

CHRONOLOGY OF POSTGLACIAL POLLEN PROFILES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST (U.S.A.)

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ABSTRACT

Composite pollen profiles from many peat sections in the Pacific Northwest showing Postglacial forest sequences are correlated in Table I with radiocarbon-dated pumice and ash. The "thermal interval" is shown from 8,000 to 4,000 years ago. A bibliography is added of papers by the author which are relevant to this subject.

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TABLE I

POSTGLACIAL POLLEN PROFILES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST CORRELATED WITH RADIOCARBON-DATED PUMICE AND ASH¹ (AFTER HANSEN, 1961)

1000 Years B.P.		Puget Sound		South Central B.C.		Eastern Washington		Willamette Valley		Oregon Cascades		Lower Klamath Lake		Volcanic Ash Pumice		Radiocarbon Dates (Years B.P.)		1000 Years B.P.	
1--		Hemlock Predominance	Douglas Fir	Lodgepole Spruce	Yellow Pine Maximum	Douglas Fir	Hemlock	Oak	Hemlock	Lodgepole Spruce	White Pine	Yellow Pine	Yellow Pine	Newberry Pumice	—	—	—	—	
2--		Douglas Fir Fir	White Pine	Lodgepole Fir	White Pine	Hemlock	Fir	White Pine	White Pine	White Pine	Yellow Pine	—	—	Pumice	—	—	—	2054	
3--		Cooler Moister	Cooler Moister	Cooler Moister	Cooler Moister	Fir	Fir	Fir	Fir	Fir	Yellow Pine	Yellow Pine	Yellow Pine	Grasses Composites	—	—	—	—	
4--		Douglas Fir Decline	Yellow Pine Maximum	Grasses Chenopods	Thermal Interval	Pumice	Elephant Bones	—	—	Grasses	Yellow Pine Maximum	Yellow Pine Maximum	Yellow Pine Maximum	Grass Composite	—	—	—	—	
5-		Hemlock Increase	Volcanic Ash	Chenopods Composites	Volcanic Ash	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Maximum	Mount Mazama Pumice	6453	—	—	—
6-		Hemlock Increase	Volcanic Ash	Volcanic Ash	Thermal Interval	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7-		Douglas Fir Maximum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8-		Douglas Fir Increase	Warming	Warming Drying	Warming Drying	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9-		Lodgepole Predominance and Maximum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10--		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11--		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

¹ On the basis of petrographical and chemical data, POWERS and WILCOX (1964) believe that the Washington ash and the Mazama pumice are one and the same, with the source from Crater Lake, Oregon. The eruption of Glacier Peak in north-central Washington was apparently much earlier and may have occurred near the end of the Vashon Glaciation.

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