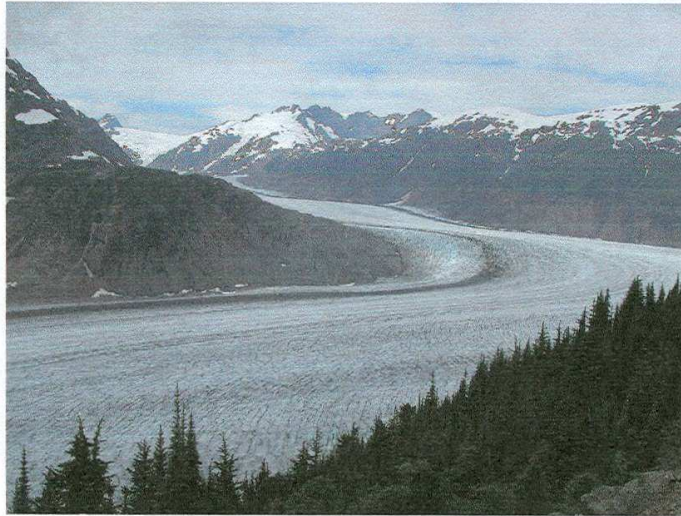


THE DREADED CASSIAR

This is a shot of the top end of the Salmon glacier. It takes a turn and heads down the valley for 5 miles. It is the 5th largest glacier in British Columbia. It is surprising the number of vehicles that take that punishing drive to the top.



As I stated before, we decided to take that gut-pounding highway called the worst road in Canada. The folks we talked to said it was a very good highway. Yeah right!

Six years ago, the last 100 miles of this road was dirt and washboard, with potholes. To our surprise, that section was paved! Any dirt sections were only 50-100 yards long and were smooth. We only had about twenty-seven miles of dirt road and it was smoother than Interstate 10 at

home. The few sections that had seal coat on it were smoother than the paved portion!

We spent the night about half way up, at Deese Lake, BC, and it rained some all night.

We realized that, as well as the better road surface, the fact that it was clearer skies let us observe the countryside and the beautiful mountains. Before, it was raining and we could only see the trees along the road.

Watson Lake was our first stop on the Alaska Highway. Here they have the signpost forest with all the names of visitors nailed to posts.

So far, the Alcan is like a super highway compared to the narrow roads down south. I think that we will encounter a lot of bad roads under construction, up ahead.

Today we passed a rest stop where a 30 ft. motor home was burnt to the ground. There was not one thing that was not ashes. The stark skeleton and frame and wheels was a scary testimony as to what can happen and how fast it goes!

We arrived in Whitehorse, Yukon and will stay here a couple of days.

Dave & Bonnie
8/23/02