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Mount Garibaldi: A Long-Dormant Volcano in the Pacific Northwest

Mount Garibaldi is the southernmost of the Canadian volcanoes comprising the Cascades Volcanic Arc. During the 11,000 years since the volcano is thought to have last erupted, the physical characteristics of its surroundings have changed following widespread deglaciation of the overlying ice sheet. Over the last 60 years, the relative threat posed by the volcano has risen due to the growing human population and higher density of built infrastructure between Vancouver and the resort municipality of Whistler. Our current understanding of Mount Garibaldi provides few constraints on how the timings and characteristics of the most recent eruptions may be interpreted. Future eruption scenarios remain uncertain, though it is generally accepted in the Canadian volcanological community that the volcano's overall threat score would increase if a better understanding of its eruptive history and associated hazards is obtained.