



Project acronym: STAPH_IN

Project title: Staphylinid beetles (Staphylinidae) as indicator of the territories adjacent to the glaciers

Project leader: Andrei Babenko, Tomsk State University, Russian Federation

Discipline: Earth Sciences & Environment: Ecosystems & Biodiversity

Station(s): Station Hintereis (Austria)

It is known that staphylinids are one of the most convenient indicators of the state of terrestrial ecosystems, including in the highlands. The ecological role of staphylinids in the territories adjacent to glaciers has not yet been practically studied. The purpose of our research in the Alps was to study the ecological features of staphylinids in areas directly adjacent to glaciers and snow formations in the highlands. During the research in the area of the Hintereisferner glacier, faunal collections of ground invertebrates (Staphylinidae and related groups) were carried out. When collecting the material, methods of soil traps and analysis of soil and litter samples were used. A total of 320 samples taken in the area of the glacier impact were analyzed.

After careful determination of the material and its comparison with the species collected in the Altai, a catalog of indicator species will be prepared for subsequent use for rapid assessment of the state of glacial ecosystems in the highlands.