



Ross Green to Iceberg Lake



Crossing the Tana Glacier

Access: Fly-in to rustic strip along Granite Creek below Ross Green Lake. Fly out from strip at Iceberg Lake

Distance/Time: Approximately 18 miles/4-6 days

Maps: USGS Maps 1:63,360 Bering Glacier D-4,D-5, D-6, C-4,C-5, C-6.

Difficulty: Strenuous. Requires route finding, glacial travel, negotiating steep slopes and brush.

Highlights: Solitude, incredible scenery, glacial travel, adventure

Note: Proper food storage is required. Bear Resistant Food Containers are available from park visitor centers. 10 miles of glacial travel. Glacial experience is required. This trip could be completed from either direction. It could also be included in a longer hike from Iceberg Lake to the Bremner Mine area.



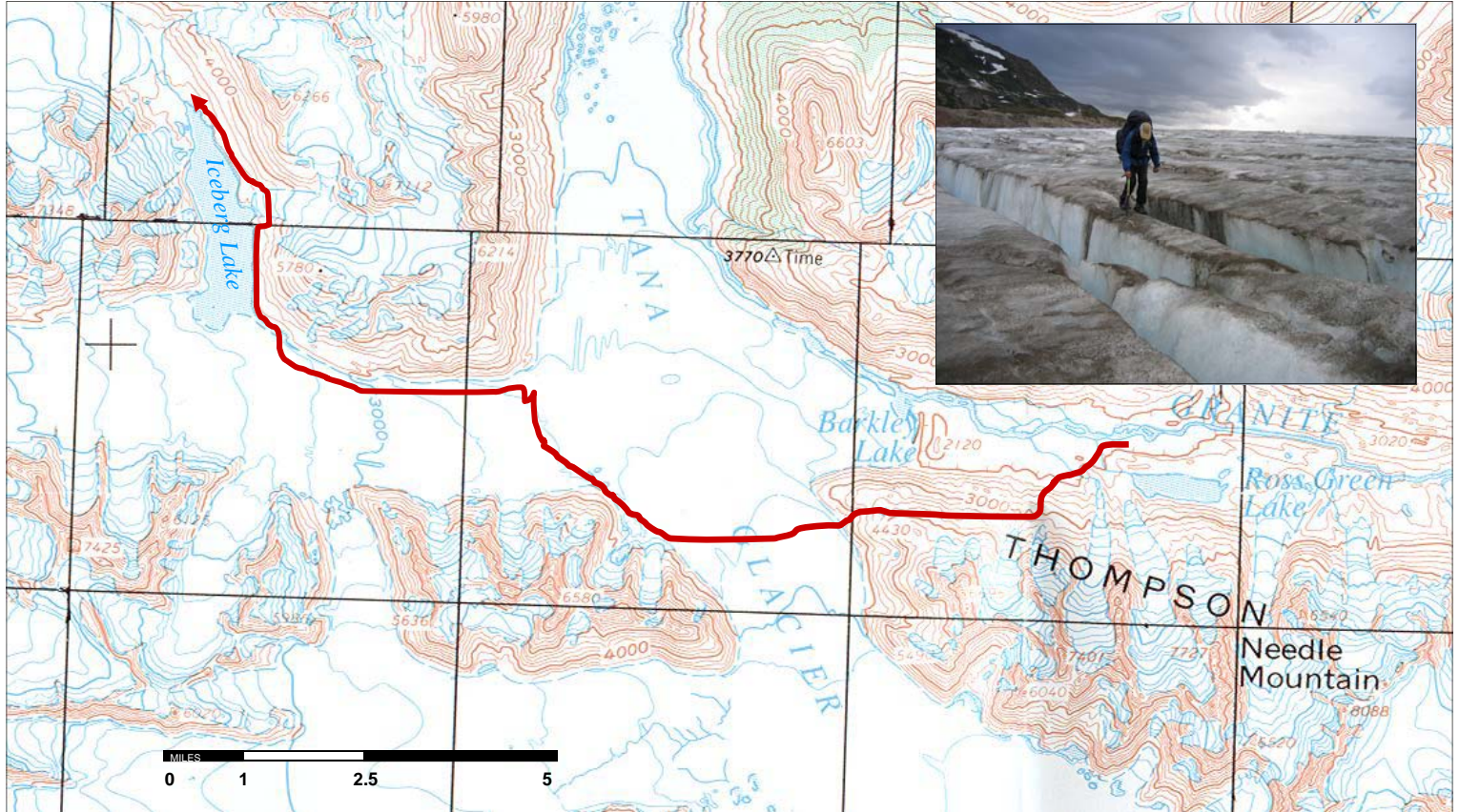
Route:

From the sandy airstrip below Ross Green Lake, walk west crossing about 4 streams, then climb east flank of stream draining Mt. Thompson, through brush and steep side hill to cross stream just above waterfall at 2,800', then climb 500' more on crest of moraine, leaving moraine to contour up to 3,550' heather bench. Contour at 3,550' to 3,800' along a series of benches and talus slopes towards the small pond shown on topo quad (see page 4). This entire area provides fantastic campsites and superlative views in all directions.

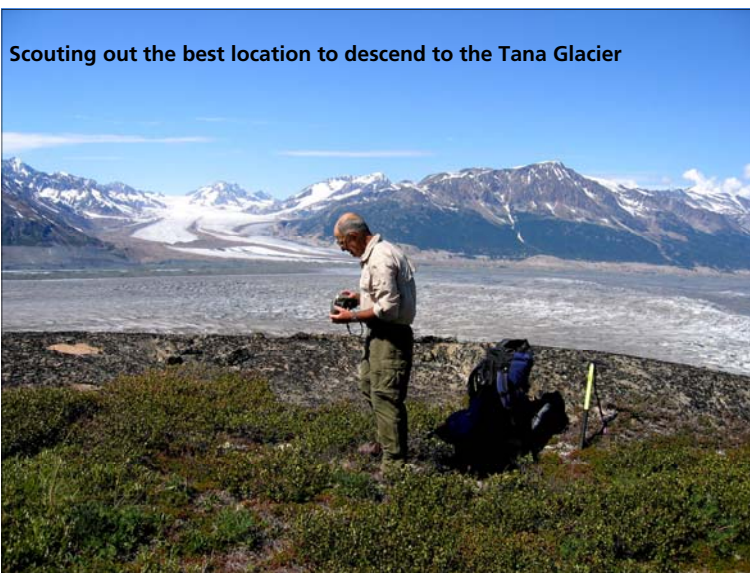
Looking back towards Ross Green Lake below



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Continue west towards the Tana Glacier. Carefully scout out the best location to reach the glacier. The moraine here is steep and hazardous. It is best to walk along the east side to a gap in moraine, pass through gap, and finally descend to the glacier.



Scouting out the best location to descend to the Tana Glacier

A stream flows along the edge of the glacier. You may find an ice bridge to cross. The edge of the glacier is steep and you may need to front-point with crampons to get up the edge to the flat glacier surface. Be aware that glacier conditions are constantly changing yearly and throughout the summer and you should never completely rely on any written description. Always rig for the worst and carry an ice axe and full crampons at a minimum. Use caution after first donning crampons to not trip or cut your pants or other objects you step over. Once on the ice, head southwest across the glacier to miss a series of large crevasses, then curve back west toward the point of land across glacier on south side of West Tana Lobe where a pond is shown on the top map. You must cross multiple lateral and medial moraines, all of

which have ice under the dirt and rocks. Some of these rocky moraines are huge. It may be difficult to find a good comfortable campsite in moraines.



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Negotiating rocky moraines on the Tana Glacier

Head north/northwest negotiating the numerous rocky moraines. Try to intersect them where they are lowest and concurrently avoid the worst crevasses while generally heading for the north side of West Lobe Tana Glacier. Upon reaching about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from this cliff wall, follow the West Tana Lobe towards Iceberg Lake on a gentle ascent. Be careful here and watch for any snow on the glacier hiding crevasse features. Don't get too close to the north wall of canyon, where ice often forms a vertical/overhanging cliff from Iceberg Lake outflows. To get off of the Tana Glacier, look for a moraine/ice bridge glacier before you reach the main outlet of Iceberg Lake. If an ice bridge is not present, you will need to stay on the glacier until just past Iceberg Lake where you can cross to solid ground. Make your way around Iceberg Lake and enjoy the icy wildness. The air-strip for pickup is located just northwest of the lake.



Shores of Iceberg Lake



Ross Green to Iceberg Lake

