

Snow and Ice Research Group – New Zealand: Monthly Video Seminar

Why I like snow: an environment chemist's perspective

Dr Kimberly Hageman

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Why would an environmental chemist who studies organic pollutants be interested in snow? There are several good reasons. First, falling snow acts as a scavenger for organic contaminants in the atmosphere; thus, snowfall is one of major routes by which atmospherically transported



contaminants are deposited to remote alpine ecosystems. Second, the snowpack contains an integrated record of the atmospheric deposition of contaminants so is useful as a sample medium. Third, contaminants that have been stored in the snowpack over winter may be released suddenly in the spring, resulting in a spring pulse in contaminant concentrations in alpine streams. I will discuss my past and current projects involving snow in this informal seminar.

*Our field site at Arthur's Pass National Park
(photo courtesy of Christoph Matthaei)*

About the Speaker: Dr Kimberly Hageman is an environmental chemist who studies the fate of organic pollutants in the environment. She joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Otago in September 2006. Dr Hageman conducted her PhD and postdoctoral research at Oregon State University in the US.

Tuesday, 5 October 2010, 1pm-1:50pm

All interested are welcome to attend.

Video meetings are held every month over the Access Grid. Video rooms are sited at most universities. The locations of the video conference rooms for each campus are:

Massey: Room 4.40, Social Sciences Tower, Massey University, Palmerston North.

Auckland: Room 429, SGGES (The School of Geography, Geology and Environmental Science), University of Auckland, Auckland.

Canterbury: Room 164, Level 1, Geography-Psychology Building, Canterbury University, Christchurch

Otago: Teaching Facilities South West corner, Information Services Building

Victoria: Library RB106



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