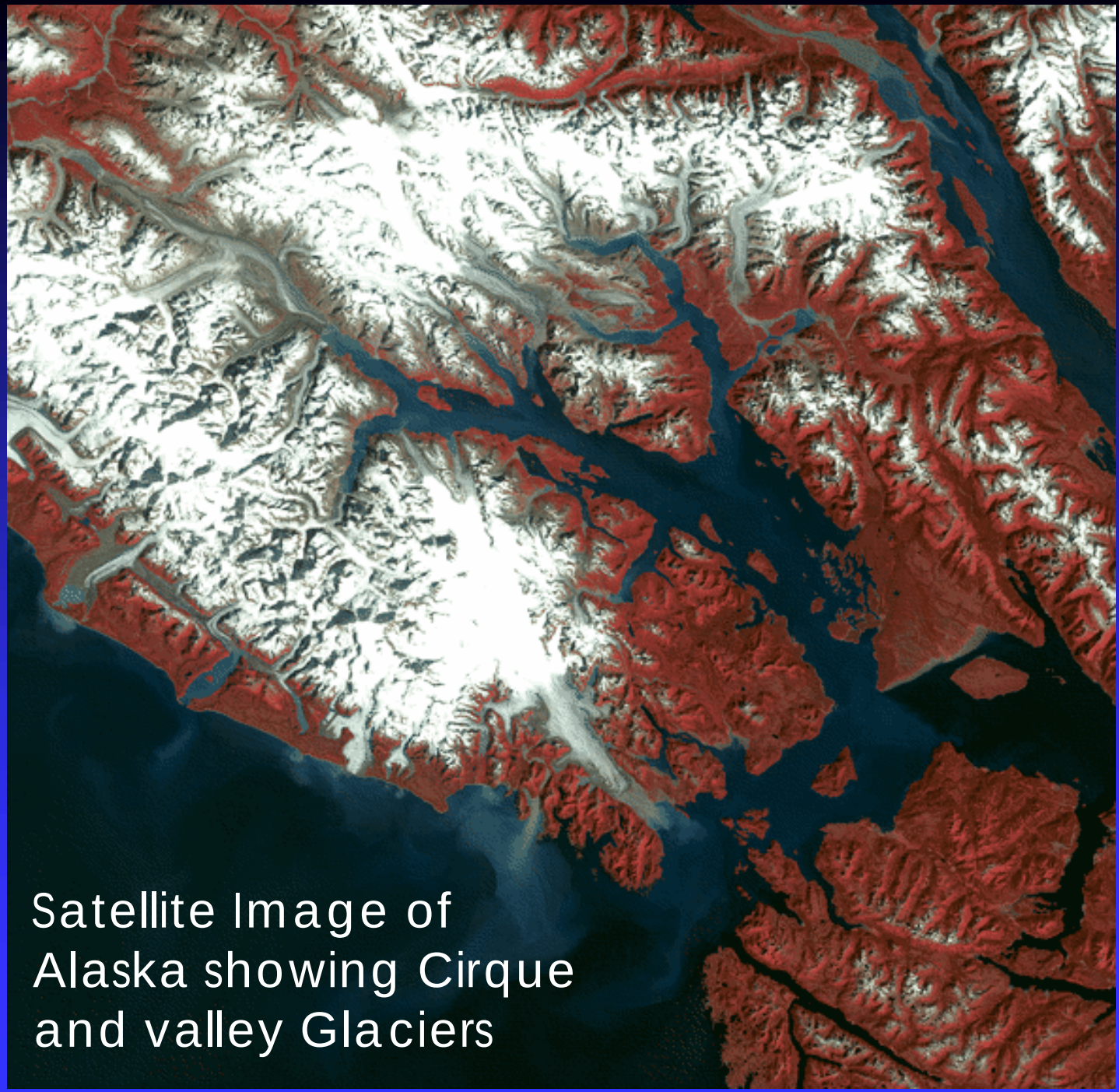
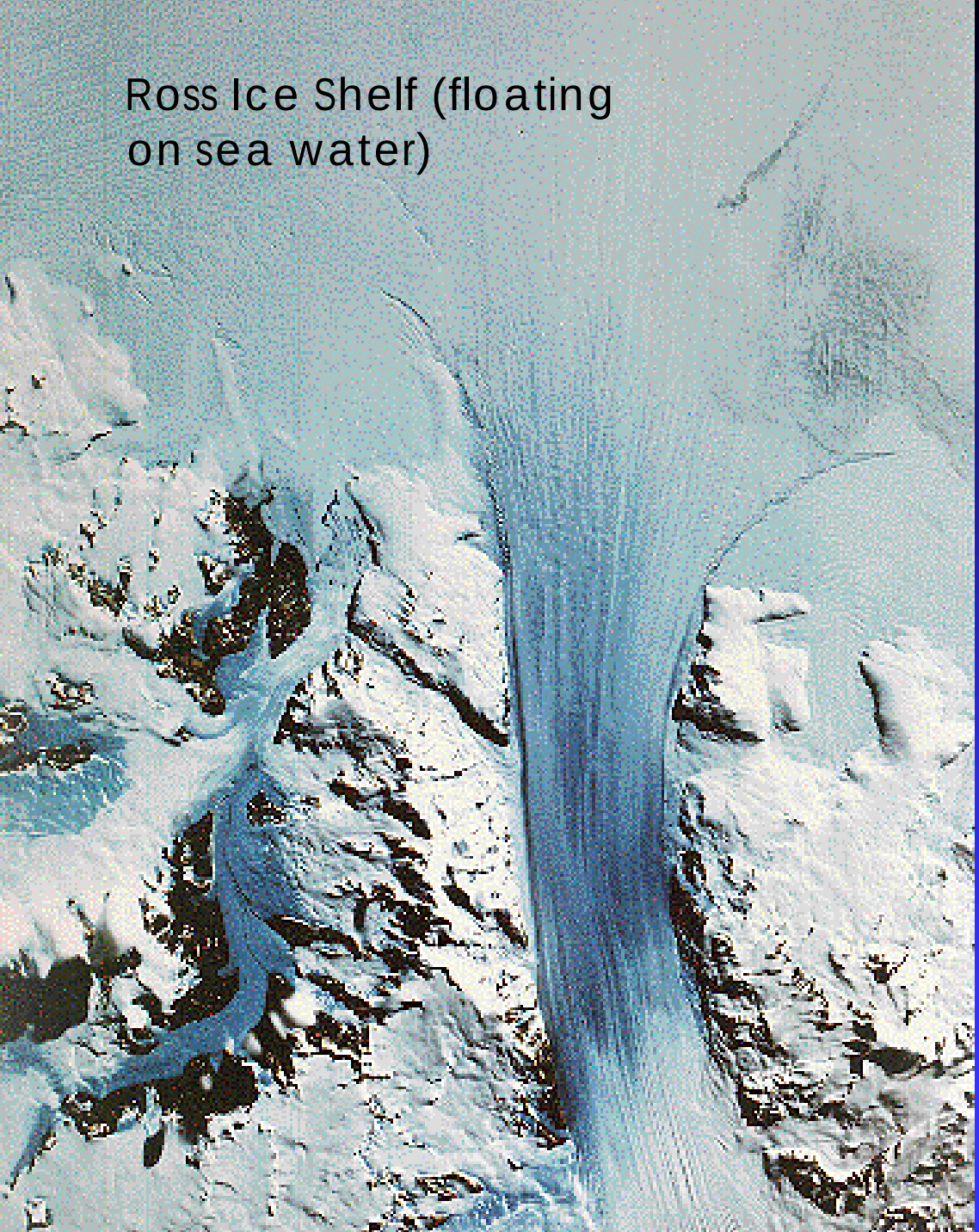
Glacial Systems and Landscapes


Corrie Glaciers in a mountain environment above the Argentiere Glacier in the French Alps

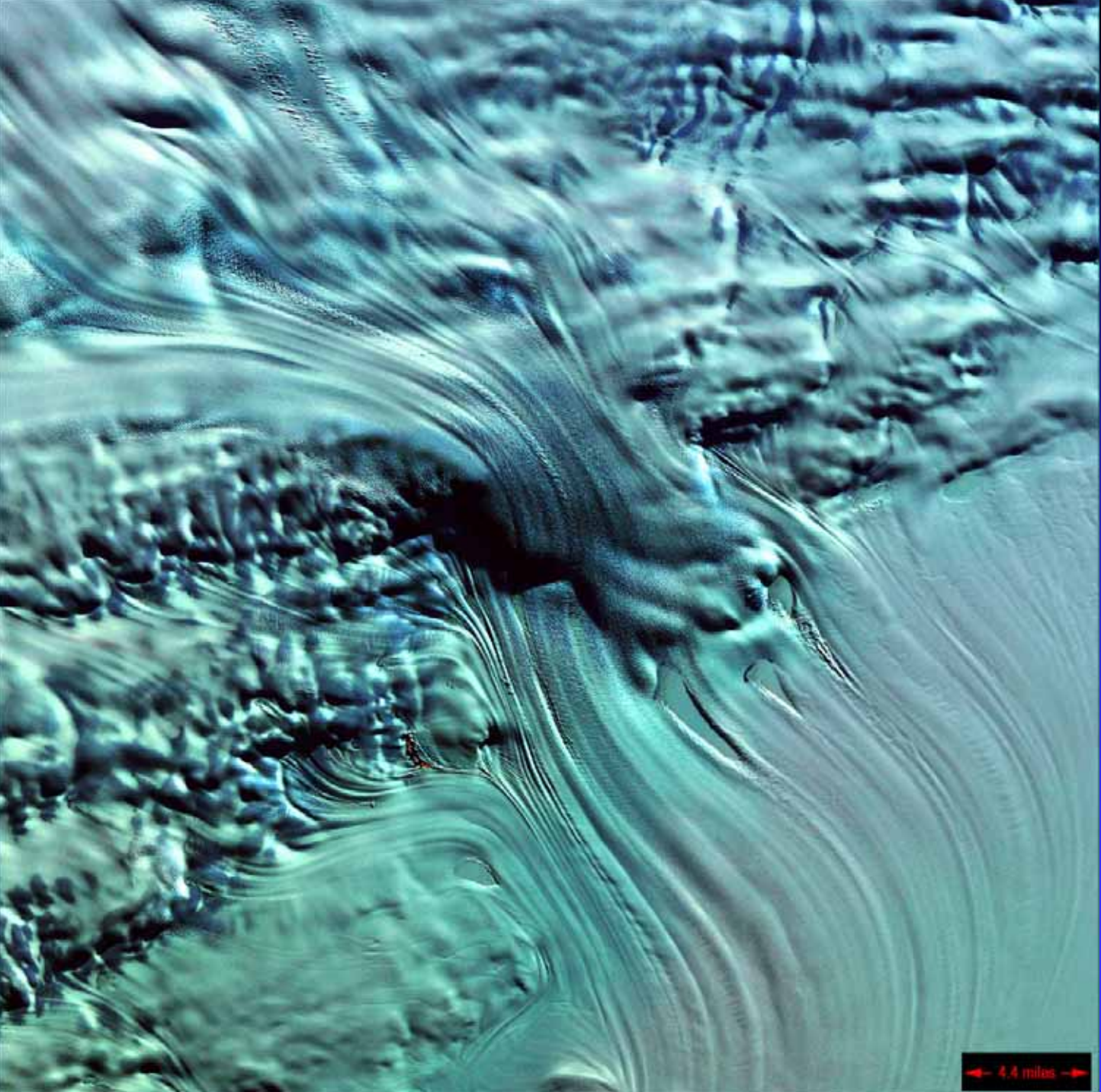


Satellite Image of
Alaska showing Cirque
and valley Glaciers

Kalstenius Ice Field, located on Ellesmere Island, Canada, shows vast stretches of ice. The ice field produces multiple glaciers that flow into a larger valley glacier. The glacier in this photograph is three miles wide.

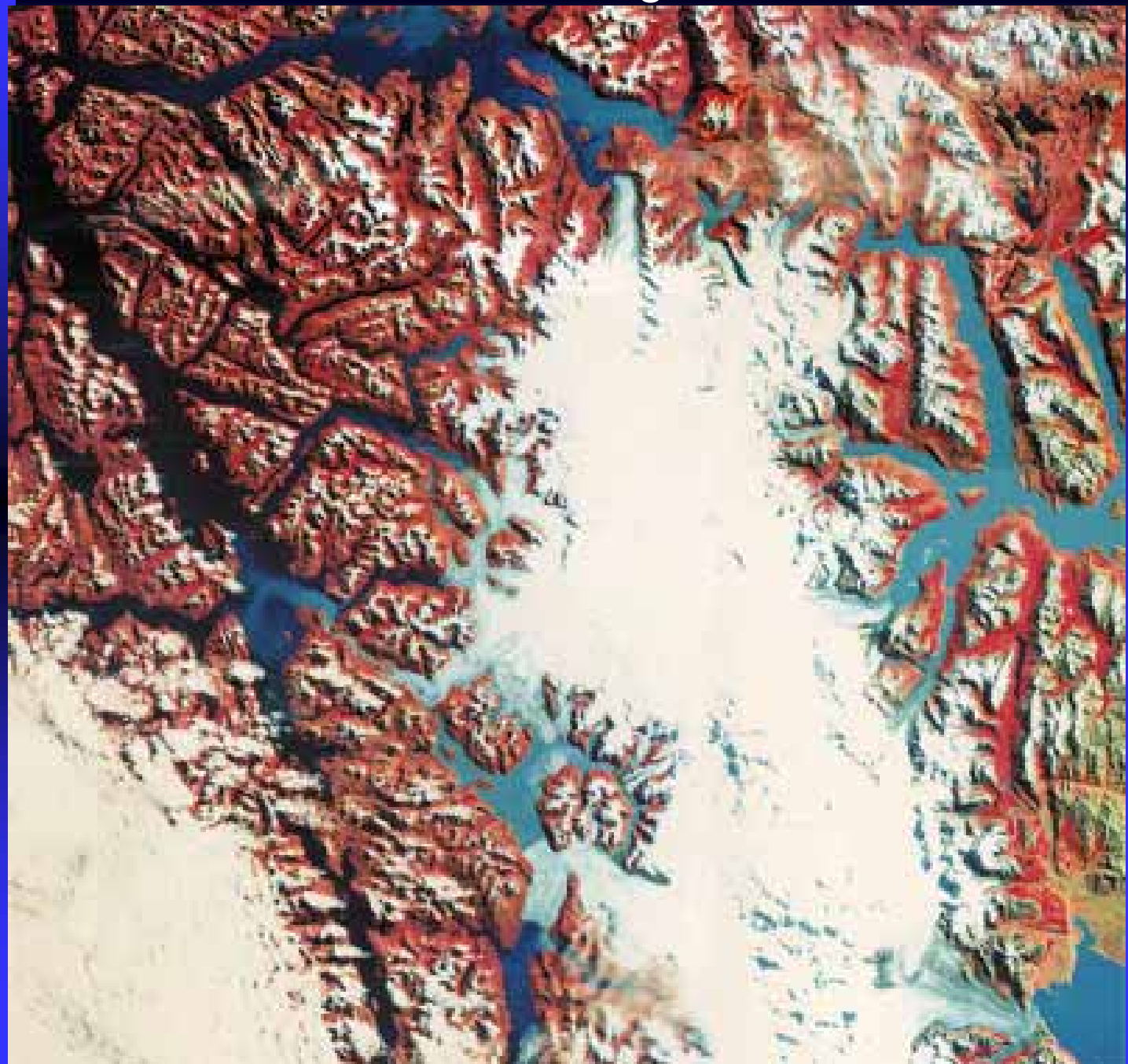


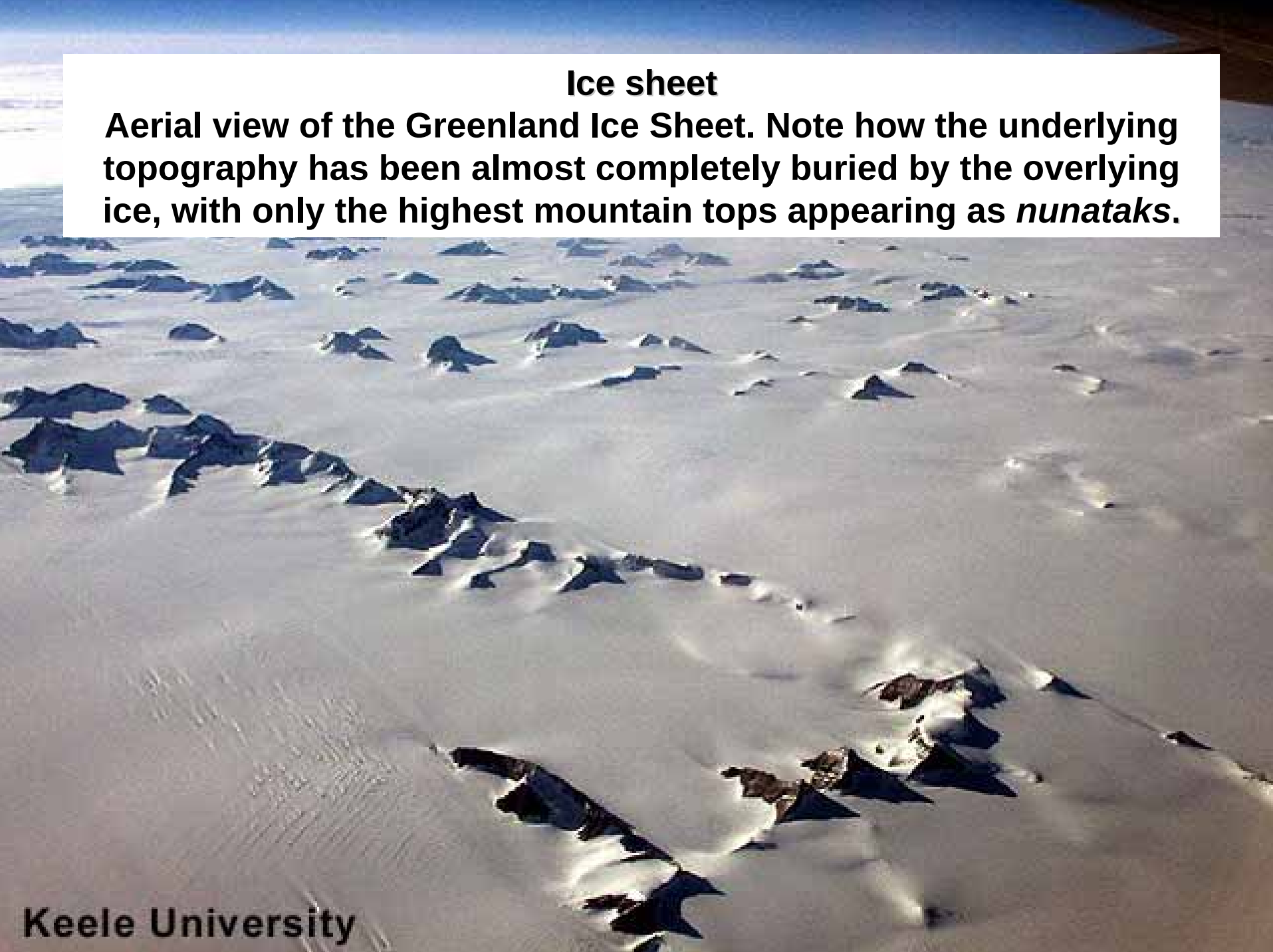
A digitally enhanced image of the Byrd Glacier (outlet glacier) where it joins the Ross Ice Shelf off Antarctica



The Lambert Glacier in Antarctica, is the world's largest glacier. The focal point of this image is an icefall that feeds into the Lambert glacier from the vast ice sheet covering the polar plateau. Ice flows like water, albeit much more slowly. Cracks can be seen in this icefall as it bends and twists on its slow-motion descend 400m to the glacier below.

Ice-sheets and outlet glaciers in Alaska





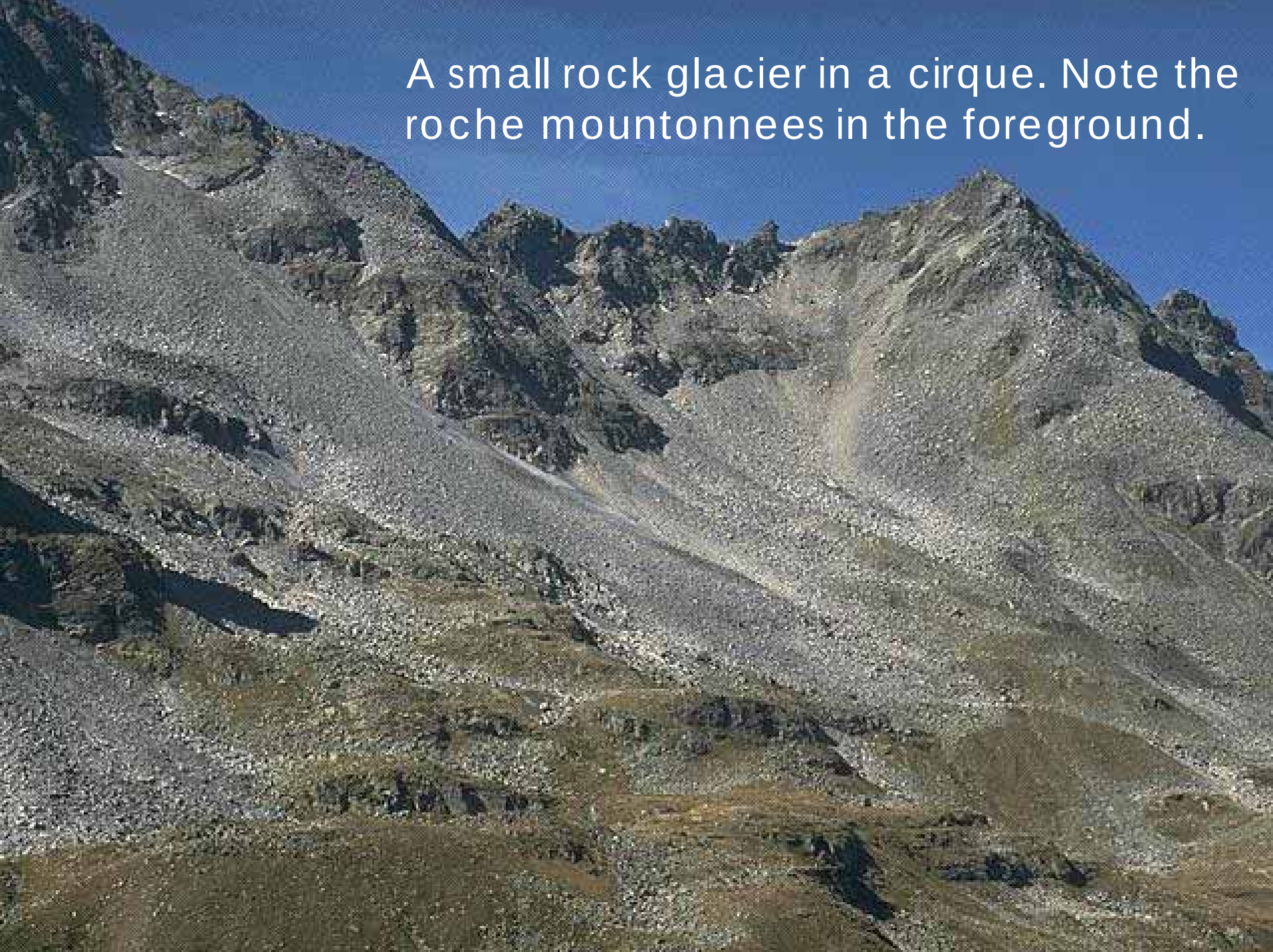
Ice sheet

Aerial view of the Greenland Ice Sheet. Note how the underlying topography has been almost completely buried by the overlying ice, with only the highest mountain tops appearing as *nunataks*.

A typical continental glacier. Note the dome-like profile and the half-hidden cirque in the right distance. Mountain glaciers commonly merge into and are submerged by continental glaciers.

A rock glacier in Fryingpan Basin, Colorado. Typical of rock glaciers, the flowing motion of the ice underneath is evident on the rock covered surface.

A rock glacier is a tongue of angular talus with no ice visible on the surface. Boreholes have proved that the gaps between the rubble are filled with ice which may aid the flow of the glacial ice. Movement is extremely slow and many rock glaciers appear to be stagnant.


A small rock glacier in a cirque. Note the roche mountonnees in the foreground.