Hydrological dynamics and fire history of the last 1300 years in western Siberia reconstructed from a high-resolution, ombrotrophic peat archive

Mariusz Lamentowicz^{a, b}, Michał Słowiński^{c, d}, Katarzyna Marcisz^{a, b}, Małgorzata Zielińska^{a, b}, Karolina Kaliszan^a, Elena Lapshina^e, Daniel Gilbert^f, Alexandre Buttler^{f, g, h}, Barbara Fiałkiewicz-Kozieł^b, Vincent E.J. Jassey^{g, h}, Fatima Laggoun-Defargeⁱ, Piotr Kołaczek^b

- ^a Laboratory of Wetland Ecology and Monitoring, Faculty of Geographical and Geological Sciences, Adam Mickiewicz University, Dziegielowa 27, PL–61 680 Poznań, Poland
- ^b Department of Biogeography and Paleoecology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Dziegielowa 27, 61-680 Poznań, Poland
- ^c Department of Environmental Resources and Geohazards, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences, Kopernika 19, 87-100 Toruń, Poland
- ^d GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Section 5.2–Climate Dynamics and Landscape Evolution, Telegrafenberg, D-14473 Potsdam, Germany
- ^e Yugra State University, Chekhova 16, 628012 Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia
- ^f Laboratoire de Chrono-environnement, UMR 6249 CNRS, Université de Franche-Comté, 16 Route de Gray, 25030 Besançon Cedex, France
- ^g Swiss Federal Research Institute-WSL, Community Ecology Research Unit, Station 2, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland
- ^h École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), School of Architecture, Civil and Environmental, Engineering (ENAC), Laboratory of Ecological Systems (ECOS), Station 2, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland
- ⁱ Université d'Orléans, CNRS/INSU, BRGM, ISTO, UMR, 45071 Orléans, France

Abstract

Siberian peatlands provide records of past changes in the continental climate of Eurasia. We analyzed a core from Mukhrino mire in western Siberia to reconstruct environmental change in this region over the last 1300 years. The pollen analysis revealed little variation of local pine-birch forests. A testate amoebae transfer function was used to generate a quantitative water-table reconstruction; pollen, plant macrofossils, and charcoal were analyzed to reconstruct changes in vegetation and fire activity. The study revealed that Mukhrino mire was wet until the Little Ice Age (LIA), when drought was recorded. Dry conditions during the LIA are consistent with other studies from central and eastern Europe, and with the pattern of carbon accumulation across the Northern Hemisphere. A significant increase in fire activity between ca. AD 1975 and 1990 may be associated with the development of the nearby city of Khanty-Mansiysk, as well as with the prevailing positive Arctic Oscillation.

Keywords

- Testate amoebae; Pollen; Macrofossils; Transfer function; Peat; Siberia; Charcoal

43 **Introduction**

44 Northern hemisphere peatlands are important archives of past environmental
45 change and sinks of carbon (Charman, 2002; Loisel et al., 2014). However, climate
46 change and human impacts (e.g. wetland drainage and nutrient deposition) trigger
47 increased emission of this stored carbon into the atmosphere (Payne et al., 2013; Ward
48 et al., 2013). Given these ongoing stressors, there is an urgent need to better understand
49 the various processes involved in peatland dynamics (Dise, 2010; Loisel and Yu, 2013).
50 Paleoenvironmental approaches provide a useful perspective on the present state and
51 long-term history of peatlands (Seddon et al., 2014), and the application of coupled
52 biotic and abiotic proxies enables a detailed reconstruction of climate change, peatland
53 ecosystem development, and changes in the surrounding landscape (Gałka et al., 2013).

54 The last millennium is a critical period for paleoenvironmental study, as it
55 features both climatic variability, such as the Medieval Warm Period (MWP) and the
56 Little Ice Age (LIA), and increasing anthropogenic impacts, leading up to the dramatic
57 increases in pollution and global temperatures observed over the last 200 years (Jones
58 and Mann, 2004). Peatland ecosystems experience various types of anthropogenic and
59 natural disturbances, including wetland drainage, forest management, and fire (Dise,
60 2010). The response of peatlands to disturbance and climate change has been well
61 studied in Europe (Lamentowicz et al., 2008; Lamentowicz et al., 2011; van der Knaap et
62 al., 2011), but the paleoecology of Siberian bogs remains largely unexplored.

63 The hydrological dynamics of Siberian peatlands over the last millennium are of
64 particular interest, and testate amoebae, protists that are abundant in peatlands and
65 sensitive to hydrological conditions, can be used as a reliable proxy for the quantitative
66 reconstruction of past variability in water tables (Blundell et al., 2008; Booth et al.,
67 2008; Hendon and Charman, 2004; Turner et al., 2014). However, while some research
68 has explored the ecology and taxonomy of testate amoebae in Siberian bogs (Bobrov et
69 al., 2013; Kurina et al., 2010; Muller et al., 2009), modern calibration studies have not
70 been carried out in this region. Such calibration data sets for testate amoebae are
71 urgently needed so that this proxy can be utilized for the reconstruction of past
72 hydrological variations in western Siberia.

Several analyses of Siberian peatlands have focused on carbon accumulation (Beilman et al., 2009; Borren et al., 2004; Lapshina and Plogova, 2011; Lapshina et al., 2001; Turunen et al., 2001), but few peatland studies in this region have generated paleoecological inferences (Bobrov et al., 2013; Kremenetski et al., 2003; Liss et al., 2001; Peregon et al., 2007a; Peregon et al., 2007b; Pitkänen et al., 2002). This is in contrast to work in Northwest Europe and North America, where a large number of high-resolution, multi-proxy studies have been performed in peatlands (Blundell and Barber, 2005; Booth et al., 2006; Kaislahti Tillman et al., 2010; Swindles et al., 2007; Turner et al., 2014). The lack of such studies in Siberia is unfortunate, as Siberian peatlands cover much larger areas than in other parts of Eurasia. Moreover, paleoenvironmental records from Siberian peatlands have the potential to improve our understanding of past changes in both the continental climate of Eurasia and pristine vegetation that no longer exists in Europe (Solomeshch, 2005).

Charcoal records from peatlands have been used to reconstruct past fire activity in Europe (Gałka et al., 2013; Sillasoo et al., 2011) and North America (Lavoie and Pellerin, 2007), but only limited research of this type has been carried out in Siberia (Turunen et al., 2001), despite the global importance of peatland fires (Turetsky et al., 2015). It is believed that during the last decade burning has increased in Siberia due to the prevailing positive Arctic Oscillation (Balzter et al., 2005). This relationship can only be verified with a paleoecological approach, since mapped fire data and instrumental weather data cover only short time scales. Over longer intervals, increased fire activity may be related to the prolonged drought events that are recorded by hydrological changes in peatlands. Charcoal data have not been regularly compared to quantitative paleohydrological reconstructions (Tweiten et al., 2009). Nevertheless, the study by Marcisz et al. (2015) showed that a coupled analysis of charcoal and testate amoebae could improve our understanding of past droughts and heat waves over long temporal scales.

In this study we apply three methodological approaches that previously have not been used together in Siberia: (i) a testate amoebae transfer function was used for a quantitative water table reconstruction; (ii) pollen and plant macrofossils were used to reconstruct vegetation history; and (iii) a charcoal record was used to infer past fire

activity. The integration of these proxies allows us to explore the response of boreal peatlands, forest communities, and fire regimes to climate change. This research focus aligns well with the PAGES—Asia2k research program (Ahmed et al., 2013). A modern calibration study also improves our understanding of testate amoebae ecology in the boreal region of Siberia.

Study site

The Mukhrino mire is located on the eastern bank of the Irtysh River, near the confluence with the Ob River in the middle taiga area of western Siberia, about 20 km from Khanty-Mansiysk (60°54' N, 68°42' E). This region is located in the Boreal climate zone, which corresponds to the Sub-Arctic climate zone of western Europe (Fig. 1). The mean annual temperature is -1.3°C, the coldest month being January, with a mean temperature of -18.9°C; the warmest month is July, with a mean temperature of 17.1°C. The mean annual precipitation is 553 mm (Kremenetski et al., 2003). In 2009, the Mukhrino Field Station was built at the margin of a giant mire complex. It is managed by the UNESCO Chair of Environmental Dynamics and Climate Change at Yugra State University, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia (Elger et al., 2012). The Mukhrino mire complex is typical for the West Siberian middle taiga. It is a complex of oligotrophic-raised bogs (*Pinus sylvestris* and *P. sibirica*, *Eriophorum vaginatum*, *Ledum palustre*, *Chamaedaphne calyculata*, *Betula nana*, and *Sphagnum fuscum*) patterned with ridge-hollows (*Carex limosa*, *Scheuchzeria palustris*, *Sphagnum balticum*, *S. jensenii*, and *S. papillosum*) and oligo-mesotrophic fens (*Carex rostrata*, *Menyanthes trifoliata*, *E. russeolum*, *S. fallax*, *S. jensenii*, and *S. majus*) (Filippov and Lapshina, 2008). This area is characterized by the absence of permafrost (Bleuten and Filippov, 2008). The Mukhrino peatland has a peat thickness between 3 m and 4.5 m. Its hydrology is dependent on micro-topography and changes seasonally. During the summer, groundwater in poor fens and hollows is between 5 cm and 20 cm below the moss surface, while in raised bog areas with *Sphagnum* hummocks the water table is 40 cm to 80 cm below the surface (Bleuten and Filippov, 2008).

136

137 **Materials and methods**

138 ***Field sampling***

139 In summer 2012, a 1m peat core was sampled with a long serrated knife and
140 sliced in the field into 1cm samples. Each slice was divided into four subsamples to be
141 used in the four analyses. These peat samples were then packed into plastic bags and
142 transported to the laboratory. They were kept refrigerated until processing.

143 In addition, 65 moss samples and 5 liverworts were collected in the summers of
144 2012 and 2013 in the mire around Mukhrino station for the construction of a calibration
145 data set to be used in the testate amoebae transfer function. Surface samples were taken
146 along a wet-dry gradient from pools to the tops of hummocks. Water table depth was
147 measured once during the sampling campaign, together with pH and conductivity.

148

149 ***Chronology and peat accumulation rate***

150 Eleven AMS (Accelerator Mass Spectroscopy) ^{14}C dates were obtained in the
151 Poznań Radiocarbon Laboratory (Poland) in 2013. The samples subjected to dating
152 contained *Sphagnum* stems and leaves and these were carefully cleaned from rootlets to
153 avoid contamination by younger carbon (Table 1). The basis for the chronology of the
154 Mukhrino peat profile is a Bayesian age-depth model constructed using the OxCal v. 4.2
155 program (Bronk Ramsey, 2008), with the application of the IntCal13 (Reimer et al.,
156 2013) and NH1 post-bomb (Hua et al., 2013) atmospheric curves. For the calculation of
157 the model with a 0.5cm resolution, the *P_Sequence* function with parameters $k_0=1$ and
158 $\log_{10}(k/k_0)=0.3$ was applied. The most distinct changes in the peat structural
159 composition and pollen concentration of the profile were introduced using the *Boundary*
160 command. The first boundaries were established at depths of 100 cm and 0 cm (the
161 bottom and top of the model, respectively), followed by 86.5 cm and 50.5 cm (both
162 reflecting rapid changes in pollen concentration and bulk density (cf. Fiałkiewicz-Kozieł
163 et al., 2015)). The age of the top of profile (0 cm) was set as AD 2012.7 (the August
164 2012—the date of the core retrieval). Hereafter, ages are presented as median (μ) values
165 of the modeled ages, and expressed as AD years. The peat accumulation rate (P),

expressed as cm/yr, was calculated according to the formula: $P_{\text{depth}} = 1\text{cm} / (\mu_{\text{depth}-0.5\text{cm}} - \mu_{\text{depth}+0.5\text{cm}})$.

Pollen and charcoal

Twenty-four samples (1 cm thick, each 2 cm³ in volume) were prepared with a standard preparation procedure with the application of hydrofluoric acid to remove silica, followed by acetolysis (Berglund and Ralska-Jasiewiczowa, 1986). A *Lycopodium* tablet (20,848 spores, produced by the University of Lund) was added to each sample to enable the calculation of pollen concentrations (Stockmarr, 1971). Pollen slides mounted with glycerin were analyzed using a light microscope at 400× and 1000× magnification and counted to a sum of arboreal pollen (AP) >500 grains. Two samples with pollen concentrations <10,000 grains/cm³ were counted to <500 AP grains. Then, on the same slides, microscopic charcoal particles (10-100 µm in length) were counted at 200× magnification, alongwith *Lycopodium* spores, until a sum of 200 was reached (Finsinger and Tinner, 2005; Tinner and Hu, 2003). Pollen grains were identified with the assistance of the modern pollen slide collection of the Institute of Geoecology and Geoinformation of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (Poland), as well as available keys and atlases (e.g. Beug, 2004; Moore et al., 1991). Percentages of pollen and spores were calculated relative to the sum of trees, shrubs, and herbs, excluding the pollen of wetland plants and dwarf shrubs. Charcoal accumulation rates (CHAR), expressed as charcoal pieces/cm²/yr, were calculated by multiplying charcoal concentrations (CHAC, pieces/cm³) by the sediment accumulation rate for each analyzed level (Davis and Deevey, 1964).

Testate amoebae

Fossil testate amoebae were analyzed in subsamples taken at 1cm intervals, whereas modern testate amoebae assemblages used to create the new transfer function were examined from surface moss samples. All of these samples were prepared by sieving and back-sieving (Booth et al., 2010). The testate amoebae were analyzed at 200–400× magnification, and a minimum of 150 tests per sample were performed whenever possible (Payne and Mitchell, 2008). The identification was performed at the

highest possible taxonomical resolution based on the available literature (e.g. Grospietsch, 1958; Mazei and Tsyganov, 2006; Ogden and Hedley, 1980).

Macrofossils

For the analyses of plant macrofossils, contiguous samples of 3 cm³ (96 core samples) were analyzed at varying resolutions (2-cm resolution between 0 cm and 10 cm depth; 1-cm resolution below 10 cm depth). Each sample was wet sieved through a 0.2 mm mesh and macrofossils were identified under a binocular microscope using several keys (Birks, 2007; Grosse-Brauckmann, 1974, 1992; Laine et al., 2011; Tobolski, 2000) and reference specimens collected in Siberia. Additionally, macroscopic charcoal particles were counted wherever present.

Bulk density and ash content

Bulk density (BD; g cm⁻³) and ash content (AC; %) were measured to characterize the physical properties of the peat. BD was determined on the basis of 5-cm³ subsamples, which were dried at 105°C for 24 h and then weighed. The dry weight (g) was divided by the fresh sample volume (cm³) (Chambers et al., 2011). AC for 94 duplicates was obtained by measuring the LOI₅₅₀, where LOI₅₅₀ is the loss on ignition at 550°C as defined by Heiri et al. (2001), and calculating using the equation $AC = 100\% - LOI_{550}$.

Numerical analyses

A Hellinger-transformed testate amoebae community matrix was used as a response matrix (Legendre and Gallagher, 2001). Redundancy analyses (RDA) were employed to relate abiotic variables (water table, pH and conductivity) to biotic communities. The significance of the model, axes, and variables was tested using a Monte Carlo test with 999 permutations. Computations were performed in R 3.0.1 (Team, 2013), using the *vegan* package (Oksanen et al., 2011).

A quantitative water table reconstruction was developed using the local testate amoebae calibration data set from 68 moss samples collected in the Mukhrino peatland

in 2012 and 2013. The training set was based on the relative abundance (percentage of entire community in a sample) and tested using common models in paleoecology, such as partial least squares (PLS), weighted averaging (WA), and weighted averaging partial least squares (WA-PLS) (Juggins and Birks, 2012). Prior to analysis, species present in less than three samples were removed. The best performing model was assessed using RMSEP, R^2 , and maximum bias criteria. Then, the model was used for the quantitative inference of the water table. Sample specific errors of the reconstruction were calculated using bootstrapping (Birks, 1995). Calculations were performed using C2 software (Juggins, 2003).

Results and Interpretation

Ecology of testate amoebae

A total of 64 testate amoebae taxa species and subspecies from 23 genera were identified at the Mukhrino mire. The most abundant taxa were *Archerella flavum* (20%), *Hyalosphenia papilio* (15%), *Assulina muscorum* (8%), and *Phryganella acropodia* (7%). The Shannon-Weiner diversity index ranged between 1.37-2.59. RDA revealed three clusters of species (Fig. 3A). Species composition shows that *Assulina muscorum*, *A. seminulum*, *Trigonopyxis arcula*, *Trinema lineare*, and *Arcella catinus* are correlated with low depth to water table (DWT), whereas *Nebela carinata* is an indicator of wet conditions. *Hyalosphenia papilio* occurs in plots with higher pH and conductivity (EC), and a moderately wet environment. *Cyclopyxis arcelloides*, *Diffflugia bacillifera*, *D. bacillariarum*, *D. globulosa*, and *Amphitrema wrightianum* are related to lower pH and conductivity. Other species are located in the middle of the hydrological gradient. The full model explains 19.2% of the variation. DWT is strongly negatively correlated with axis 1 (13.1% variation explained), whereas pH and conductivity are negatively correlated with axis 2 (4.9% variation explained). The overall permutation test (999 random permutations) showed that RDA was significant and axes 1 and 2 were highly significant (axis 1— $p < 0.001$, axis 2— $p < 0.002$). DWT was the most significant variable ($p < 0.001$), followed by pH ($p < 0.005$) and conductivity ($p < 0.021$).

Testate amoeba calibration data set

RDA revealed DWT as the most important variable for testate amoeba communities. Consequently, we used this variable for building the transfer function. The calibration tests show that the model performed well and generated acceptable levels of significance (Table 2). For the reconstruction, WA-PLS component 2 was selected, as it had the lowest RMSEP (7.7 cm) and highest R^2 (0.74) (Fig. 3B,C, Table 2). Subsequently, WA-PLS was applied for the quantitative estimation of the past water table dynamics.

Chronology, sediment accumulation rate, bulk density and ash content

Ten out of eleven ^{14}C dates provide a reliable age-depth model spanning the past 1300 ± 30 years, with an agreement index (A_{model}) of 82% ($A_{\text{model}}=60\%$ is the lowest critical value; Bronk Ramsey, 2008) (Fig. 2). Date Poz-59502 was excluded; its individual agreement of 0% decreased the A_{model} below the critical value. The peat accumulation rates featured a close correspondence with peat properties. Those peat sections characterized by lower BD and AC have higher accumulation rates compared to sections with higher values for these physical parameters (Fig. 2). Significant changes in bulk density were followed by changes in plant composition, as revealed by the macrofossil analysis (Fig. 4). The highest peat accumulation rate values occurred at ca. AD 1997–2012 (1.18–1.41 cm/yr) and ca. AD 1970–1980 (0.89–0.9 cm/yr). Slightly lower accumulation occurred at ca. AD 1948–1970 (0.74–0.76 cm/yr) and ca. AD 1980–1997 (0.64–0.65 cm/yr). The period between ca. AD 1948 and 2012 featured the lowest BD and AC (0.05–0.09 g/cm³ and 1.3–2.6%, respectively). During the oldest period (ca. AD 712–780), peat accumulated at the rate of 0.18–0.23 cm/yr. During that interval, BD was high and fluctuated between 0.09–0.11 g/cm³, with the exception of a distinct increase to 0.15 g/cm³. AC ranged from 2.3 to 3.9%, with one distinct peak of 4.8% at ca. AD 737. The lowest rates of peat accumulation occurred between ca. AD 780 and AD 1948 (0.02–0.03 cm/yr). This interval is characterized by the highest values of BD (0.09–0.19 g/cm³) and AC (2.7–6.9%, peaking at ca. AD 1425). These high BD values were strongly related to the presence of *E. vaginatum* tissues and unidentified organic matter (Figs. 2 and 4). Very low rates of peat accumulation may also suggest some discontinuities during that period, and this prompts a very careful interpretation of charcoal accumulation rates (CHAR) for this section.

289

290 **Peatland and forest development**

291 Four proxies, including plant macrofossils (Fig. 4), pollen (Fig.5), testate amoebae
292 (Fig. 6), and charcoal (Fig. 7), were used to reconstruct the main developmental stages of
293 the Mukhrino bog, fire history, and changes in the composition of the surrounding
294 vegetation. These stages were delimited visually to five zones (MU1-5).

295

296 **MU1 (100-86 cm, ca. AD 712-780)**

297 At the beginning of the record, testate amoebae indicate a high water table.
298 *Archerella flavum* dominates, accompanied by *Hyalosphenia papilio*, *Heleopera sphagni*,
299 and *Amphitrema wrightianum*. This assemblage suggests pool *Sphagnum* communities.
300 DWT oscillates around 12 cm (Fig. 6).

301 Macrofossils also indicate a relatively high groundwater table, as *Sphagnum* cf.
302 *balticum* remains from sec. Cuspidata (Fig. 4) are typical for wet parts of the mire (e.g.,
303 carpets and lawns). *Eriophorum vaginatum* also suggests moist conditions (Hölzer,
304 2010).

305 The pollen spectra (*Pinus sylvestris* type, *Pinus sibirica* type, and *Betula*) reflect
306 the presence of pine-birch forests, not only in this zone but in the entire profile,
307 suggesting that vegetation composition varied little over the last 1300 years. Additional
308 arboreal components of the forest include *Populus*, *Salix*, and *Alnus* in moist habitats, as
309 well as “dark coniferous” forest, including *Picea* sect. *Eupicea* and *Abies*. In this zone, the
310 pollen of *Picea* sect. *Eupicea* (probably *P. abies* ssp. *obovata*) reaches its maximum values
311 (2.5–4.5%). However, at the end of this zone (ca. AD 750) declining *Picea* percentages
312 suggest a slight retreat of spruce.

313 CHAR reached 1935 pieces/cm²/yr at ca. AD 730, then decreased. CHAC
314 oscillated between 1945 and 8690 pieces/cm³.

315

316 **MU2 (86-58 cm, ca. AD 780-1882)**

In Zone MU2, the testate amoebae record features the disappearance of *Archerella flavum* and *Sphagnum balticum*. Concurrently, percentages of dry indicators, such as *Arcella catinus*, *Trigonopyxis arcula*, and *Phryganella acropodia*, increase. DWT increases gradually from approximately 13 to over 40 cm.

Toward the top of this zone, *Sphagnum magellanicum* and *Eriophorum vaginatum* macrofossils indicate gradually decreasing bog surface wetness, and at the same time *Sphagnum* cf. *balticum* disappears abruptly *Sphagnum magellanicum* has a broad niche, but generally occurs at a water table depth of ca. 24 cm (Hölzer, 2010). Wood and Ericaceae remains appear in this zone, suggesting a lower water table and the development of local shrub communities (Fig. 4).

The pollen assemblages in Zone MU2 are similar to those of the previous zone. A minor peak in *Abies* pollen percentages (2.5%) occurs in the older part of MU2, whereas in the younger part of the zone there is a peak in *Corylus* (1.8%; probably *C. avellana*). Such low *Corylus* pollen percentages indicate long-distance transport (cf. Tallantire, 2002).

This zone is characterized by high CHAR values (56–737 pieces/cm²/yr) and a maximum of CHAC at ca. AD 1505(29,800 pieces/cm³).

MU3 (58–40 cm, ca. AD 1882–1970)

Arcella catinus percentages decline considerably in Zone MU3, whereas other dry indicators, such as *Trigonopyxis arcula* and *Phyganella acropodia*, remain relative abundant. *Nebela militaris* first becomes abundant in this zone. This species usually indicates a higher water table than *T. arcula* or *P. acropodia*, but the habitat was still quite dry, as indicated by the abundance of *Sphagnum fuscum*. DWT indicates a gradually increasing water table.

An abrupt transition between *Sphagnum magellanicum* and *S. fuscum* took place ca. AD 1900; this shift was accompanied by an increase in the percentages of Ericaceae, as well as higher wood remains.

In MU3, *Artemisia* reaches its highest percentages in the profile (ca. AD 1882–1966; 3.5–5.5%), possibly reflecting higher landscape openness. Spheroidal

carboniferous particles (SCP) appear in this zone, suggesting coal burning in the surrounding area or distant transport from industrialized areas (Swindles et al., 2015).

CHAC decreased from 7716 to 616 pieces/cm³, while CHAR ranged between 264 and 637 pieces/cm²/year. Macroscopic charcoal (particles >200 µm) at the depth corresponding to ca. AD 1900 indicate local fires (Fig. 4).

MU4 (40-22.5 cm, ca. AD 1970-1994)

In Zone MU4 testate amoebae assemblages, *Nebela militaris* continues to indicate a low water table, but the reconstructed water depth shows a gradual increase, reaching a value of approximately 9 cm.

At this time the bog was dominated by *Sphagnum fuscum* (as high as 90%). *Polytrichum* first occurs in MU4, suggesting a low water table and hummock development. *Pinus* bark suggests the presence of pines in the hummocky dwarf shrub-*Sphagnum* communities. Ericaceae and wood remains decreased gradually, perhaps reflecting a higher water table.

Pollen data in MU4 feature the highest value of *Rubus chamaemorus* (max. 2%); its presence suggests the development of a hummock. SCP values increase after ca. AD 1985, likely signaling the increasing industrialization in the region (Swindles et al., 2015). CHAR increased abruptly to 6899 pieces/cm²/yr in ca. AD 1975. At the same time, CHAC was 7726 pieces/cm³.

MU5 (22.5-0 cm, ca. AD 1994-2012)

The macrofossil record in Zone MU5 suggests a low water table, as indicated by the stable values for *Sphagnum fuscum* and *Polytrichum* remains, although *Hyalosphenia elegans*, *H. papilio*, and *Archerella flavum* point to higher habitat wetness. Other species, such as *Nebela militaris*, *Phryganella acropodia*, and *Trigonopyxis arcuata*, decreased in this period.

A decrease in the *Rubus chamaemorus* pollen percentages suggests the retreat of hummock habitats from the coring location.

SCP records reveal increased coal burning between AD1994 and AD 2000 (max. 267 particles/cm²/yr). CHAR and CHAC reached maximum values of 914 pieces/cm²/yr and CHAC of 759 pieces/cm³, respectively, with a decreasing trend toward the top of the zone.

Discussion

Calibration data set and ecology of testate amoebae

Numerous studies have analyzed testate amoebae ecology in various biogeographical settings in Russia (Bobrov et al., 1999; Bobrov et al., 2002; Bobrov et al., 2003; Bobrov et al., 2013; Mazei and Embulaeva, 2009; Mazei et al., 2009; Mazei et al., 2007; Payne et al., 2012; Tsyganov et al., 2015), but there have been few such studies in Siberian peatlands (Bobrov et al., 2002; Kurina et al., 2010; Mazei and Kabanov, 2008). Our calibration study at Mukhrino mire illustrates the relationship between testate amoebae community composition and several environmental parameters. The redundancy analysis demonstrated the importance of water table depth, which is consistent with findings from other regions (Lamentowicz and Mitchell, 2005; Qin et al., 2013; Tolonen et al., 1994; Van Bellen et al., 2014). Acidity was a less important parameter, perhaps due to the limited range of the sampled habitats. The overall species composition of testate amoebae at Mukhrino mire was not different from those described in Europe or North America (Booth, 2007; Charman et al., 2007). The most abundant species in wet parts of the gradient are the mixotrophic species *Hyalosphenia papilio* and *Archerella flavum*, as well as *Nebela carinata*. In *Sphagnum fuscum* hummocks, which were the driest part of the gradient, *Assulina muscorum*, *Trigonopyxis arcuata*, and *Arcella catinus* dominated.

A characteristic feature of this Siberian peatland is that minerotrophic species are absent, as the habitat is purely organic and very acidic. An advantage of our study is that the training set was taken from a pristine bog, large enough to exclude any bordering effect, and then applied to a core also representing pristine conditions. In Europe, in contrast, testate amoebae training sets are often collected from raised bogs that have experienced disturbance, possibly biasing reconstructions derived from them. We think that the new calibration data set from Siberia is important for its inferences concerning

paleohydrological dynamics in order to better assess the processes that drive carbon accumulation. In our application of the testate amoebae transfer function to the 1300-year-long core from Mukhrino mire, the composition of the modern communities was similar to that of the fossil assemblages, and thus the transfer function could be used to reconstruct past hydrological conditions with confidence (Juggins and Birks, 2012).

Hydrology, fires, and forests in western Siberia

As the Mukhrino mire record is the first from Siberia in which the paleohydrology of the last millennium has been quantitatively reconstructed based on a modern-calibration training set, we can only relate our findings to other records from other parts of Eurasia. The dry stage at AD 780–1882 in the Mukhrino profile is similar to dry intervals described in other studies from central and eastern Europe (Gałka et al., 2014; Lamentowicz et al., 2009). In the case of Polish sites, however, unstable hydrological conditions rather than permanent drought prevailed (Marcisz et al., 2015). This may suggest that the drought increased in intensity from west to east, being most severe in continental areas like western Siberia. The recent study of Feurdean et al. (2015) provides a regional summary of paleohydrological change in bogs of central and eastern Europe and supports the interpretation of the LIA as dry in eastern sites and contrastingly wet in western sites.

Under the continental conditions of western Siberia, the influence of climate on peatlands during the LIA may have been different than was the case in oceanic western Europe. In western Europe, wet conditions may have arisen due to increased summer precipitation and a change in air circulation patterns (Magny et al., 2010; Magny et al., 2008). The growth of alpine glaciers during the LIA is consistent with higher moisture (Holzhauser et al., 2005), and the only existing high-resolution bog record from the eastern Swiss Alps revealed a wet trend during the LIA (van der Knaap et al., 2011). Similarly, the peatlands of the British Isles indicate moist conditions during the LIA (Charman et al., 2006). Changes in temperature may also be involved in the shifts observed in the Mukhrino mire record. Cool temperatures could have limited peat accumulation, generating changes in our proxies that are suggestive of a dry phase. The extensive carbon accumulation database from northern latitudes reveals such a trend during the LIA, with carbon sequestration rate declining during the transition from the MWP to the LIA. This was probably because the LIA featured the combination of lower

temperatures and increased cloudiness, suppressing net primary productivity (Charman et al., 2013). However, given the distance between western Europe and Siberia, it may be the case that the climatic causes of dry conditions during the LIA at eastern sites were different from those operating further to the west.

Because our study is based on a single core, alternative explanations for the peatland development and peat accumulation changes should be taken into account. The patterns that we have observed could also be related to autogenic development of the peatland itself. Peat vegetation forms various distinct microhabitats in the Mukhrino mire, including very wet pools with open water, flarks overgrown by pines (so-called *ryam* forest, which is typical for raised bogs in western Siberia), and *Sphagnum* lawns. Changes in the water table may have been caused by migration (or alternative development) of those microhabitats on the peatland surface. Moreover, because the core was sampled on the margin of the flark, it is plausible that what we have interpreted as low water table conditions is instead related to the change of surface microhabitats from a pool to the flark (Zobel, 1988). It may be the case that the observed hydrological shifts are related to both internal feedbacks (Swindles et al., 2012) and allogenic forcing (Barber, 1981); additional work at Mukhrino is needed to determine the relative importance of these factors.

Fire is a key process that influences the physical and biological structure of boreal forests (Stocks et al., 2001). Wildfires affect all characteristics of the ecosystem, including species composition and diversity, biogeochemical cycles and energy flows, and carbon cycling (van Bellen et al., 2012). Wildfires in boreal ecosystems are highly dependent not only on climatic conditions (such as heat waves or hydrological stress), but also on forest management and the accumulation of woody debris (Gennaretti et al. (2013). Our study revealed a lack of dramatic shifts in vegetation in the Mukhrino area over the last 1300 years. *Pinus sylvestris*, *P. sibirica*, and *Betula* were the dominant taxa, with *Alnus*, *Picea*, *Populus* and *Abies* as additional components (Fig. 5). However, one intriguing change is the decline of *Picea* (probably *Picea abies* ssp. *obovata*) at AD 750, a time of stable hydrological conditions and decreasing fire activity. *Picea abies* is thought to be poorly adapted to fire and drought due to its relatively thin bark and shallow root system (Niklasson et al., 2002; Zackrisson, 1977). Thus, the parallel declines in *Picea* and CHAR in the Mukhrino record are somewhat unexpected, although paleoecological

studies from Fennoscandia, where this phenomenon has been widely investigated, also feature unclear findings (Bradshaw et al., 2010). Several studies reported the expansion of *P. abies* during times of increased fire activity (Barnekow et al., 2008; Brown and Giesecke, 2014; Carcaillet et al., 2007; Rosén and Hammarlund, 2007), but others found that fire decreased prior to *P. abies* expansion (Tryterud, 2003; Ohlson et al., 2011). Additional studies spanning longer time scales are needed to better understand the relationship between *P. abies* and fire in Siberia and other boreal regions.

The charcoal record from Mukhrino mire is of particular relevance given the significant amount of carbon emitted by burning peatlands (French et al., 2004; Kasischke et al., 2005; Turetsky et al., 2015). The Mukhrino profile featured maximum CHAR values at ca. AD 1975 and two smaller peaks (at ca. AD 1984 and AD 2000), indicating higher fire activity during the last 60 years than at any point in the last millennium (Fig. 7). This shift may be linked with the fast development of the nearby city of Khanty-Mansiysk, which saw fast population growth starting in the 1950s. The finding of oil and gas in the region had a major impact on the development of local industry and caused a rapid influx of population from 18,000 in 1956 to 1,478,000 in 2006 (official data from the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug). This substantial increase in population not only had an impact on the development of the city itself, but also contributed to the pressure on the environment in the region. Human penetration into forests increased, contributing to higher fire activity during recent decades. A key change was the completion of a bridge across the Irtysh River in around 2005, as only a few hunters visited the Mukhrino area prior to this improved access. Moreover, the nearest oil fields, located 100-200 km away, started to develop on the left bank of the Irtysh River only 5-7 years ago. Thus it appears that fires in the Mukhrino area have experienced little human influence during most of the last 1300 years. A similar increase in fire activity over the past 60 years is noticeable in boreal forests of Canada (Stocks et al., 2002).

An alternative explanation for the observed increase in fire is that changes in climate may have caused increased burning and extended fire seasons during the last half of the twentieth century in Canada and Siberia (Dale et al., 2001; Kirilenko and Sedjo, 2007; Wotton and Flannigan, 1993). Barichivich et al. (2014) showed that rapid summer warming since the 1980s is a significant driver of increased evapotranspiration,

which affects summer drought severity in the northern latitudes. In turn, drier conditions may lead to higher intensity of fires and longer growing seasons in Siberia and other boreal regions (Flannigan et al. (2013). The Arctic Oscillation (AO) also appears to influence the inter-annual variability of fire in Siberia, with higher fire activity during the positive phase of the AO (Balzter et al., 2005, 2007; Sukhinin et al., 2004). Our record provides data that can be related to AO as well as to human activity, however, we need more peat profiles from W Siberia to be sure that this is climatic forcing.

Acknowledgments

We acknowledge the support of the International Network for Terrestrial Research and Monitoring in the Arctic INTERACT that funded the project: “Functioning of Siberian mire ecosystems and their response to climate changes” Project acronym: CliMireSiber (PI: Fatima Laggoun-Defarge). We were also supported by RE-FIRE SCIEX project 12.286 and grant PSPB-013/2010 from Switzerland through the Swiss Contribution to the enlarged European Union, as well as by grant 2011/01/D/ST10/02579 from the National Centre of Science (NCN). This study is a contribution to the Virtual Institute of Integrated Climate and Landscape Evolution (ICLEA) of the Helmholtz Association. We are grateful to Christopher Bronk Ramsey for giving us important suggestions considering age-depth modeling and to Monika Kołaczek for her useful remarks. Two anonymous reviewers and associate editor Wyatt Osvald are thanked for important comments that helped to improve the manuscript.

Captions to figures

Figure 1. Map of Eurasia showing the location of Mukhrino mire and indicating the range of boreal forests.

Figure 2. Age-depth model for the Mukhrino mire core with bulk density and ash content. Dates are listed on the left, along the depth scale (see Table 1), each of these are presented with individual agreement of modeled and calibrated date, which is placed in

square brackets (for details see Bronk Ramsey (2008)). Abbreviations: Poz – laboratory code of Poznań Radiocarbon Laboratory, TPS – total pollen sum.

Figure 3. Result of the redundancy analysis (RDA) of testate amoeba communities (A) and measured environmental variables (pH and depth to the water table – DWT) from modern surface samples collected from Mukhrino mire, (B) observed vs. predicted model, and (C) residuals of the weighted averaging partial least squares model with bootstrap cross validation (WA-PLSboot).

Species abbreviations: AMP WRI – *Amphitrema wrightianum*, ARC ARE – *Arcella arenaria*, ARC ART – *Arcella artocrea*, ARC BAT – *Arcella bathystoma*, ARC CAT – *Arcella catinus*, ARC DIS – *Arcella discoides*, ARC SP – *Arcella* sp., ARCH FLA – *Archerella flavum*, ARC HEM – *Arcella hemisphaerica*, ARGSP – *Argygnia* sp., ASS MUS – *Assulina muscorum*, ASS SCA – *Assulina scandinavica*, ASS SEM – *Assulina seminulum*, BULIND – *Bullinularia indica*, CEN AER – *Centropyxis aerophila*, CEN ACU – *Centropyxis aculeata*, CEN ORB – *Centropyxis orbicularis*, CEN CAS – *Centropyxis cassis*, CEN PLA – *Centropyxis platystoma*, CEN SP – *Centropyxis* sp., COR DUB – *Corythion dubium*, CRY OVI – *Cryptodiffugia oviformis*, CYC ARC – *Cyclopyxis arcelloides*, CYCKAH – *Cyclopyxis kahli*, CYPSP – *Cyphoderia* sp., CYP AMP – *Cyphoderia ampulla*, DIFBACC – *Diffugia baccilliarum*, DIFBACI – *Diffugia bacilifera*, DIFBRE – *Diffugia brevicola*, DIFGLO – *Diffugia globulosa*, DIF LAN – *Diffugia langeniformis*, DIF LEI – *Diffugia leidy*, DIF LIM – *Diffugia limnetica*, DIFOBL – *Diffugia oblonga*, DIFURC – *Diffugia urceolata*, DIFSP – *Diffugia* sp., EUGCIL – *Euglypha ciliata*, EUG COM – *Euglypha compressa*, EUGCOMGLA – *Euglypha compressa glabra*, EUG CRI – *Euglypha cristata*, EUG ROT – *Euglypha rotunda*, EUGSTR – *Euglypha strigosa*, EUG TUB – *Euglypha tuberculata*, EUGSP – *Euglypha* species, HEL PET – *Heleopera petricola*, HEL SPH – *Heleopera sphagni*, HEL ROS – *Heleopera rosea*, HYAELE – *Hyalosphenia elegans*, HYA PAP – *Hyalosphenia papilio*, NEB CAR – *Nebela carinata*, NEB MIL – *Nebela militaris*, NEB TIN – *Nebela tinctoria*, PHRACR – *Phryganella acropodia*, PHR PAR – *Phryganella paradoxa*, PHYGRI – *Physochila griseola*, PLA SPI – *Placocista spinosa*, PSE GRA – *Pseudodiffugia gracilis*, SPH LEN – *Sphenoderia lenta*, TRI ARC – *Trigonopyxis arcuata*, TRI SP – *Trigonopyxis* sp., TRINENC – *Trinema enchelis*, TRIN LIN – *Trinema lineare*.

Figure 4. Plant macrofossil diagram for Mukhrino mire. Abbreviations: UOM – unidentified organic matter. Non-% variables are provided as absolute values; , 5 times exaggeration is presented as white silhouette.

Figure 5. Pollen percentage diagram for Mukhrino mire, 5 times exaggeration is presented as white silhouette. SCP AR - spheroidal carbonaceous particles (SCPs) accumulation rate.

Figure 6. Testate amoebae percentage diagram for Mukhrino mire, 5 times exaggeration is presented as white silhouette. WA PLS Comp 2 (weighted averaging partial least squares component 2) – model used for the DWT (depth to the water table) quantitative reconstruction.

Figure 7. Summary diagram for Mukhrino mire with comparison of testate amoebae-based water table reconstruction (DWT), charcoal influx (CHAR), and charcoal concentration (CHAC). WA PLS Comp 2 (weighted averaging partial least squares component 2) – model used for the DWT (depth to the water table) quantitative reconstruction.

Tables

Table 1. Results of radiocarbon dating from the Mukhrino profile. Abbreviations: Poz – laboratory code of the Poznań Radiocarbon Laboratory (Poland).

Table 2. Transfer function performance statistics. The best model is WAPLS Component 2.

- 586 Ahmed, M., Anchukaitis, K.J., Asrat, A., Borgaonkar, H.P., Braid, M., Buckley, B.M., Buntgen, U.,
587 Chase, B.M., Christie, D.A., Cook, E.R., Curran, M.A.J., Diaz, H.F., Esper, J., Fan, Z.-X., Gaire, N.P., Ge,
588 Q., Gergis, J., González-Rouco, J.F., Goosse, H., Grab, S.W., Graham, N., Graham, R., Grosjean, M.,
589 Hanhijärvi, S.T., Kaufman, D.S., Kiefer, T., Kimura, K., Korhola, A.A., Krusic, P.J., Lara, A., Lézine, A.-
590 M., Ljungqvist, F.C., Lorrey, A.M., Luterbacher, J., Masson-Delmotte, V., McCarroll, D., McConnell,
591 J.R., McKay, N.P., Morales, M.S., Moy, A.D., Mulvaney, R., Mundo, I.A., Nakatsuka, T., Nash, D.J.,
592 Neukom, R., Nicholson, S.E., Oerter, H., Palmer, J.G., Phipps, S.J., Prieto, M.R., Rivera, A., Sano, M.,
593 Severi, M., Shanahan, T.M., Shao, X., Shi, F., Sigl, M., Smerdon, J.E., Solomina, O.N., Steig, E.J., Stenni,
594 B., Thamban, M., Trouet, V., Turney, C.S.M., Umer, M., van Ommen, T., Verschuren, D., Viau, A.E.,
595 Villalba, R., Vinther, B.M., von Gunten, L., Wagner, S., Wahl, E.R., Wanner, H., Werner, J.P., White,
596 J.W.C., Yasue, K., Zorita, E., 2013. Continental-scale temperature variability during the past two
597 millennia. *Nature Geoscience* 6, 339-346.
- 598 Balzter, H., Gerard, F.F., George, C.T., Rowland, C.S., Jupp, T.E., McCallum, I., Shvidenko, A., Nilsson,
599 S., Sukhinin, A., Onuchin, A., Schmullius, C., 2005. Impact of the Arctic Oscillation pattern on
600 interannual forest fire variability in Central Siberia. *Geophysical Research Letters* 32, L14709.
- 601 Barber, K.E., 1981. Peat stratigraphy and climatic change. A palaeoecological test of the theory of
602 cyclic bog regeneration. A.A. Balkema, Rotterdam.
- 603 Barichivich, J., Briffa, K., Myneni, R., Schrier, G., Dorigo, W., Tucker, C., Osborn, T., Melvin, T., 2014.
604 Temperature and Snow-Mediated Moisture Controls of Summer Photosynthetic Activity in
605 Northern Terrestrial Ecosystems between 1982 and 2011. *Remote Sensing* 6, 1390-1431.
- 606 Beilman, D.W., MacDonald, G.M., Smith, L.C., Reimer, P.J., 2009. Carbon accumulation in peatlands
607 of West Siberia over the last 2000 years. *Global Biogeochemical Cycles* 23.
- 608 Berglund, B.E., Ralska-Jasiewiczowa, M., 1986. Pollen analysis and pollen diagrams, in: Berglund,
609 B.E. (Ed.), *Handbook of Holocene Paleocology and Paleohydrology*. Wiley & Sons Ltd.,
610 Chichester-Toronto, pp. 455-484.
- 611 Beug, H.-J., 2004. *Leitfaden der Pollenbestimmung für Mitteleuropa und angrenzende Gebiete*. .
612 Verlag Dr. Friedrich Pfeil, München.
- 613 Birks, H.H., 2007. Plant macrofossil introduction, in: Elias, S.A. (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Quaternary*
614 *Science*. Elsevier, Amsterdam, pp. 2266-2288.
- 615 Birks, H.J.B., 1995. Quantitative Palaeoenvironmental Reconstructions, in: Maddy, D., Brew, J.S.
616 (Eds.), *Statistical Modelling of Quaternary Science Data*. Quaternary Research Association,
617 Cambridge, pp. 161-254.
- 618 Bleuten, W., Filippov, I., 2008. Hydrology of mire ecosystems in central West Siberia: the
619 Mukhrino field station, in: Glagolev, M.V., Lapshina, E.D. (Eds.), *Transactions of UNESCO*
620 *Department of Yugorsky State University "Dynamics of Environment and Global Climate*
621 *Change"*.
- 622 Blundell, A., Barber, K., 2005. A 2800-year palaeoclimatic record from Tore Hill Moss, Strathspey,
623 Scotland: the need for a multi-proxy approach to peat-based climate reconstructions.
624 *Quaternary Science Reviews* 24, 1261-1277.
- 625 Blundell, A., Charman, D.J., Barber, K., 2008. Multiproxy late Holocene peat records from Ireland:
626 towards a regional palaeoclimate curve. *Journal of Quaternary Science* 23, 59-71.
- 627 Bobrov, A.A., Charman, D.J., Warner, B.G., 1999. Ecology of Testate Amoebae (Protozoa:
628 Rhizopoda) on Peatlands in Western Russia with special attention to Niche Separation in closely
629 Related Taxa. *Protist* 150, 125-136.
- 630 Bobrov, A.A., Charman, D.J., Warner, B.G., 2002. Ecology of Testate Amoebae from Oligotrophic
631 Peatlands: Specific Features of Polytypic and Polymorphic Species. *Biology Bulletin of the*
632 *Russian Academy of Sciences* 29, 605-617.
- 633 Bobrov, A.A., Siebert, C., Andreev, A.A., Schirrmeister, L., 2003. Testaceans (Protozoa: Testacea)
634 in Quaternary Permafrost Sediments of Bykovsky Peninsula, Arctic Yakutia. *Biology Bulletin* 30,
635 191-206.

636 Bobrov, A.A., Wetterich, S., Beermann, F., Schneider, A., Kokhanova, L., Schirrmeister, L.,
 637 Pestryakova, L.A., Herzsuh, U., 2013. Testate amoebae and environmental features of polygon
 638 tundra in the Indigirka lowland (East Siberia). *Polar Biology* 36, 857-870.
 639 Booth, R.K., 2007. Testate amoebae as proxies for mean annual water-table depth in Sphagnum-
 640 dominated peatlands of North America. *Journal of Quaternary Science* 23, 43-57.
 641 Booth, R.K., Lamentowicz, M., Charman, D.J., 2010. Preparation and analysis of testate amoebae
 642 in peatland paleoenvironmental studies. *Mires and Peat* 7 (2010/11), 1-7.
 643 Booth, R.K., Notaro, M., Jackson, S.T., Kutzbach, J.E., 2006. Widespread drought episodes in the
 644 western Great Lakes region during the past 2000 years: Geographic extent and potential
 645 mechanisms. *Earth and Planetary Science Letters* 242, 415-427.
 646 Booth, R.K., Sullivan, M.E., Sousa, V.A., 2008. Ecology of testate amoebae in a North Carolina
 647 pocosin and their potential use as environmental and paleoenvironmental indicators. *Ecoscience*
 648 15, 277-289.
 649 Borren, W., Bleuten, W., Lapshina, E.D., 2004. Holocene peat and carbon accumulation rates in
 650 the southern taiga of western Siberia. *Quaternary Research* 61, 42- 51.
 651 Bradshaw, R.H.W., Lindbladh, M., Hannon, G.E., 2010. The role of fire in southern Scandinavian
 652 forests during the late Holocene. *International Journal of Wildland Fire* 19, 1040-1049.
 653 Bronk Ramsey, C., 2008. Deposition models for chronological records. *Quaternary Science*
 654 *Reviews* 27, 42-60.
 655 Chambers, F.M., Beilman, D.W., Yu, Z., 2011. Methods for determining peat humification and for
 656 quantifying peat bulk density, organic matter and carbon content for palaeostudies of climate
 657 and peatland carbon dynamics. *Mires and Peat* 7, 1-10.
 658 Charman, D., Blundell, A., MEMBERS, A., 2007. A new European testate amoebae transfer
 659 function for palaeohydrological reconstruction on ombrotrophic peatlands. *Journal of*
 660 *Quaternary Science* 22, 209-221.
 661 Charman, D.J., 2002. *Peatlands and environmental change*. John Wiley & Sons, Chichester.
 662 Charman, D.J., Beilman, D.W., Blaauw, M., Booth, R.K., Brewer, S., Chambers, F.M., Christen, J.A.,
 663 Gallego-Sala, A., Harrison, S.P., Hughes, P.D.M., Jackson, S.T., Korhola, A., Mauquoy, D., Mitchell,
 664 F.J.G., Prentice, I.C., van der Linden, M., De Vleeschouwer, F., Yu, Z.C., Alm, J., Bauer, I.E., Corish,
 665 Y.M.C., Garneau, M., Hohl, V., Huang, Y., Karofeld, E., Le Roux, G., Loisel, J., Moschen, R., Nichols,
 666 J.E., Nieminen, T.M., MacDonald, G.M., Phadtare, N.R., Rausch, N., Sillasoo, Ü., Swindles, G.T.,
 667 Tuittila, E.S., Ukonmaanaho, L., Väliranta, M., van Bellen, S., van Geel, B., Vitt, D.H., Zhao, Y., 2013.
 668 Climate-related changes in peatland carbon accumulation during the last millennium.
 669 *Biogeosciences* 10, 929-944.
 670 Charman, D.J., Blundell, A., Chiverrell, R.C., Hendon, D., Langdon, P.G., 2006. Compilation of non-
 671 annually resolved Holocene proxy climate records: stacked Holocene peatland palaeo-water
 672 table reconstructions from northern Britain. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 25, 336-350.
 673 Dale, V.H., Joyce, L.A., McNulty, S., Neilson, R.P., Ayres, M.P., Flannigan, M.D., Hanson, P.J., Irland,
 674 L.C., Lugo, A.E., Peterson, C.J., Simberloff, D., Swanson, F.J., Stocks, B.J., Wotton, B.M., 2001.
 675 Climate change and forest disturbances. *Bioscience* 51, 723-734.
 676 Davis, M.B., Deevey, E.S.J., 1964. Pollen accumulation rates: estimates from late-glacial sediment
 677 of Roger Lake. *Science* 145, 1293-1295.
 678 Dise, N.B., 2010. Peatland response to global change. *Science* 326, 810-811.
 679 Elger, K., Opel, T., Topp-Jørgensen, E., Rasch, M., 2012. *INTERACT Station Catalogue*. Aarhus
 680 University.
 681 Feurdean, A., Galka, M., Kuske, E., Tantau, I., Lamentowicz, M., Florescu, G., Liakka, J., Hutchinson,
 682 S.M., Mulch, A., Hickler, T., 2015. Last Millennium hydro-climate variability in Central-Eastern
 683 Europe (Northern Carpathians, Romania). *The Holocene* 25, 1179-1192.
 684 Fiałkiewicz-Kozieł, B., Kołaczek, P., Michczyński, A., Piotrowska, N., 2015. The construction of a
 685 reliable absolute chronology for the last two millennia in an anthropogenically disturbed peat
 686 bog: Limitations and advantages of using a radio-isotopic proxy and age-depth modelling.
 687 *Quaternary Geochronology* 25, 83-95.

688 Filippov, I.V., Lapshina, E.D., 2008. Peatland unit types of lake-bog systems in the Middle Priob'ie
 689 (Western Siberia), in: ED, G.M.a.L. (Ed.), Transactions of UNESCO Department of Yugorsky State
 690 University "Dynamics of Environment and Global Climate Change, pp. 115-124
 691 Finsinger, W., Tinner, W., 2005. Minimum count sums for charcoal-concentration estimates in
 692 pollen slides: Accuracy and potential errors. *Holocene* 15, 293-297.
 693 Flannigan, M., Cantin, A.S., de Groot, W.J., Wotton, M., Newbery, A., Gowman, L.M., 2013. Global
 694 wildland fire season severity in the 21st century. *Forest Ecology and Management* 294, 54-61.
 695 French, N.H.F., Goovaerts, P., Kasischke, E.S., 2004. Uncertainty in estimating carbon emissions
 696 from boreal forest fires. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres* 109, D14S08.
 697 Gałka, M., Miotk-Szpiganowicz, G., Goslar, T., Jęsko, M., van der Knaap, W.O., Lamentowicz, M.,
 698 2013. Palaeohydrology, fires and vegetation succession in the southern Baltic during the last
 699 7500 years reconstructed from a raised bog based on multi-proxy data. *Palaeogeography,*
 700 *Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 370, 209 - 221.
 701 Gałka, M., Tobolski, K., Górski, A., Milecka, K., Fiałkiewicz-Kozieł, B., Lamentowicz, M., 2014.
 702 Disentangling the drivers for the development of a Baltic bog during the Little Ice Age in
 703 northern Poland. *Quaternary International* 328-329, 323-337.
 704 Gennaretti, F., Arseneault, D., Bégin, Y., De Deyn, G., 2013. Millennial stocks and fluxes of large
 705 woody debris in lakes of the North American taiga. *Journal of Ecology*, n/a-n/a.
 706 Grospietsch, T., 1958. Wechseltierchen (Rhizopoden). Kosmos Verlag, Stuttgart.
 707 Grosse-Brauckmann, G., 1974. Über pflanzliche Makrofossilien mitteleuropäischer Torfe. II.
 708 Weitere Reste (Früchte und Samen, Moose u.a.) und ihre Bestimmungsmöglichkeiten - On plant
 709 macrofossils in central European peat. II. Other remnants (e.g. fruits and seeds, mosses) and
 710 possibilities for their identification. *Telma* 4, 51-117 (in German).
 711 Grosse-Brauckmann, G., 1992. Über pflanzliche Makrofossilien mitteleuropäischer Torfe. III.
 712 Früchte, Samen und einige Gewebe (Fotos von fossilen Pflanzenresten) - On plant macrofossils
 713 in central European peat. III. Fruits, seeds and some tissues (photos of fossil plant remains).
 714 *Telma* 22, 53-102 (in German).
 715 Heiri, O., Lotter, A.F., Lemcke, G., 2001. Loss on ignition as a method for estimating organic and
 716 carbonate content in sediments: reproducibility and comparability of results. *Journal of*
 717 *Paleolimnology* 25, 101-110.
 718 Hendon, D., Charman, D.J., 2004. High-resolution peatland water-table changes for the past 200
 719 years: the influence of climate and implications for management. *The Holocene* 14, 125-134.
 720 Hölzer, A., 2010. Die Torfmoose Südwestdeutschlands und der Nachbargebiete. Weissdorn -
 721 Verlag Jena, Jena.
 722 Holzhauser, H., Magny, M., Zumbuhl, H.J., 2005. Glacier and lake-level variations in west-central
 723 Europe over the last 3500 years. *The Holocene* 15, 789-801.
 724 Hua, Q., Barbetti, M., Rakowski, A.Z., 2013. Atmospheric Radiocarbon for the Period 1950-2010.
 725 *Radiocarbon* 55, 2059-2072.
 726 Jones, P.D., Mann, M.E., 2004. Climate over past millennia. *Rev. Geophys.*, 42 pp.
 727 Juggins, S., 2003. C2 User guide. Software for ecological and palaeoecological data analysis and
 728 visualisation. University of Newcastle, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.
 729 Juggins, S., Birks, J., 2012. Quantitative Environmental Reconstructions from Biological Data, in:
 730 Birks, H.J.B., Lotter, A.F., Juggins, S., Smol, J.P. (Eds.), *Tracking Environmental Change Using Lake*
 731 *Sediments. Developments In Paleoenvironmental Research.* Springer, pp. 431-494.
 732 Kaislahti Tillman, P., Holzkämper, S., Kuhry, P., Sannel, A.B.K., Loader, N.J., Robertson, I., 2010.
 733 Long-term climate variability in continental subarctic Canada: A 6200-year record derived from
 734 stable isotopes in peat. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 298, 235-246.
 735 Kasischke, E.S., Hyer, E.J., Novelli, P.C., Bruhwiler, L.P., French, N.H.F., Sukhinin, A.I., Hewson, J.H.,
 736 Stocks, B.J., 2005. Influences of boreal fire emissions on Northern Hemisphere atmospheric
 737 carbon and carbon monoxide. *Global Biogeochemical Cycles* 19, GB1012.
 738 Kirilenko, A.P., Sedjo, R.A., 2007. Climate change impacts on forestry. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*
 739 104, 19697-19702.

740 Kremenetski, K.V., Velichko, A.A., Borisova, O.K., MacDonald, G.M., Smith, L.C., Frey, K.E., Orlova,
 741 L.A., 2003. Peatlands of the Western Siberian lowlands: current knowledge on zonation, carbon
 742 content and Late Quaternary history. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 22, 703-723.
 743 Kurina, I.V., Preis, Y.I., Bobrov, A.A., 2010. Testate amoebae inhabiting middle taiga bogs in
 744 Western Siberia. *Biology Bulletin* 37, 357-362.
 745 Laine, J., Harju, P., Timonen, T., Laine, A., Tuittila, E.S., Minkkinen, K., Vasander, H., 2011. The
 746 Intricate Beauty of Sphagnum Mosses e a Finnish Guide to Identification. University of Helsinki
 747 Department of Forest Sciences Publications, Helsinki.
 748 Lamentowicz, M., Cedro, A., Gałka, M., Miotk-Szpiganowicz, G., Mitchell, E.A.D., Pawlyta, J., Goslar,
 749 T., 2008. Last millennium palaeoenvironmental changes from a Baltic bog (Poland) inferred from
 750 stable isotopes, pollen, plant macrofossils and testate amoebae. *Palaeogeography,*
 751 *Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 265, 93-106.
 752 Lamentowicz, M., Gałka, M., Pawlyta, J., Lamentowicz, Ł., Goslar, T., Miotk-Szpiganowicz, G., 2011.
 753 Climate change and human impact in the southern Baltic during the last millennium
 754 reconstructed from an ombrotrophic bog archive. *Studia Quaternaria* 28, 3-16.
 755 Lamentowicz, M., Milecka, K., Gałka, M., Cedro, A., Pawlyta, J., Piotrowska, N., Lamentowicz, Ł.,
 756 van der Knaap, W.O., 2009. Climate- and human-induced hydrological change since AD 800 in an
 757 ombrotrophic mire in Pomerania (N Poland) tracked by testate amoebae, macro-fossils, pollen,
 758 and tree-rings of pine. *Boreas* 38, 214-229.
 759 Lamentowicz, M., Mitchell, E.A.D., 2005. The ecology of testate amoebae (Protists) in Sphagnum
 760 in north-western Poland in relation to peatland ecology. *Microbial ecology* 50, 48-63.
 761 Lapshina, E.D., Plogova, N.N., 2011. Spatial Dynamics of peat growth and carbon accumulation in
 762 sphagnum bogs (Boreal West Siberia), West Siberian Peatlands and Carbon Cycle: past and
 763 present. *Proceedings of the Third International Field Symposium Khanty-Mansiysk*, June 27 -
 764 July 5, 2011.
 765 Lapshina, E.D., Pologova, N.N., E.Ya., M., 2001. Pattern of development and carbon accumulation
 766 in homogenous *Sphagnum fuscum*-peat deposit on the south of West Siberia, in: Vasiliev, S.,
 767 Titlyanova, A., Velochko, A. (Eds.), *West Siberian Peatlands and Carbon Cycle: past and present*.
 768 *Proceedings of International Field Symposium*, Noyabrsk August 18 - 22, 2001, pp. 101-104.
 769 Lavoie, C., Pellerin, S., 2007. Fires in temperate peatlands (southern Quebec): Past and recent
 770 trends. *Canadian Journal of Botany* 85, 263-272.
 771 Legendre, P., Gallagher, E.D., 2001. Ecologically meaningful transformations for ordination of
 772 species data. *Oecologia* 129, 271-280.
 773 Liss, O.L., Abramova, K.I., L.I. Avetov, 2001. Bog ecosystems of West Siberia and their
 774 environmental importance. Tula: Publishing house 'Grif i Ko'.
 775 Loisel, J., Yu, Z., 2013. Surface vegetation patterning controls carbon accumulation in peatlands.
 776 *Geophysical Research Letters* 40, 5508-5513.
 777 Loisel, J., Yu, Z., Beilman, D., Philip, C., Jukka, A., David, A., Andersson, S., Fiałkiewicz-Kozieł, B.,
 778 Barber, K., Belyea, L., Bunbury, J., Chambers, F., Charman, D., de Vleeschouwer, F., Finkelstein, S.,
 779 Garneau, M., Hendon, D., Holmquist, J., Hughes, P., Jones, M., Klein, E., Kokfelt, U., Korhola, A.,
 780 Kuhry, P., Lamarre, A., Lamentowicz, M., Large, D., Lavoie, M., MacDonald, G., Magnan, G., Gałka,
 781 M., Mathijssen, P., Mauquoy, D., McCarroll, J., Moore, T., Nichols, J., O'Reilly, B., Oksanen, P., Peteet,
 782 D., Rchard, P., Robinson, S., Rundgren, M., Sannel, B., Tuittila, E.-S., Turetsky, M., Valiranta, M., van
 783 der Linden, M., van Geel, B., van Bellen, S., Vitt, D., Zhao, Y., Zhou, W., 2014. A database and
 784 synthesis of existing data for northern peatland soil properties and Holocene carbon
 785 accumulation. *Holocene* 24, 1028-1042.
 786 Magny, M., Arnaud, F., Holzhauser, H., Chapron, E., Debret, M., Desmet, M., Leroux, A., Millet, L.,
 787 Revel, M., Vannière, B., 2010. Solar and proxy-sensitivity imprints on paleohydrological records
 788 for the last millennium in west-central Europe. *Quaternary Research* 73, 173-179.
 789 Magny, M., Gauthier, E., Vannière, B., Peyron, O., 2008. Palaeohydrological changes and
 790 human impact history over the last millennium recorded at Lake Joux in the Jura Mountains,
 791 Switzerland. *The Holocene* 18, 255-265.
 792 Marcisz, K., Tinner, W., Colombaroli, D., Kołaczek, P., Słowiński, M., Fiałkiewicz-Kozieł, B., Łokas,
 793 E., Lamentowicz, M., 2015. Long-term hydrological dynamics and fire history during the last

794 2000 years in CE Europe reconstructed from a high-resolution peat archive. *Quaternary Science*
 795 *Reviews* 112, 138-152.
 796 Mazei, Y., Kabanov, A.N., 2008. Testate amoebae from the sedge-sphagnum forested mire in the
 797 north of Karelia (Russia). *Izv. Penza. gos. pedagog. univ. im. i Vv. Gg. Bbelinskogo.* 10, 101-104.
 798 Mazei, Y., Tsyganov, A.N., 2006. Freshwater testate amoebae. KMK, Moscow.
 799 Mazei, Y.A., Embulaeva, E.A., 2009. Changes of soil-inhabited testate amoebae communities along
 800 forest-steppe gradient in the middle Volga region. *Arid Ecosystems* 15, 13-23.
 801 Mazei, Y.A., Tsyganov, A.N., Bubnova, O.A., 2009. The structure of amoeba communities in boggy
 802 biotopes of the southern Taiga (Russian European Part). *Ucpiechi Sovriemennoi Biologii* 129,
 803 67-77.
 804 Mazei, Y.A., Tsyganov, A.N., Bubnova, O.A., 2007. Structure of a community of testate amoebae in
 805 a Sphagnum dominated bog in upper sura flow (Middle Volga Territory). *Biology Bulletin* 34,
 806 382-394.
 807 Moore, P.D., Webb, J.A., Collinson, M.E., 1991. Pollen analysis. Blackwell Scientific Publication.
 808 Muller, S., Bobrov, A.A., Schirrmeister, L., Andreev, A.A., Tarasov, P.E., 2009. Testate amoebae
 809 record from the Laptev Sea coast and its implication for the reconstruction of Late Pleistocene
 810 and Holocene environments in the Arctic Siberia. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology,*
 811 *Palaeoecology* 271, 301-315.
 812 Niklasson, M., Lindbladh, M., Björkman, L., 2002. A long-term record of Quercus decline, logging
 813 and fires in a southern Swedish Fagus-Picea forest. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 13, 765-774.
 814 Ogden, C.G., Hedley, R.H., 1980. An Atlas of Freshwater Testate Amoebae. Oxford University
 815 Press, London.
 816 Oksanen, J., Blanchet, F.G., Kindt, R., Legendre, P., O'Hara, R.B., Simpson, G.L., Solymos, P., Stevens,
 817 M.H.H., Wagner, H., 2011. Vegan: Community Ecology Package. R package version 1.17-7.
 818 Payne, R.J., Jassey, V.E.J., Leith, I.D., Sheppard, L.J., Dise, N.B., Gilbert, D., 2013. Ammonia exposure
 819 promotes algal biomass in an ombrotrophic peatland. *Soil Biology and Biochemistry* 57, 936-
 820 938.
 821 Payne, R.J., Lamentowicz, M., van der Knaap, W.O., van Leeuwen, J.F.N., Mitchell, E.A.D., Mazei, Y.,
 822 2012. Testate amoebae in pollen slides. *Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology* 173, 68-79.
 823 Payne, R.J., Mitchell, E.A.D., 2008. How many is enough? Determining optimal count totals for
 824 ecological and palaeoecological studies of testate amoebae. *Journal of Paleolimnology* 42, 483-
 825 495.
 826 Peregon, A., Uchida, M., Shibata, Y., 2007a. *Sphagnum* peatland development at their southern
 827 climatic range in West Siberia: Trends and peat accumulation patterns. *Environmental Research*
 828 *Letters* 2.
 829 Peregon, A., Uchida, M., Shibata, Y., 2007b. *Sphagnum* peatland development at their southern
 830 climatic range in West Siberia: trends and peat accumulation patterns. *Environmental Research*
 831 *Letters* 2, 045014.
 832 Pitkänen, A., Turunen, J., Tahvanainen, T., Tolonen, K., 2002. Holocene vegetation history from
 833 the Salym-Yugan Mire Area, West Siberia. *Holocene* 12, 353-362.
 834 Qin, Y.M., Mitchell, E.A.D., Lamentowicz, M., Payne, R.J., Lara, E., Gu, Y.S., Huang, X.Y., Wang, H.M.,
 835 2013. Ecology of testate amoebae in peatlands of central China and development of a transfer
 836 function for paleohydrological reconstruction. *Journal of Paleolimnology* 50, 319-330.
 837 Reimer, P.J., Bard, E., Bayliss, A., Beck, J.W., Blackwell, P.G., Ramsey, C.B., Buck, C.E., Cheng, H.,
 838 Edwards, R.L., Friedrich, M., Grootes, P.M., Guilderson, T.P., Hafflidason, H., Hajdas, I., Hatte, C.,
 839 Heaton, T.J., Hoffmann, D.L., Hogg, A.G., Hughen, K.A., Kaiser, K.F., Kromer, B., Manning, S.W., Niu,
 840 M., Reimer, R.W., Richards, D.A., Scott, E.M., Southon, J.R., Staff, R.A., Turney, C.S.M., van der Plicht,
 841 J., 2013. Intcal13 and Marine13 Radiocarbon Age Calibration Curves 0-50,000 Years Cal BP.
 842 *Radiocarbon* 55, 1869-1887.
 843 Seddon, A.W.R., Mackay, A.W., Baker, A.G., Birks, H.J.B., Breman, E., Buck, C.E., Ellis, E.C., Froyd,
 844 C.A., Gill, J.L., Gillson, L., Johnson, E.A., Jones, V.J., Juggins, S., Macias-Fauria, M., Mills, K., Morris,
 845 J.L., Nogues-Bravo, D., Punyasena, S.W., Roland, T.P., Tanentzap, A.J., Willis, K.J., Aberhan, M., van
 846 Asperen, E.N., Austin, W.E.N., Battarbee, R.W., Bhagwat, S., Belanger, C.L., Bennett, K.D., Birks,
 847 H.H., Ramsey, C.B., Brooks, S.J., de Bruyn, M., Butler, P.G., Chambers, F.M., Clarke, S.J., Davies, A.L.,

848 Dearing, J.A., Ezard, T.H.G., Feurdean, A., Flower, R.J., Gell, P., Hausmann, S., Hogan, E.J., Hopkins,
849 M.J., Jeffers, E.S., Korhola, A.A., Marchant, R., Kiefer, T., Lamentowicz, M., Larocque-Tobler, I.,
850 Lopez-Merino, L., Liow, L.H., McGowan, S., Miller, J.H., Montoya, E., Morton, O., Nogue, S.,
851 Onoufriou, C., Boush, L.P., Rodriguez-Sanchez, F., Rose, N.L., Sayer, C.D., Shaw, H.E., Payne, R.,
852 Simpson, G., Sohar, K., Whitehouse, N.J., Williams, J.W., Witkowski, A., 2014. Looking forward
853 through the past: identification of 50 priority research questions in palaeoecology. *Journal of*
854 *Ecology* 102, 256-267.

855 Sillasoo, U., Väliranta, M., Tuittila, E.S., 2011. Fire history and vegetation recovery in two raised
856 bogs at the Baltic Sea. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 22, 1084-1093.

857 Solomeshch, A.I., 2005. The West Siberian Lowland in: Fraser, L.H., Keddy, P.A. (Eds.), *The*
858 *World's Largest Wetlands. Ecology and Conservation*, pp. 11-62.

859 Stockmarr, J., 1971. Tablets with spores used in absolute pollen analysis. *Pollen and Spores* 16,
860 615-621.

861 Stocks, B.J., Mason, J.A., Todd, J.B., Bosch, E.M., Wotton, B.M., Amiro, B.D., Flannigan, M.D., Hirsch,
862 K.G., Logan, K.A., Martell, D.L., Skinner, W.R., 2002. Large forest fires in Canada, 1959–1997.
863 *Journal of Geophysical Research* 108.

864 Stocks, B.J., Wotton, B.M., Flannigan, M.D., Fosberg, M.A., Cahoon, D.R., Goldammer, J.G., 2001.
865 Boreal Forest Fire Regimes And Climate Change, in: Beniston, M., Verstraete, M. (Eds.), *Remote*
866 *Sensing and Climate Modeling: Synergies and Limitations*. Springer Netherlands, pp. 233-246.

867 Swindles, G.T., Morris, P.J., Baird, A.J., Blaauw, M., Plunkett, G., 2012. Ecohydrological feedbacks
868 confound peat-based climate reconstructions. *Geophysical Research Letters* 39.

869 Swindles, G.T., Plunkett, G., Roe, H.M., 2007. A multiproxy climate record from a raised bog in
870 County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland: a critical examination of the link between bog surface
871 wetness and solar variability. *Journal of Quaternary Science* 22, 667-679.

872 Swindles, G.T., Watson, E., Turner, T.E., Galloway, J.M., Hadlari, T., Wheeler, J., Bacon, K.L., 2015.
873 Spheroidal carbonaceous particles are a defining stratigraphic marker for the Anthropocene.
874 *Scientific reports* 5, 10264.

875 Team, R.D.C., 2013. R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for
876 Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. ISBN 3-900051-00-3, URL <http://www.R-project.org>.

877 Tinner, W., Hu, F.S., 2003. Size parameters, size-class distribution and area-number relationship
878 of microscopic charcoal: relevance for fire reconstruction. *The Holocene* 13, 499-505.

879 Tobolski, K., 2000. Przewodnik do oznaczania torfów i osadów jeziornych, *Vademecum*
880 *Geobotanicum*. Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa p. 508 ss.

881 Tolonen, K., Warner, B.G., Vasander, H., 1994. Ecology of Testaceans (Protozoa: Rhizopoda) in
882 mires in southern Finland: II. Multivariate analysis. *Archiv für Protistenkunde* 144, 97-112.

883 Tsyganov, A.N., Komarov, A.A., Mitchell, E.A.D., Shimano, S., Smirnova, O.V., Aleynikov, A.A.,
884 Mazei, Y.A., 2015. Additive partitioning of testate amoeba species diversity across habitat
885 hierarchy within the pristine southern taiga landscape (Pechora-Ilych Biosphere Reserve,
886 Russia). *European Journal of Protistology* 51, 42-54.

887 Turetsky, M.R., Benscoter, B., Page, S., Rein, G., van der Werf, G.R., Watts, A., 2015. Global
888 vulnerability of peatlands to fire and carbon loss. *Nature Geosci* 8, 11-14.

889 Turner, T.E., Swindles, G.T., Roucoux, K.H., 2014. Late Holocene ecohydrological and carbon
890 dynamics of a UK raised bog: impact of human activity and climate change. *Quaternary Science*
891 *Reviews* 84, 65-85.

892 Turunen, J., Tahvanainen, T., Tolonen, K., Pitkanen, A., 2001. Carbon accumulation in West
893 Siberian mires, Russia. *Global Biogeochemical Cycles* 15, 285-296.

894 Tweiten, M.A., Hotchkiss, S.C., Booth, R.K., Calcote, R.R., Lynch, E.A., 2009. The response of a jack
895 pine forest to late-Holocene climate variability in northwestern Wisconsin. *Holocene* 19, 1049-
896 1061.

897 van Bellen, S., Garneau, M., Ali, A.A., Bergeron, Y., 2012. Did fires drive Holocene carbon
898 sequestration in boreal ombrotrophic peatlands of eastern Canada? *Quaternary Research* 78, 50-
899 59.

900 Van Bellen, S., Mauquoy, D., Payne, R.J., Roland, T.P., Daley, T.J., Hughes, P.D.M., Loader, N.J.,
901 Street-Perrott, F.A., Rice, E.M., Pancotto, V.A., 2014. Testate amoebae as a proxy for

902 reconstructing Holocene water table dynamics in southern Patagonian peat bogs. *Journal of*
903 *Quaternary Science* 29, 463-474.
904 van der Knaap, W.O., Lamentowicz, M., van Leeuwen, J.F.N., Hangartner, S., Leuenberger, M.,
905 Mauquoy, D., Goslar, T., Mitchell, E.A.D., Lamentowicz, Ł., Kamenik, C., 2011. A multi-proxy, high-
906 resolution record of peatland development and its drivers during the last millennium from the
907 subalpine Swiss Alps. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 30, 3467-3480.
908 Ward, S.E., Ostle, N.J., Oakley, S., Quirk, H., Henrys, P.A., Bardgett, R.D., 2013. Warming effects on
909 greenhouse gas fluxes in peatlands are modulated by vegetation composition. *Ecol Lett* 16,
910 1285-1293.
911 Wotton, B.M., Flannigan, M.D., 1993. Length of the Fire Season in a Changing Climate. *Forest*
912 *Chron* 69, 187-192.
913 Zackrisson, O., 1977. Influence of forest fire on the north Swedish boreal forest. *Oikos* 29, 22-32.
914 Zobel, M., 1988. Autogenic succession in boreal mires – a review. *Folia Geobotanica et*
915 *Phytotaxonomic* 23, 417-445.

916

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig.6.

Fig. 7.

Table 1. Results of radiocarbon dating from the Mukhrino profile. Abbreviations: Poz – laboratory code of the Poznań Radiocarbon Laboratory (Poland)

Depth [cm]	Laboratory code	Age [^{14}C yr BP] pMC	Calibrated age, 2 σ range [AD]; in brackets probability of the range of age	Material selected to date; remarks
13–14	Poz-57449	107.81 $\pm$ 0.34 pMC	1956–1957 (3.7%) 2001–2005 (91.7%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
20–21	Poz-57451	110.13 $\pm$ 0.33 pMC	1957 (1.3%) 1996–2000 (94.1%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
31–32	Poz-56374	130.35 $\pm$ 0.45 pMC	1961–1962 (4.9%) 1978–1980 (90.5%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
40–41	Poz-56525	145.69 $\pm$ 0.4 pMC	1962–1963 (7.9%) 1972–1974 (87.5%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
51–52	Poz-59502	70 $\pm$ 30	1691–1730 (24.3%) 1810–1924 (71.1%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems; excluded from age-depth modelling
56–57	Poz-69551	145 $\pm$ 30	1668–1710 (16.3%) 1717–1782 (29.2%) 1797–1891 (33.5%) 1909–1948 (16.4%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
60–61	Poz-69552	140 $\pm$ 30	1669–1780 (43.1%) 1798–1891 (36.8%) 1909–1945 (15.5%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
69–70	Poz-59503	495 $\pm$ 30	1400–1450	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
79–80	Poz-59385	995 $\pm$ 30	986–1052 (63.8%) 1081–1158 (31.6%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
90–91	Poz-59386	1270 $\pm$ 30	663–778 (92.3%) 792–804 (1.3%) 819–821 (0.2%) 842–859 (1.6%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems
99–100	Poz-59387	1260 $\pm$ 30	669–779 (85.3%) 791–829 (5.9%) 838–865 (4.2%)	<i>Sphagnum</i> stems

Table 2. Transfer function performance statistics. The best model is Weighted Averaging Partial Least Squares Component 2

Model	R2	Ave_Bias	Max_Bias	RMSEP
PLS				
PLS Component 1 for WT	0,51	0,33	40,51	10,34
PLS Component 2 for WT	0,64	0,23	28,31	8,90
PLS Component 3 for WT	0,68	0,07	23,67	8,49
PLS Component 4 for WT	0,67	-0,09	19,52	8,73
PLS Component 5 for WT	0,65	-0,26	16,03	9,47
WAPLS				
WAPLS Component 1 for WT	0,63	0,34	23,21	8,60
WAPLS Component 2 for WT	0,74	-0,28	17,74	7,70
WAPLS Component 3 for WT	0,73	-0,91	15,56	8,43
WAPLS Component 4 for WT	0,72	-1,08	17,39	9,06
WAPLS Component 5 for WT	0,71	-1,15	16,61	9,59
WA				
Weighted averaging model (inverse deshrinking) for WT	0,64	0,28	22,12	8,54
Weighted averaging model (classical deshrinking) for WT	0,65	0,36	16,79	9,18
Weighted averaging model (tolerance downweighted, inverse deshrinking) for WT	0,75	0,62	18,12	7,88
Weighted averaging model (tolerance downweighted, classical deshrinking) for WT	0,75	0,77	16,35	8,11