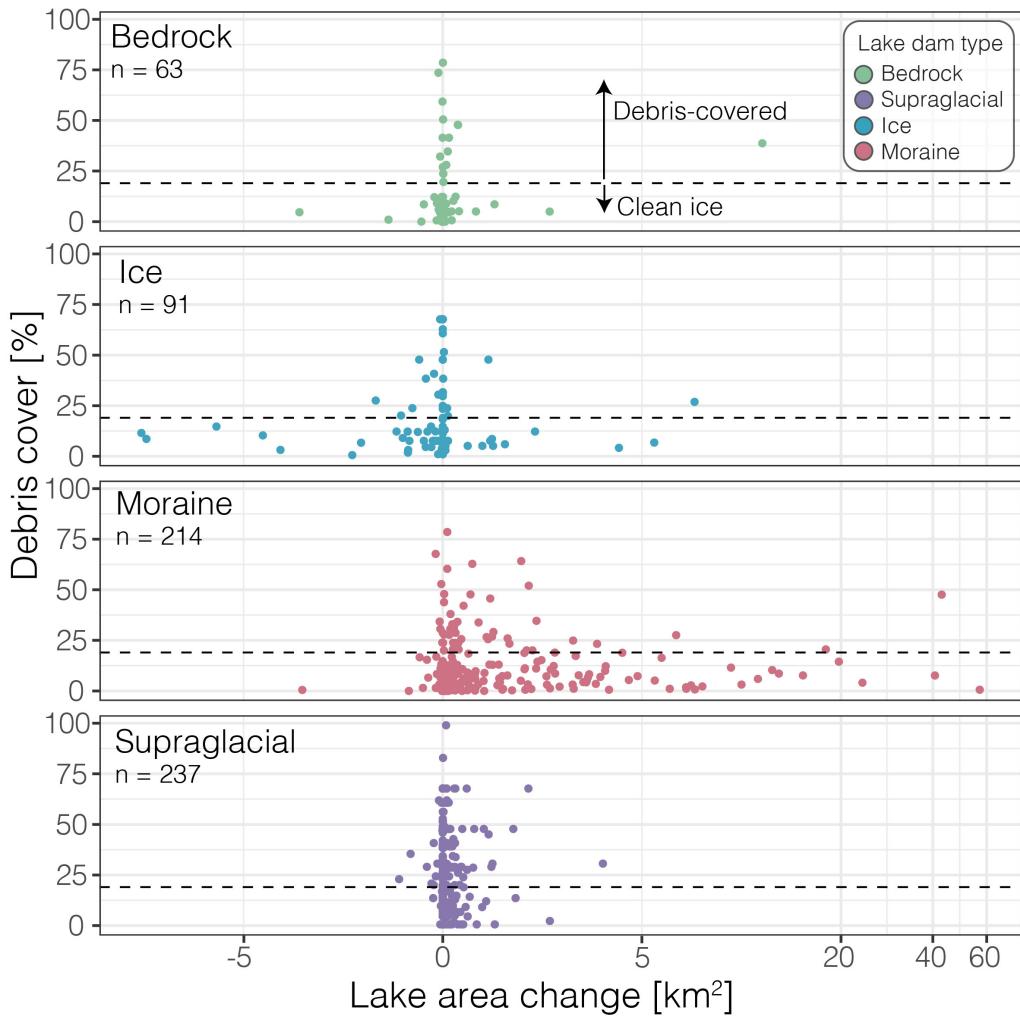
Figure 9: Percent glacier debris cover vs lake area change (km²) for lakes associated with glaciers > 2 km². Each dot represents an individual lake. Dashed line is at 19%, above which is considered debris-covered ice and below is considered clean ice (Brun et al., 2019).

Ice-dammed lakes are primarily located next to clean-ice glaciers (65%), with larger, lower slope areas and positive hypsometric indices (bottom-heavy; Fig. 10), such as are found adjacent to Brady Glacier (Capps et al., 2011; Pelto et al., 2013). The largest lakes occur in tributary valleys, dammed by main branch ice, while many small lakes are found in pockets between glacier margins and valley walls. The decrease in ice-dammed lake number and area is likely due to the down-wasting of glacier surfaces (e.g., Larsen et al., 2015; Jakob et al., 2021), decreasing the height of the ice dam and therefore decreasing maximum area (and volume) of the lake (e.g., Kienholz et al., 2020). The formation of new conduits alongside or beneath the glacier could also be influencing ice-dammed lake drainage (e.g., Tulsequah Glacier; Neal, 2007; Post and Mayo, 1971).

Previous work documented ice thinning as the primary factor in the loss of an ice dam for 82% of lakes lost from land-terminating glaciers and 62% of loss from lake terminating glaciers between 1971 and 2008 (Wolfe et al., 2014).

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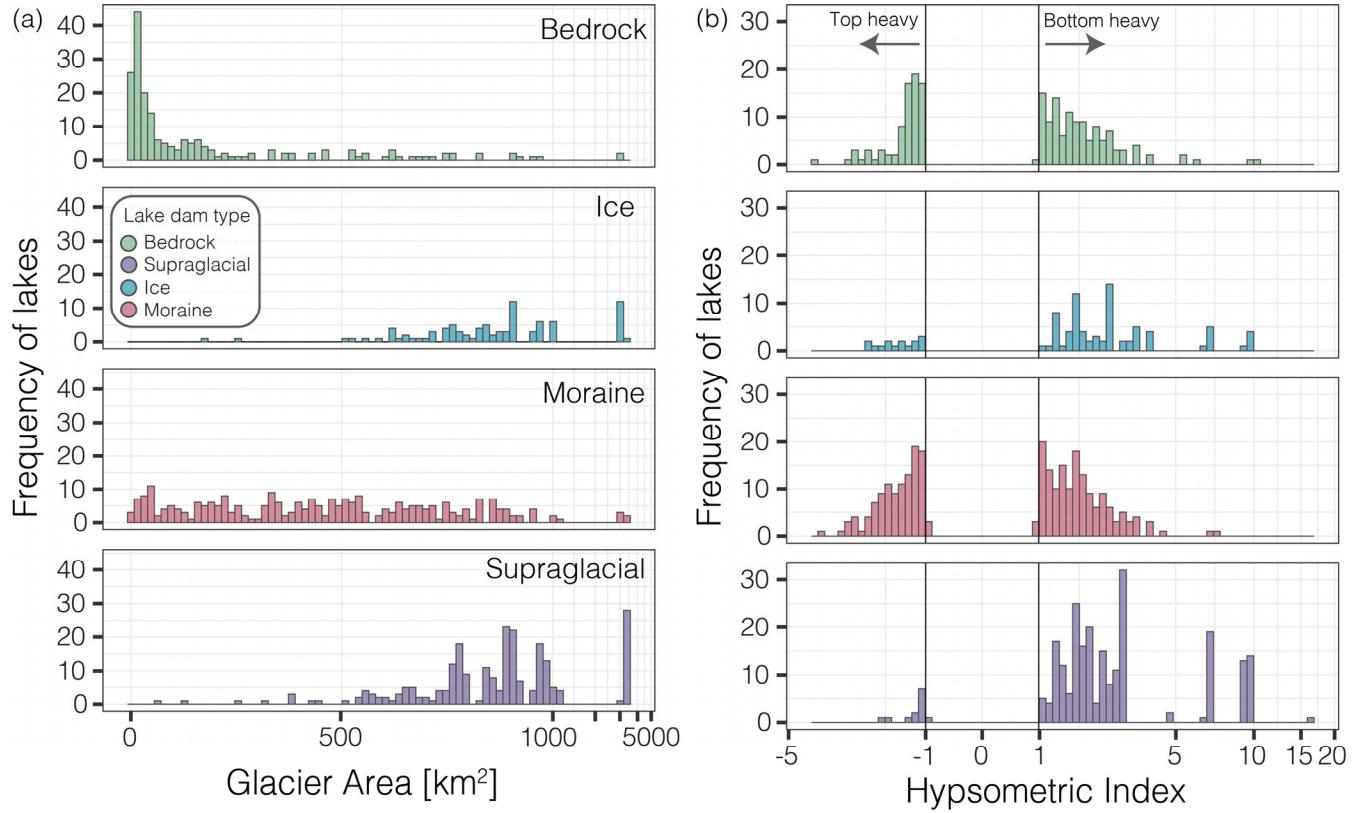
Figure 10: Histogram of number of lakes and associated glacier area, separated by dam type (a) and histogram showing number of lakes within each hypsometric index (HI) bin, separated by dam type (b). Hypsometric index was calculated by McGrath et al. (2017). HI values greater than 1 indicate a bottom heavy glacier, HI values less than –1 indicate a top heavy glacier. Note the logarithmic x-axis scales.

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An overwhelming majority (>80%) of bedrock-dammed lakes are associated with clean-ice glaciers less than 10 km² in area (Figs. 9 and 10). These types of lakes generally form within cirques, where a small glacier has retreated and exposed an overdeepening. Bedrock-dammed lakes can indicate an advanced stage of lake development (Emmer et al., 2020), such as is found in parts of the N Coast Ranges. Most bedrock-dammed lakes (>90%) are either detached or unconnected, with minimal
365 influence from ice-water contact. The small changes in area of unconnected bedrock-dammed lakes could be due to changes in the regional water balance rather than glacier dynamics.

Supraglacial lakes generally form on low-sloped debris-covered tongues of glaciers (Reynolds, 2000), where thin debris enhances melt and thick debris insulates ice and reduces surface melt (Östrem, 1959), often leading to heterogeneous surficial topography. Debris cover tends to reduce ice discharge and surface melt, leading to longer glaciers (Anderson and Anderson,

2016). The inventoried supraglacial lakes in Alaska follow these trends, with their distribution strongly skewed towards flat, bottom-heavy glaciers, as is characteristic of debris-covered glaciers (Reynolds, 2000). These lakes can occur on glaciers with any amount of debris cover, though have the highest concentration (64%) out of any lake dam type on glaciers with >19% debris cover (Fig. 9). A majority of supraglacial lakes are located on a few large, heavily debris covered glaciers. For example, 95% of supraglacial lakes in the St. Elias Mountain region are located on two large, piedmont glaciers (Malaspina and Bering glaciers). Although these lakes are abundant, they exhibit high spatiotemporal variability and contribute minimally to total lake area (2–3%; Fig. 5).

Although additional factors are required to comprehensively assess GLOF hazards, a lake inventory that captures area and dam type provides a foundation for this type of assessment, as dam type influences stability, lake volume scales with area (e.g., Huggel et al., 2002; Cook and Quincey, 2015), and peak flood discharge scales with volume (e.g., Walder and Costa, 1996; Veh et al., 2020). Ice-dammed lakes are known to undergo multiple fill/drain cycles with the capability of producing multiple GLOFs (e.g., Anderson et al., 2003; Jacquet et al., 2017), whereas moraine-dammed lakes tend to only GLOF once, as their dam is typically compromised in the process. The observed decrease in number and area of ice-dammed lakes in Alaska suggests an overall decrease in GLOF hazards from these types of lakes, although the specifics of remaining lakes need to be evaluated individually (e.g., Suicide Basin, Kienholz et al., 2020; Tulsequh Glacier, Neal, 2007; Bear Glacier, Wilcox et al., 2014). The increase in number and area of moraine-dammed lakes provides a greater number of potential source lakes and a larger potential flood volume, however, factors such as surrounding slope stability (e.g., landslides, rockfalls, permafrost), moraine geometry and stability (e.g., slope, presence of an ice core), and downstream impacts must be evaluated first to determine GLOF potential and hazard (e.g., Worni et al., 2013; Rounce et al., 2017). As the nature of the dam type influences lake stability, the opposing trends of ice-dammed and moraine-dammed lakes complicates a region-wide assessment of changing GLOF hazards in the Alaska region.

4.2 Regional trends

The Alaska region of the RGI is separated into six second-order regions (see Fig. 8), used here as subregions for analysis. Lakes are most numerous in the N Coast Ranges (35% of all lakes) and St. Elias Mountains (27%), though these ranges also have the largest glacier area (24% and 41% of total ice in Alaska, respectively). Normalized lake frequency (number of lakes per 100 km^2 of glaciers) is highest in the Brooks Range, though it has the lowest normalized lake area (lake area per 100 km^2 of glaciers; 0.2) as total lake area sums to just 0.7 km^2 (Table 3). We interpret these normalized lake statistics as reflecting the late stage of ice-marginal lake development, minimal LIA glacier advance, as well as the relatively small glacier extent in the Brooks Range even during the Last Glacial Maximum (Kaufman and Manley, 2004). Normalized lake area is highest in the N Coast Ranges (1.7 km^2 per 100 km^2 of glaciers) due to the abundance of smaller glaciers and many proglacial lakes. The St. Elias Mountains have the largest total lake area; however, it also contains large icefields, which results in a similar normalized lake area as the Aleutians and the Chugach Mountains (1.5–1.6 km^2 per 100 km^2 of glaciers). This suggests that the area of

ice-marginal lakes scales with glacier area in the coastal ranges (i.e., excluding the Brooks Range and Alaska Ranges), with normalized lake area ranging from 1.5 to 1.7.

Accounting for lake area change, the Brooks Range and Alaska Ranges have a small normalized lake area change (0.1–0.2; lake area change between 1984 and 2019 per 100 km^2 of glaciers). The Chugach, Aleutians, St. Elias, and N Coast Ranges, however, each have a higher normalized lake area change (0.6). These numbers suggest a dichotomy in which coastal glacier-lake systems are changing faster than those in more interior settings, in agreement with recent work investigating physical controls on ice-marginal lake area change (Field et al., 2021). The Alaska Ranges have the highest percent debris cover (19%), which could be a factor in the low normalized lake area and normalized lake area change seen in this region. Supraglacial lakes are the most abundant dam type in the Alaska Ranges (47% in 2016–2019), characterized by small areas and area changes (Table 2).

4.3 Temporal trends

Rate of lake area change (km^2 per decade) through time indicates whether ice-marginal lake evolution has remained constant between different time periods, or whether the lakes have experienced periods of accelerated or decelerated change. Bedrock dammed lakes experienced little variation in rate of area change throughout the period of study (Fig. 11), with a rate that hovers around zero, likely due to the fact that a majority (>90%) of bedrock-dammed lakes are either detached from their associated glacier or unconnected to any glacier. Ice-dammed lakes consistently experienced a negative median rate of area change, with the most negative rate of growth between 2007–2011 and 2016–2019. This implies drainage of ice-dammed lakes may be accelerating, which could be due to an increased rate of glacier thinning since 2013–2014 (Jakob et al., 2021), though this link requires further investigation. Supraglacial lakes exhibit the opposite trend, growing at a faster rate after 2007–2011 than they did prior. Moraine-dammed lakes experienced the largest median rate of change between 1984–1988 and 1997–2001. A decreasing median rate of change for moraine-dammed lakes yet large total area growth is likely due to the growth of a few large, outlier lakes whose influence is minimized by comparing median rather than mean rates of change. Proglacial lakes experienced the overall largest rate of growth, even when compared to all moraine-dammed lakes, suggesting that topological position, rather than strictly dam type, is a better indicator for rate of ice-marginal lake area change. Together, these data suggest the ice-marginal lakes of Alaska and northwestern Canada could be undergoing a transition, with an increased role of supraglacial lakes driving regional lake area expansion.
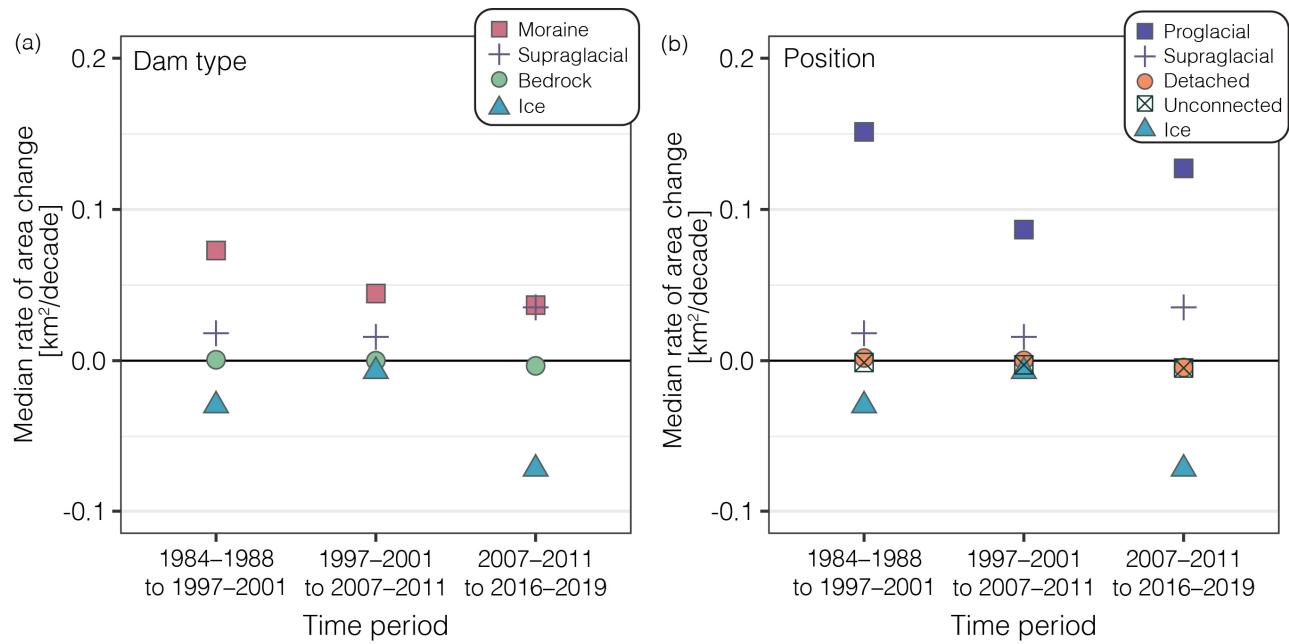
Figure 11. Median rate of area change between each time step, categorized by dam type (a) and topological position (b).

4.4 Comparison to other regions

Alaska's glaciers cover a large spatial extent, spanning different climatic, geologic, and glacial environments (Section 1). This makes the region particularly unique in relation to other glacierized regions, though the best analogue region depends on which Alaskan mountain range is considered. The heavily debris-covered areas (e.g., Alaska Ranges) have similar debris cover to the Himalaya, areas with clean-ice valley glaciers (e.g., N Coast Ranges) could behave similar to the Peruvian Andes, and the large and complex glaciers/icefields (e.g., St. Elias Mountains) have similar glacier and lake dynamics as the Patagonian Icefields. Dynamics within these Alaska subregions could shed light on ice-marginal lake behavior in comparable mountain ranges, and vice versa.

Many studies on ice-marginal lakes concentrate on High Mountain Asia (e.g., Nie et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2018; Veh et al., 2020; Wang et al., 2020; Chen et al., 2021), a region with abundant proglacial and supraglacial lakes, though HMA lakes tend to be smaller than Alaskan lakes (median lake area of 0.11 km^2 and 0.17 km^2, respectively; Shugar et al., 2020). Alaska and the Himalaya regions (RGI regions 14, 15) have a similar percent debris cover (~15%), though Alaska contains larger glacier and debris-covered areas (Herreid and Pellicciotti, 2020). Herreid and Pellicciotti (2020) calculated a debris stage for each RGI region from 0 to 1, where 1 indicates the ablation zone is entirely covered in debris. Debris stage is slightly higher in the Himalaya (~0.6–0.7) than Alaska (~0.5), though Alaska has a higher debris expansion potential (Herreid and Pellicciotti, 2020). This suggests that if debris cover expands in Alaska, these areas could become more similar to the heavily debris-covered areas in the Himalaya. Supraglacial lakes in the Himalaya vary considerably in location, shape and size, appearing, disappearing, and coalescing through time (Benn et al., 2001; Gardelle et al., 2011; Nie et al., 2017), behavior exhibited in

Alaska as well. These similarities indicate that supraglacial lakes within these two regions have similar characteristics, and that understanding one region could aid in understanding the other.

450   Glacierized mountain ranges around the world exhibit varying stages of glacial retreat. The Peruvian Andes are considered to be in a late stage of glacier retreat with little potential for further lake expansion, as ice generally remains in steep, high elevation parts of the study area (Emmer et al., 2020). In Peru, glaciers have retreated far off their LIA moraines, such that the majority of proglacial lakes shifted from moraine dammed in 1948 to bedrock dammed in 2017 as glaciers retreated and exposed bedrock overdeepenings (Colonia et al., 2017; Emmer et al., 2020). Though ice remains in many main valleys in the

455   N Coast Ranges, glaciers are smaller, steeper, cleaner, and less complex than other subregions in Alaska, apart from the Juneau Icefield. Though lakes in the N Coast Ranges are on average larger than those found in the low-latitude Andes (median lake area of 0.21 km^2 and 0.12 km^2, respectively; Shugar et al., 2020), the abundance of moraine dammed proglacial lakes and increasing proportion of bedrock dammed lakes (39% in 1984–1988 to 44% in 2016–2019) suggests the N Coast Ranges could follow a similar trajectory as the Cordillera Blanca, producing a shift in dominant dam type from moraine to bedrock in the

460   future.

Ice-marginal lake increases have been documented throughout the world, though characteristics such as dam type, lake location, and associated glacier behavior vary widely. Examining ice-marginal lake behavior at different stages in various mountain ranges can help predict how these lakes might evolve in the future, though such analysis is outside the scope of this study.

465   **4.5 Feedbacks on glacier mass balance**

Lake geometry likely dictates the impact a proglacial lake has on glacier mass balance. Large, deep lakes can impede a glacier from reaching equilibrium by holding the terminus at lake elevation until it has retreated out of the lake basin (Larsen et al., 2015). Ice-water contact can also enhance calving, resulting in mass loss and lake expansion through terminus retreat (Carrivick and Tweed, 2013). Larsen et al. (2015) found that lake-terminating glaciers in Alaska have a more negative median mass

470   balance in coastal regions where large, proglacial lakes have developed. Lake-terminating glaciers also experienced more rapid thinning near their terminus than land-terminating glaciers, and appear to be less directly coupled to climate variations (Larsen et al., 2015). In the Himalaya, lake-terminating glaciers have been linked with increased glacier mass loss through enhanced terminal retreat and surface lowering (King et al., 2019; Maurer et al., 2019), and center flow line velocities that are more than twice that of glaciers which terminate on land (Pronk et al., 2021). We therefore expect that as glaciers continue to retreat in

475   Alaska, proglacial lake presence, formation, or detachment will influence glacier mass balance, increasing thinning and glacier velocity where lakes are present, though variations in thinning have been observed (e.g., the Juneau and Stikine icefields; Melkonian et al., 2014, 2016).

Regional glacier thinning and mass loss rates appear to mimic lake area change in parts of Alaska. The N Coast Ranges and St. Elias Mountains are thinning (–1.27 ± 0.11 m yr^{-1} and –1.21 ± 0.12 m yr^{-1}, respectively) and losing mass (–1.08 ± 0.09 m

480 w.e. yr^{-1} and -1.03 ± 0.10 m w.e. yr^{-1}) at a greater rate than other subregions from 2011–2019 (Jakob et al., 2021). These regions also experienced the largest normalized lake area growth (see Sect. 4.2). The high thinning rate in the Aleutians (-0.75 ± 0.06 m yr^{-1}) does not appear to be reflected in the low normalized lake area growth documented in our survey. This is likely due to the fact that 60% of lakes in the Aleutians subregion are either detached or unconnected and therefore not directly influenced by glacier dynamics. The Alaska Ranges are thinning (-0.48 ± 0.06 m yr^{-1}) and losing mass (-0.41 ± 0.05 m w.e.

485 yr^{-1}) at the lowest average rates per region (Jakob et al., 2021) likely due to extensive debris cover, and is accompanied by the lowest normalized lake area change outside the Brooks Range.

4.6 Future change in ice-marginal lakes

As global temperatures continue to rise and glaciers thin and retreat (Zemp et al., 2019), Alaska's glaciated landscape will change, as will the nature of ice-marginal lakes. Alaskan glaciers have retreated off their LIA moraines, and therefore it is

490 unlikely that new moraine-dammed lakes will form without a sustained period of glacial advance or surge. However, proglacial lake expansion is expected to continue as glacier retreat accommodates lake growth, dependent on basin geometry. Using the Cordillera Blanca as an analogue for later stages of lake development (Emmer et al., 2020), we hypothesize a future shift in new proglacial lakes to mostly bedrock dammed lakes, as glaciers retreat into higher, steeper terrain (e.g., Linsbauer et al., 2016; Furian et al., 2021), though it is uncertain how long the present stage of moraine-dammed lake growth will persist before

495 glaciers leave their terminal overdeepenings. Alaska's glacier complexity and relative abundance of ice-dammed lakes poses an interesting question as to whether these lakes will continue to drain as they have since 1970 (Wolfe et al., 2014), or whether new ice-dammed lakes will form if tributary valley ice retreats faster than main branch ice, such as has occurred in Suicide Basin since 2011 (Kienholz et al., 2020). Modeling basin geometry and future ice extent would provide insight into where ice-marginal lakes in Alaska are likely to form in the future.

500 **4.7 Inventory challenges**

Two primary challenges were encountered while creating the inventory, which should be understood before using this dataset or applying its findings. Due to the use of spectrally-based supervised classification for lake identification, only lakes that have the spectral characteristics of water appear within our inventory. This limitation results in the exclusion of some ice-dammed lakes which are either iceberg filled, or lake basins which appear dry in the five-year mosaics due to a lake that is more often

505 drained than filled. Therefore, this inventory is a clear minimum of ice marginal lakes, with several known omitted lakes. Known lakes which were not identified in our inventory include Suicide Basin, Valdez Lake, Snow Lake, Lake Linda, and Summit Lake, all of which are ice-dammed. These lakes, which have experienced multiple drainage events (e.g., Jones and Wolken, 2019; Kienholz et al., 2020), are important for individual GLOF hazard assessments, though they have little impact (0.4% of total lake area) on our assessment of regional decadal scale lake area trends by dam type.

510   Dam type classification was performed using manual visual interpretation for all lakes, with the most likely dam type identified in cases that are uncertain due to poor image resolution and/or possible mixed dam types (i.e. bedrock with moraine material; Emmer et al., 2017). A shift in dam type (e.g., ice dammed to bedrock dammed) was also documented for a few lakes, particularly where a lake becomes bedrock dammed after the loss of an ice dam (e.g., Terentiev Lake which was formerly dammed by Columbia Glacier). These lakes were classified by their most recent dam type when performing analysis on change over time. The small number of cases of transitioning dam types suggests this process is not particularly important for understanding the regional scale behavior of Alaska ice-marginal lakes discussed here.

5 Conclusions

As the second largest glacierized region outside the ice sheets, characterizing Alaska's ice-marginal lakes and their evolution has important implications for glacier mass balance, ecosystem dynamics, and GLOF hazards. Varying topographic settings (valleys, cirques, debris, icefields) and a wide range of glacier complexities allow for an abundance of ice-marginal lakes of varying dam type and position. Overall, ice-marginal lakes in Alaska have grown in both number (+183 lakes, 38% increase) and area (+483 km^2, 59% increase) between 1984–1988 and 2016–2019, though 56% of inventoried lakes did not experience detectable change. We demonstrate that lakes with different dam types and positions relative to their source glacier behave differently. Moraine-dammed, proglacial lakes experienced the largest growth likely due to clean-ice glacier retreat, while ice-dammed lakes experienced an overall loss in both number and area, likely due to thinning or disappearance of ice dams. Our study highlights the value of parsing ice marginal lakes by dam type and location in comprehensive ice-marginal lake studies to clarify important lake dynamics that are obscured by coarser regional averages. A clear understanding of which lakes are growing, and which are shrinking, as quantified here in a classified multitemporal ice-marginal lake inventory, is a crucial first step to understanding the drivers of historic change, predicting future lake evolution, and assessing GLOF hazard potential in icy mountainous regions.

530   *Data Availability.* The lake inventory is available for download at arcticdata.io/catalog/view/doi:10.18739/A2MK6591G. Additional code and data available on request.

Author Contributions. DM and BR designed the study. BR performed the inventory, analyzed the data, and prepared the manuscript. DM, WA, and SM contributed to data interpretation and provided manuscript comments and revisions.

535   *Competing Interests.* The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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