

Miniconference on Fossil Wood from the Northern Tree Line

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The archive of fossil Holocene wood offers valuable information regarding not only the trend of temperature but also the millennial fluctuations in temperature along the northern treeline. A paper by Hantemirov and Shiyatov (2002 *Holocene* p. 717-726) clearly shows that the fossil wood archive is up to this challenge. They give radiocarbon dates for fossil wood from northern Siberia which not only establishes the cooling trend during the last 9 kyrs but also reveals millennial warm events centered at 1 kyr, 2 kyrs, and 3 kyrs. What's lacking is a cross-correlation of ring thicknesses for a number of trees which would provide an estimate of the duration of the warm events as a function of distance from today's treeline. Together with Ed Cook, I would like to organize a miniconference on this subject with an aim toward initiating a program to do both ring counting and highly precise ^{14}C dating.