



# Ötzi, Schnidi and the Reindeer Hunters: Ice Patch Archaeology and Holocene Climate Change

Lenk, Schnidejoch and comparable sites in the Alps, Scandinavia and North America.

Symposium 21 – 22 August 2008

University of Bern, UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern, Lecture hall A003

<http://www.oeschger.unibe.ch/schnidejoch>



## Objectives of the conference:

Melting glaciers and ice fields in the Swiss Alps have uncovered spectacular archaeological finds that have been in the ice for thousands of years. Besides the well-known and unique 'Ötzi' in the Eastern Alps, comparable discoveries have recently been made also in Scandinavia and Alaska. What did prehistoric people do in the high mountains? Where did they come from? How did they use the resources and the environment? And what do these finds tell us regarding past, current and future climate change?

## Programme:

### Thursday, 21 August 2008

- 8.15 **Registration and coffee**
- 9.00 **Opening and introduction**  
Albert Hafner, (AD Bern)

## Lenk, Schnidejoch: introduction to the site

- 9.15 **The Lenk, Schnidejoch finds in the context of Holocene climates**  
Mathias Trachsel (U Bern)
- 9.45 **Holocene vegetation and fire dynamics: from pristine Alpine to intensely humanized landscapes**  
Willy Tinner (U Bern)
- 10.15 **Lenk, Schnidejoch and the Holocene human history**  
Albert Hafner (AD Bern)
- 10.45 Coffee

## Lenk, Schnidejoch: first results from the finds

- 11.15 **Leather: preservation, interpretation and reconstructions**  
Marquita und Serge Volken, Lucia Wick, Jorge Spangenberg, Markus Klek (Lausanne, U Lausanne, U Basel)
- 11.45 **Fibers and textiles: preservation and interpretation**  
Antoinette Rast-Eicher (Archaeotex Enneda)
- 12.00 **Ancient DNA research: animal and human identification from prehistoric leather/particles**  
Angela Schlumbaum, Kurt Alt (U Basel, U Mainz, D)
- 12.30 Lunch break
- 14.00 **Wood and bark objects, plant remains: identification, preservation and functional types**  
Peter Suter, Ralph Riens, Werner Schoch, Jehanne Affolter, John Francuz, Christoph Brombacher (AD Bern, WSL, U Basel)
- 14.30 **Summary of the Lenk, Schnidejoch finds and their relation to prehistoric lake settlements in Switzerland**  
Jörg Schibler, Albert Hafner (U Basel, AD Bern)
- 15.00 Coffee

## Eastern Alps and Ötztal

- 15.30 **Holocene climatic and environmental variability in the eastern Alps – glacier and tree-line evidence**  
Kurt Nicolussi (U Innsbruck, A)
- 16.00 **The Neolithic glacier mummy „Ötzi“: His life circumstances and environment**  
Klaus Oeggl (U Innsbruck, A)
- 16.30 **Alpine ice patch archaeology in Austria and Italy: from the Similaun Ötzi to the Silvretta survey project**  
Thomas Reitmaier (U Zürich)

## Friday, 22 August 2008

### Alaska

- 8.30 **Archaeological evidence from alpine ice patches in Alaska**  
James E. Dixon (INSTAAR, U Colorado, USA)
- 9.00 **Evidence of 9,000 years of Alpine Hunting in Yukon Ice Patches**  
P. Gregory Hare (Yukon, Canada)

### Norway

- 9.20 **Sediment-climate linkages in distal-fed glacial lakes**  
Jostein Bakke (Bjerknes Centre, U Bergen, N)
- 9.40 **Holocene glacier variations in Norway**  
Atle Nesje (Bjerknes Centre, U Bergen, N)
- 10.00 Coffee
- 10.30 **Archaeological evidence from alpine ice patches in Norway**  
Espen Finstad, Martin Calannan (Oppland, N; NTNU Trondheim, N)
- 11.10 **Holocene glacial history and dynamics: asynchronies between the Alps and Scandinavia?**  
Samuel Nussbaumer (U Bern)
- 11.35 **Holocene climate dynamics - facts and mysteries**  
Heinz Wanner (U Bern)
- 12.00 **Summary and closure**

## Thursday, 21 August and Friday, 22 August

During the coffee breaks and after the sessions:

**Demonstration and posters of reconstructed prehistoric equipment (bow, shoes, leather) and of transport methods for frozen archaeological objects.**

Martin Bader, Kurt Mischler, Markus Klek, Thomas Reitmaier, Charlotte Rerolle, Marquita und Serge Volken.

### Registration, latest 15 July 2008

**Online registration:** <http://www.oeschger.unibe.ch/schnidejoch>  
**Registration by e-mail:** [monika.waelti@oeschger.unibe.ch](mailto:monika.waelti@oeschger.unibe.ch)  
**Registration by mail:** Monika Wälti  
OCCR, Universität Bern  
Erlachstrasse 9a, 3012 Bern

**Registration fee:** CHF 30 regular participants  
CHF 10 students  
includes conference materials and coffee;

**Payment :** at the conference desk  
Thursday 21 August 2008 (8.15 – 9.00 h)

**Deadline** for registration: 15 July 2008.

First Name, Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip code, city: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_