

## **Deglaciation chronology, ice-free Greenland**

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In 2002 Bennike & Björck published a new deglaciation chronology for the ice-free parts of Greenland, the continental shelf and eastern Ellesmere Island (Canada) in *Journal of Quaternary Science*. The chronology was based on a compilation of all published radiocarbon ages from Greenland, and included new material from southern, north-eastern and north-western Greenland. Although each age provided only a minimum age for the local deglaciation, some of the ages came from species that indicate ice-proximal glaciomarine conditions, and thus may have been connected with the actual ice recession. In addition to shell ages, ages from marine algae, lake sediments, peat, terrestrial plants and driftwood were also included. Only offshore and in the far south had secure late-glacial sediments been found. It was concluded that most of the present ice-free parts of Greenland were deglaciated in the Early to Mid-Holocene.

In the past two decades a number of important radiocarbon ages have been published from marine sediment cores collected from the Greenland shelf. Also, numerous exposure ages have been published. These data add to our understanding of the deglaciation chronology of ice-free Greenland.

### **Reference**

Bennike, O. & Björck, S., 2002: Chronology of the last recession of the Greenland Ice Sheet. *Journal of Quaternary Science* 17, 211–217.