



A 20th century calendar of snow avalanche activity within the Bødalen valley, inner Nordfjord, western Norway

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The forest-covered valley floor of the Bødalen valley located in the inner Nordfjord, western Norway offers the great opportunity for snow-avalanche reconstruction using tree rings.

By sampling at different points within the forest stand, both on birch (*Betula pubescens*) and alder (*Alnus*), we are able to extract the magnitude and return period of major snow-avalanche events in the valley. The years of 1967, 1974, 1985, 1994 and 2001 appear like very avalanche-rich, and the years of 1992 and 2007 appear as extreme, with snow-avalanche signals being recorded at the majority of the trees.

Although the investigated valley is quite remote during the winter time, the gained knowledge of the recent snow-avalanche history provides a picture of the potential activity that can be expected also elsewhere in the Nordfjord region, and especially in the inhabited areas as well as along important transportation corridors that do not have such records available.