

Recent Observation of a Proliferation of *Ranunculus trichophyllus* Chaix. in High-altitude Lakes of the Mount Everest Region: Response

Authors: Lacoul, P., and Freedman, B.

Source: Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research, 39(2) : 342

Published By: Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR),
University of Colorado

URL: [https://doi.org/10.1657/1523-0430\(2007\)39\[342:ROOAPO\]2.0.CO;2](https://doi.org/10.1657/1523-0430(2007)39[342:ROOAPO]2.0.CO;2)

BioOne Complete (complete.BioOne.org) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non - commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

Recent Observation of a Proliferation of *Ranunculus trichophyllus* Chaix. in High-altitude Lakes of the Mount Everest Region: Response

P. Lacoul*† and

B. Freedman*‡

*Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, B3H 4J1, Canada

†Corresponding author. placoul@dal.ca

‡bill.freedman@dal.ca

We are pleased to see that our recent article (Lacoul and Freedman, 2006) on high-altitude records for aquatic plants in the Himalayas of Nepal has now resulted in our learning of observations previously unknown to us of even higher records in the Andes of South America. This ongoing learning is a key part of the constructive progress of ecological science, involving a cumulative assembly of information about the natural world, including the geographic and environmental limits of species and how these may change over time. These sorts of high-altitude observations are especially salient today as we work to establish reliable databases that will be useful in detecting ecological responses to warming and other aspects of global climate change. In fact, one of the key points being made in our paper is that the

colonization of lakes at 4760 m is an apparently recent phenomenon that may be related to high-altitude warming during the past few decades.

Reference Cited

Lacoul, P., and Freedman, B., 2006: Recent observation of a proliferation of *Ranunculus trichophyllus* Chaix. in high-altitude lakes of the Mount Everest region. *Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research*, 38: 394–398.

Ms accepted February 2007