**Leeza Pickering**

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A person wearing a hat

Description automatically generated with low confidenceMy interest of reconstructing paleoenvironments began during my undergraduate degree whereby I successfully identified the Storegga tsunami at Budle Bay in Northumberland and I am currently in the process of publishing this work. I also have experience working as an environmental consultant where I worked in a variety of countries including Iraq and Guyana, by helping oversee major infrastructural projects which are key to the development of these countries.

Concerning my PhD, my research project will investigate and model paleoenvironmental change within meromictic lakes in the White Sea of Russia and project future changes in the mixing regimes of lakes in this area. Within the Arctic and subarctic, climate change has seen a shift in the lakes’ thermal and hydrological regimes, directly affecting their biodiversity and productivity. Recent studies suggest that more lakes in these areas are expected to become permanently stratified by the end of the century. Through the reconstruction of past climate change and the lakes’ response to this, I will develop a better understanding of future lakes’ response to climate change as more lakes are predicted to transition from a partially to permanently stratified state within the Arctic.

**Supervisors**

Dr Emma Hocking, Dr Paul Mann, Dr Leanne Wake, Dr Maarten Van Hardenbroek van Ammerstol

**Project Partners**

White Sea Biological Research Station, Lomonosov Moscow State University

**Publications**

Pickering, L., and Hocking, E., (2021). Is there any stratigraphic evidence of the Storegga Tsunami Reaching Budle Bay, Northumberland? Quaternary Newsletter, 153: 54-59.

IEMA Magazine article focusing on the emerging oil market and possible outcomes for Guyana’s economy (<https://transform.iema.net/article/troubled-transition>).