



NATURALLY OCCURRING RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES IN FISH AND SEDIMENTS

Results from the water column monitoring and regional sediment monitoring 2024



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Summary (English):

This report presents the findings from gamma spectrometric analyses of the naturally occurring radionuclides ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th in muscle and bone of ling (*Molva molva*) and cusc (*Brosme brosme*) collected at Hywind, Snorre A, Oseberg and Sognesjøen (a control location) in 2024. The work is part of the water column monitoring. The activity concentrations of all radionuclides across all samples were below detection limits, indicating that any potential health risk to consumers of these fish from these areas is negligible concerning ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th . To enhance the robustness of comparisons and conclusions, the study recommends obtaining lower detection limits and more accurate results, preferably through alpha spectrometry. Nonetheless, for the primary goal of documenting low levels of these radionuclides in fish and seafood, the gamma spectrometry method employed in this study is considered sufficient.

The report also presents findings from analyses of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th in sediments collected in Region II in the North Sea and Region VI in the Norwegian Sea as part of the regional sediment monitoring. The activity concentrations in Region II are significantly lower than in Region VI, which most likely are due to the sediments from Region II being classified as "fine sand" (grain size 0.063-0.250 μm), while the majority of the sediments from Region VI were classified as "pelite" (grain size <0.063 μm). Nonetheless, the results are consistent with other Norwegian data, including findings from the Mareano program and the national monitoring program "Radioactivity in the Marine Environment" (RAME). Our results also align with previously collected data from the regional sediment monitoring and are comparable to levels reported in adjacent sea areas. Seven sediment cores from the two regions are dated using the ^{210}Pb -method. There are no significant temporal variations in the levels of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th in sediment cores, nor is there a gradient relative to discharge point distance, as discharged produced water rapidly dilutes in the marine environment. However, pollution can still be transported over long distances, as evidenced by past findings in the Norwegian Trench.

To improve the assessment of contamination levels, it's crucial to contextualize radionuclide data against sediment grain size and total organic carbon (TOC). The current sampling strategy may misrepresent pollution levels in different regions due to sandy sediments' low retention capacity for pollutants. Thus, we recommend targeted sampling campaigns focused on clay-rich sediment areas near discharge points, as well as using more suitable sampling equipment and strategies for obtaining longer sediment cores. The latter will give more reliable results from the ^{210}Pb -dating.

Summary (Norwegian):

Denne rapporten presenterer funnene fra gamma-spektrometriske analyser av de naturlige forekommende radionuklidene ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra og ^{228}Th i muskel og bein av lange (*Molva molva*) og brosme (*Brosme brosme*) samlet inn ved Hywind, Snorre A, Oseberg og Sognesjøen (kontrollstasjon) i 2024. Arbeidet er en del av vannsøyleovervåkingen. Aktivitetskonsentrasjonene av alle radionuklider i alle prøver var under deteksjonsgrensene, noe som indikerer at en potensiell helsefare for konsumenter av disse artene fra disse områdene er neglisjerbar med hensyn til ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra og ^{228}Th . For å kunne gjennomføre sammenligninger av for eksempel tidstrender, anbefaler studien å benytte alfaspektrometri for å oppnå lavere deteksjonsgrenser og mer nøyaktige resultater. Men dersom det primære målet er å dokumentere lave nivåer av disse radionuklidene i fisk og sjømat, anses gamma-spektrometri som tilstrekkelig.

Rapporten presenterer også funn fra analyser av ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra og ^{228}Th i sedimenter fra Region II i Nordsjøen og Region VI i Norskehavet, som en del av den regionale sedimentovervåkingen. Aktivitetskonsentrasjonene i Region II er betydelig lavere enn i Region VI, noe som sannsynligvis skyldes at sedimentene fra Region II er klassifisert som "fin sand" (partikkelstørrelse 0.063–0.250 μm), mens de aller fleste sedimentene fra Region VI var klassifisert som "pelitt" (partikkelstørrelse < 0.063 μm). Aktivitetskonsentrasjonene er imidlertid generelt i samsvar med andre norske data, inkludert funn fra Mareano-programmet og det nasjonale overvåkningsprogrammet "Radioactivity in the Marine Environment" (RAME). Våre resultater stemmer også overens med tidligere innsamlede data fra den regionale sedimentovervåkingen og er sammenlignbare med nivåer rapportert i nærliggende havområder. Syv sedimentkjerner fra de to regionene er datert ved hjelp av ^{210}Pb . Studien finner ingen tydelig endring i nivåene av ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra og ^{228}Th over tid i sedimentkjernene. Det er heller ingen tydelig gradient i aktivitetsnivåer med avstand fra utslippspunkt. Dette kan skyldes at produsert vann hurtigt fortynnes og spres over lange avstander i det marine miljøet. Studien anbefaler undersøkelser i Norskerenna som er et kjent sedimentasjonsområde i Nordsjøen.

Resultatene viser at det er viktig å se aktivitetskonsentrasjoner av radionuklider i sammenheng med kornstørrelse og innhold av totalt organisk karbon (TOC) i prøven. Innsamling og analyse av sandige sedimenter gir begrenset informasjon. Vi anbefaler en mer målrettet sedimentprøvetaking med fokus på leirholdige sedimentområder nær utslippspunkt. Videre anbefaler vi å bruke mer egnet prøvetakingsmateriale for innsamling av sedimentkjerner. Dette vil gi bedre ^{210}Pb -dateringer.

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1 - Introduction

The radionuclides lead-210 (^{210}Pb) ($t_{1/2}=22.3$ years), radium-226 (^{226}Ra) ($t_{1/2}=1\,600$ years), radium-228 (^{228}Ra) ($t_{1/2}=5.75$ years) and thorium-228 (^{228}Th) ($t_{1/2}=1.9$ years) are part of the decay chains of the primordial radionuclides uranium-238 (^{238}U) and thorium-232 (^{232}Th) and exist naturally in the marine environment.

In addition to natural sources, anthropogenic activities significantly contribute to the presence of these radionuclides in the marine environment, particularly through produced water (PW) discharges from the petroleum industry.

The integrated ecosystem management plans for Norway's maritime areas aim to mitigate the impact of human activities on the marine environment (Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment, 2020). One of the primary objectives is to ensure that operational discharges from the petroleum industry should not cause levels above the background of naturally occurring substances, including radionuclides. This has not been achieved.

In the OSPAR maritime area, activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra and ^{228}Ra in open ocean regions typically remain below 5 Bq m^{-3} (OSPAR, 2022). In contrast, levels in PW can be up to three orders of magnitude higher (Betti et al., 2004; NRPA, 2005; Eriksen et al., 2006). Annually, Norwegian discharges of ^{226}Ra and ^{228}Ra from produced water are approximately 800 GBq ($1\text{ GBq} = 10^9\text{ Bq}$), with the highest volumes occurring in the North Sea (miljostatus.no). Discharges to the Norwegian Sea are roughly an order of magnitude lower, and discharges from UK petroleum industry in the North Sea are comparable to those from Norway (OSPAR, 2022).

To assess the environmental impact of petroleum activities, the industry is mandated to conduct environmental monitoring as outlined by the Norwegian Environment Agency (2015; 2020).

This report presents the findings from analyses of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th in ling (*Molva molva*) and cusc (*Brosme brosme*) collected at Hywind, Snorre A, Oseberg and Sognesjøen (control location) in 2024. The work is part of the water column monitoring.

Additionally, we report findings from analyses of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th in sediments collected in Region II in the North Sea and Region VI in the Norwegian Sea in 2024. The results are contextualized against parameters such as grain size and organic content. In total seven sediment cores have been ^{210}Pb -dated in order to study potential changes in contamination levels over time. The work is part of the regional sediment monitoring.

Data on cesium-137 (^{137}Cs) are included for comparison, and to support results from the ^{210}Pb -dating. ^{137}Cs is an anthropogenic radionuclide, and it is not discharged from the petroleum industry. The main sources to the North Atlantic are fallout from nuclear weapons tests in the 1950s and 60s, the Chernobyl accident in 1986 and discharges from the nuclear fuel reprocessing plants Sellafield (UK) and La Hague (F).

2 - Sample collection and preparation

2.1 - Fish samples

Samples of ling (*Molva molva*) and cusk (*Brosme brosme*) were collected as part of the water column monitoring. The samples arrived frozen to the Institute of Marine Research (IMR). Upon arrival at IMR, samples of muscle and bone from 10 fish collected from the same location were pooled. Approximately 150-200 g muscle and 50 g bone, respectively, were taken from each fish. Muscle samples were homogenized in a conventional food processor, freeze dried (Labconoco FreeZone) and the dry samples were homogenized again using the food processor. Bone samples were also freeze dried (Labconoco FreeZone) but homogenized using a cryogenic mill with dual grinding and cooling chambers (SPEX SamplePrep Freezer/Mill 6875D). A list of samples including sample locations, sampling dates, length and weights is given in Table 1. Information about sample sizes and dry weight content is given in Table 2.

Table 1 Sample locations, sampling dates, length (cm) and weight (g) of collected fish samples

	Lat N	Long E	Sample date	Species	n	Length (cm)			Weight (g)		
						Min	Max	Average	Min	Max	Average
Hywind	61.33	2.72	29.04.24	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	10	97	127	108.7	4500	11700	7358
Snorre A	61.46	2.11	02.05.24	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	10	69	155	103.9	1750	22000	7333
Snorre A	61.46	2.11	26.03.24	Cusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	10	59	82	67.5	2050	6210	3700
Oseberg	60.74	3.25	21.03.24	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	10	85	142	110.1	3780	22300	9486
Oseberg	60.74	3.25	21.03.24	Cusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	10	49	93	67.2	1138	8900	3634
Sognesjøen	61.35	2.25	26.03.24	Cusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	10	34	63	47.3	363	2430	1155

Table 2 Sample dry weights (dw) (g) and dry weight content (% g/100g) of collected fish samples.

		Muscle			Bone		
		Sample	Dry weight %	Sample	Sample	Dry weight %	Sample
	Species	dw (g)	(g/100g)	ID	dw (g)	(g/100g)	ID
Hywind	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	121.49	20.77	2024-992/3	113.06	34.54	2024-990/1
Snorre A	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	127.48	20.54	2024-992/1	110.95	34.00	2024-990/2
Snorre A	Cusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	108.46	20.42	2024-993/1	110.43	36.56	2024-991
Oseberg	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	120.47	21.18	2024-992/2	-	-	-
Oseberg	Cusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	118.44	20.84	2024-993/3	-	-	-
Sognesjøen	Cusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	101.72	20.38	2024-993/2	-	-	-

2.2 - Sediment samples

2.2.1 - Sample collection Region II

Sample collection in Region II is described by Akvaplan-niva (2024a). Briefly, sediment samples were collected by Akvaplan-niva onboard FSV “Ocean Response” between May 24th and June 11th, 2024, using a Van Veen grab (0.10 m²). Two different types of sediment samples were retrieved from the Van Veen grab: 1) So called “sectioned” samples, and 2) sediment cores. Sediment cores were collected to conduct ²¹⁰Pb-dating. Both sample types were collected by pushing PVC tubes of approximately 15 cm length and 4.5 cm inner diameter into the sediment. “Sectioned” samples were cut into 0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm onboard the ship and frozen. Sediment cores were sent whole to IMR in a frozen state. An overview of sampling stations, sampling dates, sampling direction, distance from the installation and sampling coordinates are given in Table 3. The geographical locations of the sampling stations are shown in Figure 1.

Table 3 Overview of sampling stations, dates, depths (m), sampling directions (°), distance from installation (m) and sampling coordinates in Region II.

Field	Date	St. nr.	Depth (m)	Degrees (°)	Distance (m)	UTM sone 31, ED50		WGS84		Sample type
						UTM East	UTM North	Latitude	Longitude	
Edvard Grieg	29/05/24	EGR01	111	10	250	456662	6523174	58° 50.658'N	2°14.849' E	Sectioned
Edvard Grieg	29/05/24	EGR08	111	190	250	456576	6522682	58° 50.392'N	2°14.765' E	Pb-dating, Sectioned
Edvard Grieg	29/05/24	EGR09	111	190	500	456532	6522436	58° 50.259'N	2°14.722' E	Sectioned
Edvard Grieg	29/05/24	EGR10	111	190	1000	456445	6521943	58° 49.993'N	2°14.638' E	Sectioned
Grane	31/05/24	GRA11	130	208	253	470573	6558492	59° 9.759'N	2°29.027' E	Sectioned
Grane	31/05/24	GRA15	129	20	250	470775	6558950	59° 10.006'N	2°29.235' E	Sectioned
Grane	31/05/24	GRA16	129	20	500	470861	6559185	59° 10.133'N	2°29.323' E	Sectioned
Grane	31/05/24	GRA17	130	20	1000	471032	6559655	59° 10.387'N	2°29.499' E	Sectioned
Ivar Aasen	29/05/24	IAA03	115	108	445	454248	6531685	58° 55.229'N	2°12.234' E	Sectioned
Ivar Aasen	29/05/24	IAA29*	115	289	274	453567	6531915	58° 55.348'N	2°11.522' E	Sectioned
Ivar Aasen	29/05/24	IAA32	115	102	253	454073	6531772	58° 55.274'N	2°12.050' E	Pb-dating, Sectioned
Ivar Aasen	29/05/24	IAA36	116	108	750	454545	6531582	58° 55.175'N	2°12.545' E	Sectioned
Regional	26/05/24	REG2-08A	109	-	-	422936	6513198	58° 45.000'N	1°40.000' E	Pb-dating
Regional	25/05/24	REG2-17A	78	-	-	441633	6472712	58° 23.363'N	2°0.007' E	Pb-dating

Regional	30/05/24	REG2-20A	128	-	-	469297	6554935	59° 7.837'N	2°27.718' E	Pb-dating
Regional	01/06/24	REG2-21A	127	-	-	452182	6590203	59° 26.742'N	2°9.309' E	Pb-dating
Regional	02/06/24	REG2-22A	116	-	-	456430	6614401	59° 39.807'N	2°13.505' E	Pb-dating
Regional	10/06/24	REG2-28	110	-	-	466769	6655091	60° 1.785'N	2°24.123' E	Pb-dating
Regional	31/05/24	REG2-36	127	-	-	459203	6567845	59° 14.741'N	2°16.992' E	Pb-dating

*Station name was changed to IAA37

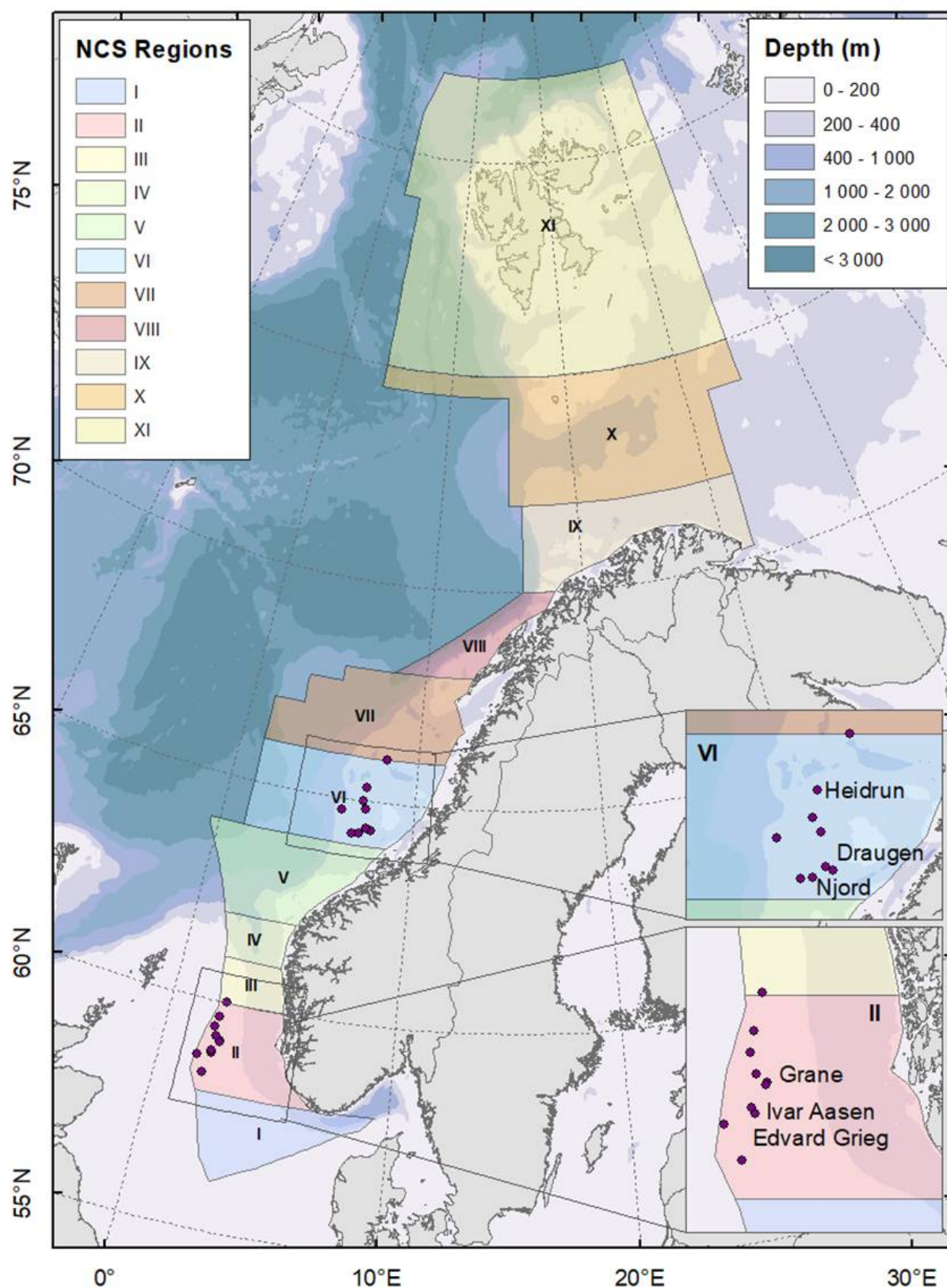


Figure 1 The Norwegian continental shelf is divided into eleven geographical regions for the regional sediment monitoring. Each region is surveyed every third year with surveys alternating between regions. The fields investigated for naturally occurring radionuclides in 2024 (Heidrun, Draugen, Njord, Grane, Ivar Aasen and Edvard Grieg) are marked. The regional stations are shown but not marked.

2.2.2 - Sample collection Region VI

Sample collection in Region VI is described by Akvaplan-niva (2024b). Briefly, sediment samples were collected by Akvaplan-niva onboard FSV “Ocean Response” between April 6th and 24th 2024 using a Van Veen grab (0.15 m²). Two different types of sediment samples were retrieved from the Van Veen grab: 1) So called “sectioned” samples, and 2) sediment cores. Sediment cores were collected to conduct ²¹⁰Pb-dating. Both sample types were collected by pushing PVC tubes of approximately 15 cm length and 6.9 cm inner diameter into the sediment. “Sectioned” samples were cut into 0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm onboard the ship and frozen. Sediment cores were sent whole to IMR in a frozen state. An overview of sampling stations, sampling dates, sampling direction, distance from the installation and sampling coordinates are given in Table 4 . The geographical locations of the sampling stations are shown in Figure 1 .

Table 4 Overview of sampling stations, dates, depths (m), sampling directions (°), distance from installation (m) and sampling coordinates in Region VI.

Field	Date	St. nr.	Depth (m)	Degrees (°)	Distance (m)	UTM sone 31, ED50		WGS84		Sample type
						UTM East	UTM North	Latitude	Longitude	
Draugen	17/04/24	DRPL23	250	298	517	440750.4	7137353.6	64° 21.299'N	7° 46.282' E	Sectioned
Draugen	17/04/24	DRPL24	247	297	258	440976.1	7137225.4	64° 21.232'N	7° 46.566' E	Sectioned
Draugen	17/04/24	DRPL26	256	164	532	441353.2	7136598.9	64° 20.899'N	7° 47.049' E	Sectioned
Draugen	17/04/24	DRPL27	263	164	985	441479.1	7136163.0	64° 20.666'N	7° 47.216' E	Sectioned
Heidrun	12/04/24	HEI07	353	47	992	422350.9	7246677.4	65° 19.911'N	7° 19.85' E	Sectioned
Heidrun	12/04/24	HEI08	351	47	1491	422713.3	7247020.9	65° 20.101'N	7° 20.305' E	Sectioned
Heidrun	11/04/24	HEI42	342	225	559	421237.0	7245599.0	65° 19.315'N	7° 18.453' E	Sectioned
Heidrun	11/04/24	HEI47	350	45	350	421861.0	7246284.0	65° 19.693'N	7° 19.233' E	Sectioned
Njord	07/04/24	NJ13	332	336	250	412790.3	7128847.1	64° 16.362'N	7° 11.858' E	Pb-dating, Sectioned
Njord	08/04/24	NJ14	333	337	491	412699.8	7129072.7	64° 16.482'N	7° 11.739' E	Sectioned
Njord	07/04/24	NJ28-24	325	177	314	412907.0	7128307.0	64° 16.073'N	7° 12.021' E	Sectioned
Regional	16/04/24	R6-05	264	-	-	424888.5	7191030.3	64° 50.000'N	7° 24.915' E	Pb-dating
Regional	22/04/24	R6-08	350	-	-	395021.7	7126872.0	64° 15.001'N	6° 49.946' E	Pb-dating
Regional	08/04/24	R6-09	312	-	-	365162.0	7183766.1	64° 44.97'N	6° 9.886' E	Pb-dating
Regional	10/04/24	R6-17	295	-	-	415001.5	7210008.4	65° 0.071'N	7° 11.737' E	Pb-dating

Regional	15/04/24	R6-30	390	-	-	465959.0	7320299.0	65° 59.987'N	8° 14.895' E	Pb-dating
Regional	18/04/24	R6-31	280	-	-	430017.0	7143866.0	64° 24.683'N	7° 32.766' E	Pb-dating

2.2.3 - Preparation of sediment samples

Two different types of sediment samples arrived in a frozen state at the Institute of Marine Research (IMR):

1. “Sectioned” samples. These were already cut in 0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm onboard the ship. The samples were freeze-dried using a Labconoco FreeZone freeze dryer until constant dry weight was achieved.
1. Sediment cores. These arrived whole and were cut into 1 cm slices to the bottom of the core at the Institute of Marine Research (IMR). The samples were transferred to pre-weighed aluminium containers and their wet weights determined. The samples were thereafter frozen at $\pm 20^{\circ}\text{C}$ and freeze-dried using a Labconoco FreeZone freeze dryer until constant dry weight was achieved. Dry weight of all samples was determined.

Both “sectioned” samples and layers from sediment cores were homogenized either by hand or by using a Retsch Planetary Ball Mill PM 100. All samples were sieved with a 2 mm sieve. The samples were thereafter filled in counting geometries of appropriate size.

The two different Van Veen grabs used here are (too) small for collecting sediment cores. Their sizes and design only allow the use of short PVC tubes with a small diameter, resulting in short sediment cores and small sample sizes when cut in 1 cm thick sediment slices. Small sample sizes result in higher analytical detection limits and uncertainties. In the present study, we combined slices from two sediment cores to obtain sufficient sample material.

Additionally, the bottom end of the PVC tubes used for the sample collection lacked a sharpened end, potentially causing compaction of the sediment cores. This compaction may introduce a higher uncertainty in the slicing process. Moreover, several of the PVC tubes featured a jagged surface, complicating the cutting of the sediment cores and further introduced variability in the slicing accuracy.

Addressing these issues will be crucial in future studies.

3 - Sample analyses

3.1 - Fish samples

Six muscle samples and three bone samples were analysed at IMR for ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra , ^{228}Th and ^{137}Cs . A brief description of the analytical methods is given below. Activity concentrations are decay corrected to collection date. Analytical uncertainties (reported with 2 sigma) are due to uncertainty in sample preparation, calibration standards, calibration methods, counting statistics and background correction.

The sample sizes for muscle and bone varied from 101.72 to 127.48 and 110.43 to 113.06 g dry weight (dw), respectively (Table 2). Homogenized samples were measured in a 200 ml polypropylene (PP) beaker. Counting times varied from 24 to 68 h.

To prevent loss of radon-222 (^{222}Rn), the sample beakers were sealed airtight in aluminized Mylar (BoPET) bags and stored for at least four weeks prior to gamma analyses to achieve a secular equilibrium between ^{226}Ra and its decay products. The methods for determining ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th are not accredited, but are verified by analyzing NIST traceable reference sources from Eckert & Ziegler (SRM number RARB15075) and IAEA (RGU-1 and RGTh-1). The analytical method for measuring ^{210}Pb is described by Sværen (2010) and Cutshall et al. (1983). The analytical method for measuring ^{137}Cs is accredited in accordance with the standard ISO 17025. The ^{137}Cs method is regularly verified by participation in national and international intercomparison exercises.

The content of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra , ^{228}Th and ^{137}Cs was determined using two low-background HPGe-detector systems: An N-type coaxial HPGe-detector (model no. GMX-M5970P-S) with preamplifier (model no. 257N) equipped with X-Cooler electric cryostat cooling system and DSPEC multichannel analyzer; and a P-type coaxial HPGe-detector (model no. GEM-S8530P4-RB) with preamplifier (model no. 257P) equipped with X-Cooler III electric cryostat cooling system and DSPEC-50 multichannel analyzer. Relative efficiencies of the detectors at 1.33 MeV were 47% and 49%, respectively.

The HPGe-detectors were calibrated for ^{137}Cs with certified NIST traceable calibration source from Eckert & Ziegler (SRS number 103778).

Determination of ^{210}Pb includes corrections for self-attenuation of the ^{210}Pb gamma peak at 46.5 keV. Corrections are carried out using a ^{210}Pb point source (QSA Global GmbH). The minimum detectable activity was dependent on the counting time and sample weight but was in the range of 0.45–0.78 Bq kg⁻¹ fw. The HPGe-detectors were calibrated for ^{210}Pb with certified NIST traceable calibration sources from Eckert & Ziegler (SRS number 103777, 103778).

The ^{226}Ra content was determined using gamma peaks of the decay products ^{214}Pb (295.2 keV and 351.9 keV) and ^{214}Bi (609.3 keV). This method is described by Kahn et al. (1990) and Köhler et al. (2002). The ^{228}Ra content was determined using the 338.3 keV, 911.2 keV and 969.0 keV peaks of ^{228}Ac . Variation in the radon and thoron background levels were controlled by routine background measurements. Background peaks were accounted for by Peak Background Correction (PBC) in the Gamma Vision® software. The HPGe-detectors were calibrated with certified NIST traceable calibration sources from IAEA (RGU-1 and RGTh-1) with the same geometry and sealed in a similar way as the samples. The minimum detectable activity for ^{226}Ra and ^{228}Ra was dependent on the counting time and sample weight, but was in the range of 0.13-0.45 Bq kg⁻¹ fw for both nuclides.

The ^{228}Th content was determined using the 238,6 KeV gamma peak of ^{212}Pb . The minimum detectable activity was in the range of 0.11–0.20 Bq kg⁻¹ fw. Certified NIST traceable reference material from IAEA (RGTh-1) was used for calibration.

3.2 - Sediment samples

3.2.1 - Institute of Marine Research

69 sectioned samples and 88 slices from sediment cores were analysed at IMR for ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra , ^{228}Th and ^{137}Cs . A brief description of the analytical methods is given below. Activity concentrations are decay corrected to collection date. Analytical uncertainties (reported with 2 sigma) are due to uncertainty in sample preparation, calibration standards, calibration methods, counting statistics and background correction.

The sample sizes varied from 6.86 to 107.01 g dry weight (dw), depending on amount sample material available. Homogenized samples were measured in a 19 or 35 ml polystyrene (PS) or 60 ml polypropylene (PP) beaker. Counting times varied from 6 to 83 h.

To prevent loss of radon-222 (^{222}Rn), the sample beakers were sealed airtight in aluminized Mylar (BoPET) bags and stored for at least four weeks prior to gamma analyses to achieve a secular equilibrium between ^{226}Ra and its decay products.

The methods for determining ^{210}Pb and ^{228}Th are not accredited but are verified by analyzing NIST traceable reference sources from IAEA (RGTh-1) and other reference materials (IAEA-TERC-2024-01 Sediment and Bauxite).

The analytical method for measuring ^{210}Pb is described by Sværen (2010) and Cutshall et al. (1983).

The ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{137}Cs methods are accredited accordance with the standard ISO 17025 and are regularly verified by participation in national and international intercomparison exercises.

The content of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra , ^{228}Th and ^{137}Cs was determined using two low-background HPGe-detector systems: An N-type coaxial HPGe-detector (model no. GMX-M5970P–S) with preamplifier (model no. 257N) equipped with X-Cooler electric cryostat cooling system and DSPEC multichannel analyzer; and a P-type coaxial HPGe-detector (model no. GEM-S8530P4-RB) with preamplifier (model no. 257P) equipped with X-Cooler III electric cryostat cooling system and DSPEC-50 multichannel analyzer. Relative efficiencies of the detectors at 1.33 MeV were 47% and 49%, respectively.

Determination of ^{210}Pb includes corrections for self-attenuation of the ^{210}Pb gamma peak at 46.5 keV. Corrections are carried out using a ^{210}Pb point source (QSA Global GmbH). The minimum detectable activity was dependent on the counting time and sample weight but was in the range of 4.86–31.95 Bq kg⁻¹ dw. The HPGe-detectors were calibrated for ^{210}Pb with certified NIST traceable calibration sources from Eckert & Ziegler (SRS number 103777, 103778).

The ^{137}Cs content was determined using the 661.7 KeV gamma peak. The minimum detectable activity for ^{137}Cs was in the range of 0.28–1.96 Bq kg⁻¹ dw. The HPGe-detectors were calibrated for ^{137}Cs with certified NIST traceable calibration source from Eckert & Ziegler (SRS number 122308).

The ^{226}Ra content was determined using gamma peaks of the decay products ^{214}Pb (295.2 keV and 351.9 keV) and ^{214}Bi (609.3 keV). This method is described by Kahn et al. (1990) and Köhler et al. (2002). The ^{228}Ra content was determined using the 338.3 keV, 911.2 keV and 969.0 keV peaks of ^{228}Ac . Variation in the radon and thoron background levels were controlled by routine background measurements. Background peaks were

accounted for by Peak Background Correction (PBC) in the Gamma Vision® software. The HPGe-detectors were calibrated with certified NIST traceable calibration sources from IAEA (RGU-1 and RGTh-1) with the same geometry and sealed in a similar way as the samples. The minimum detectable activity for ^{226}Ra and ^{228}Ra was dependent on the counting time and sample weight but was in the range of 0.99-8.41 and 1.81-12.24 Bq kg⁻¹ dw respectively.

The ^{228}Th content was determined using the 238.6 KeV gamma peak of ^{212}Pb . The minimum detectable activity was in the range of 0.44-2.63 Bq kg⁻¹ dw. Certified NIST traceable reference material from IAEA (RGTh-1) was used for calibration.

3.2.2 - Institute for Energy Technology

60 sediment samples were analysed at Institute for Energy Technology (IFE) for the content of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra , ^{228}Th and ^{137}Cs using high-resolution gamma-ray spectrometry. The analyses were conducted according to IFE's standard method, which is based on NS-EN ISO 20042:2021; Measurement of radioactivity - Gamma-emitting nuclides - Generic testing method using gamma-ray spectrometry (ISO 20042:2019).

The amount of ^{210}Pb was determined directly, while the amount of ^{226}Ra was determined by measuring the activities of ^{214}Pb and ^{214}Bi . At radioactive equilibrium, the activities of ^{226}Ra , ^{214}Pb , and ^{214}Bi are equal. The samples were set aside for approximately 3 weeks after being sealed in airtight containers, allowing for the ingrowth of radon and radon daughters (^{214}Pb , ^{214}Bi) to achieve radioactive equilibrium during the analysis. Self-absorption in the samples was taken into account for the determination of ^{210}Pb . The self-absorption method for ^{210}Pb is based on Cutshall et al. (1983).

The samples were received pre-treated and were measured without further treatment. Reported analytical uncertainty is an expanded uncertainty based on a standard uncertainty multiplied by a coverage factor of 2, which provides a coverage level of approximately 95%.

3.2.3 - ^{210}Pb -dating

Use of lead-210 (^{210}Pb) (half-life 22 years) is the most common method for dating sediments deposited over the last century. The origin and distribution of ^{210}Pb in the environment are described by e.g. Goldberg (1963), Koide et al. (1972) and Turekian et al. (1977). Briefly, disequilibrium between ^{210}Pb and its parent isotope radium-226 (^{226}Ra) (half-life 1600 years) arises through diffusion of the intermediate gaseous isotope radon-222 (^{222}Rn) (half-life 3.8 days). ^{222}Rn produced by the decay of ^{226}Ra in soil escapes into the atmosphere, where it decays through a series of short-lived radionuclides to ^{210}Pb . This ^{210}Pb is subsequently deposited from the atmosphere via precipitation or dry deposition onto terrestrial surfaces or aquatic environments. In marine settings, ^{210}Pb is scavenged from the water column by organic matter and mineral particles into sediments on the seabed.

The ^{210}Pb in marine sediments thus has two components: supported and unsupported ^{210}Pb . Supported ^{210}Pb derives from the *in situ* decay of ^{226}Ra contained within the sediments. Because of the low diffusivity of ^{222}Rn in saturated sediments, losses from the sediment column are negligible and supported ^{210}Pb can in most situations be assumed equal to (in secular equilibrium with) ^{226}Ra at all core depths. Unsupported ^{210}Pb is the fraction deriving from atmospheric fallout. In practice, it is measured by the extent to which total ^{210}Pb activity concentrations exceed ^{226}Ra activity concentrations. Unsupported ^{210}Pb in the sediment column reduces over time according to the simple exponential radioactive decay law. The extent of the decline, if known, can be used to determine the sediment age.

As the collected sediment cores are short, equilibrium between $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{total}}$ and ^{226}Ra is in most cases not achieved. In such instances, employing calculations based on the well-known CRS model (Appleby and Oldfield 1978, 1983) necessitates an estimation of any missing supported ^{210}Pb below the base of the core (e.g. Appleby, 2001), thereby introducing a level of uncertainty. To mitigate this uncertainty, one can directly calculate the ^{210}Pb flux using chronostratigraphic dates (e.g., 1986 - Chernobyl accident, or 1963 - global fallout) as reference points (Appleby, 2001). Regrettably, this approach is only feasible for a few of the cores in the present study.

In a good part of the collected sediment cores, there are no clear exponential decay patterns in the $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unsupported}}$ activity concentrations with depth. These cores are not possible to date. For the cores with an exponential decay pattern of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unsupported}}$ activity concentrations with depth, we employed the Constant Flux:Constant Sedimentation rate (CF:CS) model. This approach determines the average accumulation rate using least squares fit procedure, as demonstrated by Goldberg (1963).

Sedimentation rates are calculated as follows:

Sedimentation rate = $\lambda \cdot \text{slope}$ (Equation 1)

where $\lambda=0.0312 \text{ y}^{-1}$ and slope are given in semilogarithmic plots of the activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unsupp}}$ in the sediment layers from the core plotted against sediment depth. Age of the sediment layers are calculated by dividing sediment depth with sedimentation rate.

We report sedimentation rates using both volumetric (cm y^{-1}) and cumulative dry mass (g cm^{-2}) as the depth parameter, but we show only the plots where we use the cumulative dry mass as the depth parameter. Unlike the volumetric rate (cm y^{-1}), the dry mass value ($\text{g cm}^{-2} \text{ y}^{-1}$) remains unaffected by sediment compaction, whether before or during coring.

The Constant Flux:Constant Supply model used in the present study is built on two main assumptions:

1. It is assumed that there is a constant flux of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unsupported}}$ from atmospheric deposition over time. This means that any temporal variations in the fallout of ^{210}Pb are negligible for the timescales being observed in the sediment.
2. Sediments are assumed to accumulate at a consistent rate (constant supply) over time. This assumption supports the idea that the sedimentation rate does not vary significantly during the period being studied.

These assumptions are rarely fulfilled, and this introduces uncertainty in the results.

Sediment age uncertainties were assessed following the method outlined by Binford (1990). With 95% confidence, these uncertainties typically range from about 1–2 (10–20%) years at ten years of age, 10 to 20 (10–20%) years at 100 years of age and 8–90 (5–60%) years at 150 years age.

3.2.4 - Grain size and TOC

Grain size and Total Organic Carbon (TOC) was determined by Akvaplan-niva.

4 - Results

4.1 - Fish samples

The activity concentrations of the natural radionuclides ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th were below detection limits in all muscle and bone samples from both ling and cusc (Table 5). No maximum permitted level exist for these natural radionuclides in food. The activity concentrations of the anthropogenic radionuclide ^{137}Cs in the muscle tissues of cusc and ling ranged from 0.21 ± 0.06 to 0.25 ± 0.07 Bq kg⁻¹ fresh weight (fw) and from 0.31 ± 0.06 to 0.38 Bq kg⁻¹ fw, respectively (Table 5). In the bones, the activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ranged from 0.12 to 0.13 Bq kg⁻¹ fw, which were similar for both species and somewhat lower than those observed in muscle tissue (Table 5). The levels of ^{137}Cs in muscle of cusc and ling are well below the maximum permitted level for radioactive cesium in food, which is set at 600 Bq kg⁻¹ fw by Norwegian authorities. No apparent differences were observed in the activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs between the sampling stations, including Hywind, Snorre A, Oseberg and the control location Sognesjøen.

Table 5. Activity concentrations of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra , ^{228}Th and ^{137}Cs (Bq kg⁻¹ fresh weight (fw)) in muscle and bone of ling (*Molva molva*) and cusc (*Brosme brosme*). Analytical uncertainties are given with 2 sigma.

	Species	Muscle (Bq kg ⁻¹ fw)						Bone (Bq kg ⁻¹ fw)					
		^{210}Pb	^{226}Ra	^{228}Ra	^{228}Th	^{137}Cs		^{210}Pb	^{226}Ra	^{228}Ra	^{228}Th	^{137}Cs	
Hywind	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	<0.57	<0.13	<0.22	<0.13	0.31	± 0.06	<0.78	<0.28	<0.45	<0.13	0.12	± 0.08
Snorre A	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	<0.70	<0.16	<0.28	<0.15	0.35	± 0.07	<0.45	<0.15	<0.26	<0.12	0.12	± 0.06
Snorre A	Cusc (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	<0.61	<0.15	<0.25	<0.15	0.21	± 0.06	<0.61	<0.23	<0.36	<0.11	0.13	± 0.08
Oseberg	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	<0.63	<0.14	<0.25	<0.14	0.38	± 0.07	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oseberg	Cusc (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	<0.74	<0.18	<0.31	<0.20	0.23	± 0.08	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sognesjøen	Cusc (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	<0.62	<0.15	<0.27	<0.16	0.25	± 0.07	-	-	-	-	-	-

4.2 - Sediment samples

Raw data for Region II and VI are given in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 , respectively.

4.2.1 - Region II - Grane

4.2.1.1 - Sectioned sediment cores

Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th range from below detection limit to 14 Bq kg⁻¹ dry weight (dw) (Figure 2). The activity concentrations are relatively similar down core for all three radionuclides. Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in the surface layer (0-1 cm) range from 40 to 71 Bq kg⁻¹ dw. There is a tendency of decreasing levels down core, but this is not equally evident in all cores. Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs were below detection limit in all samples and are not shown.

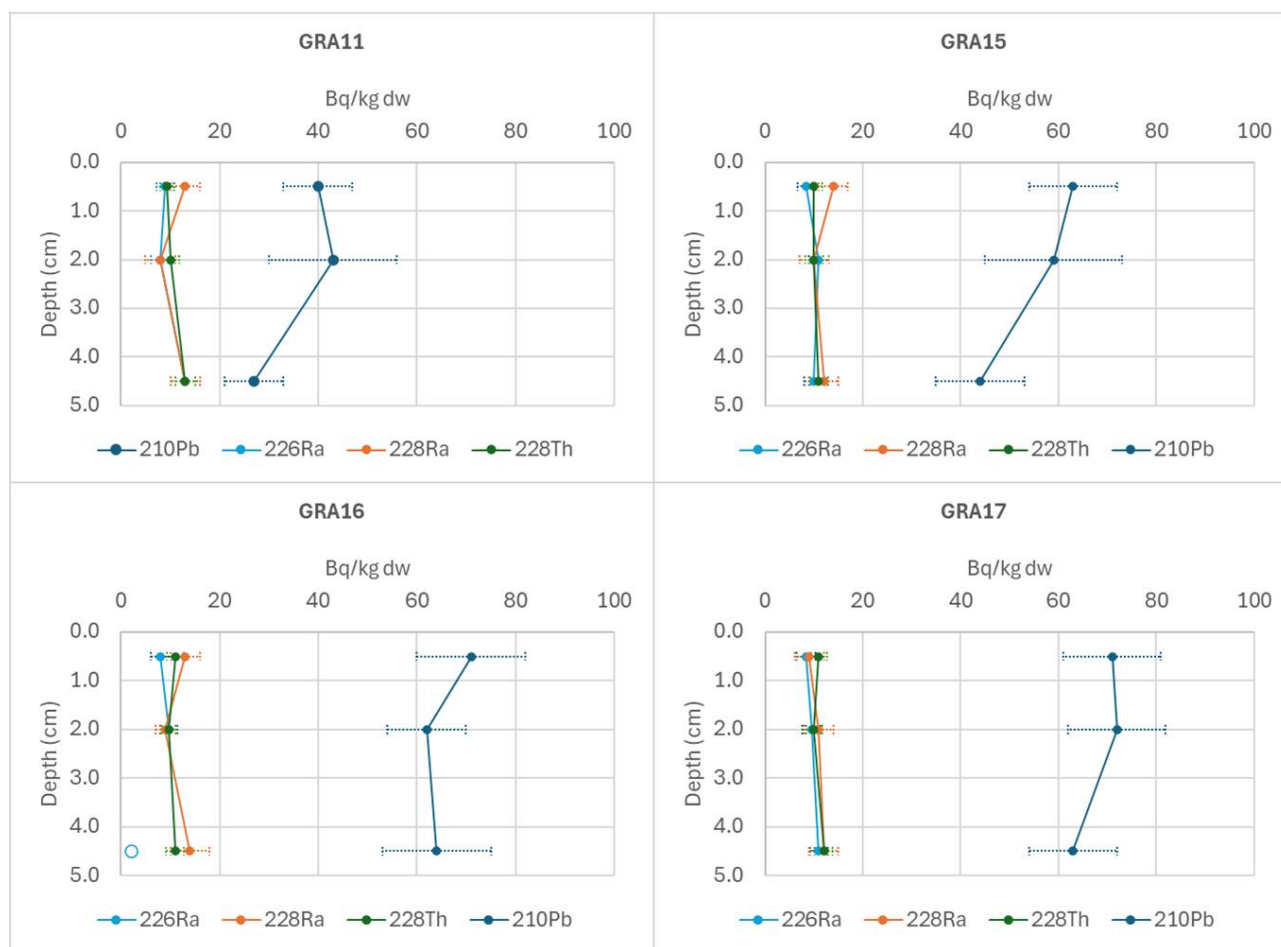


Figure 2 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations GRA11, GRA15, GRA16 and GRA17. Results below detection limits are shown as open circles. Average depths of each section are plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

4.2.2 - Region II – Ivar Aasen

4.2.2.1 - Sectioned sediment cores

Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th range from below detection limit to $9 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ (Figure 3).

The activity concentrations are relatively similar down core for all three radionuclides. Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in the surface layer (0-1 cm) range from 33 to $43 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ and are relatively similar down core (Figure 3). Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs were below detection limit in all but one sample and are not shown.

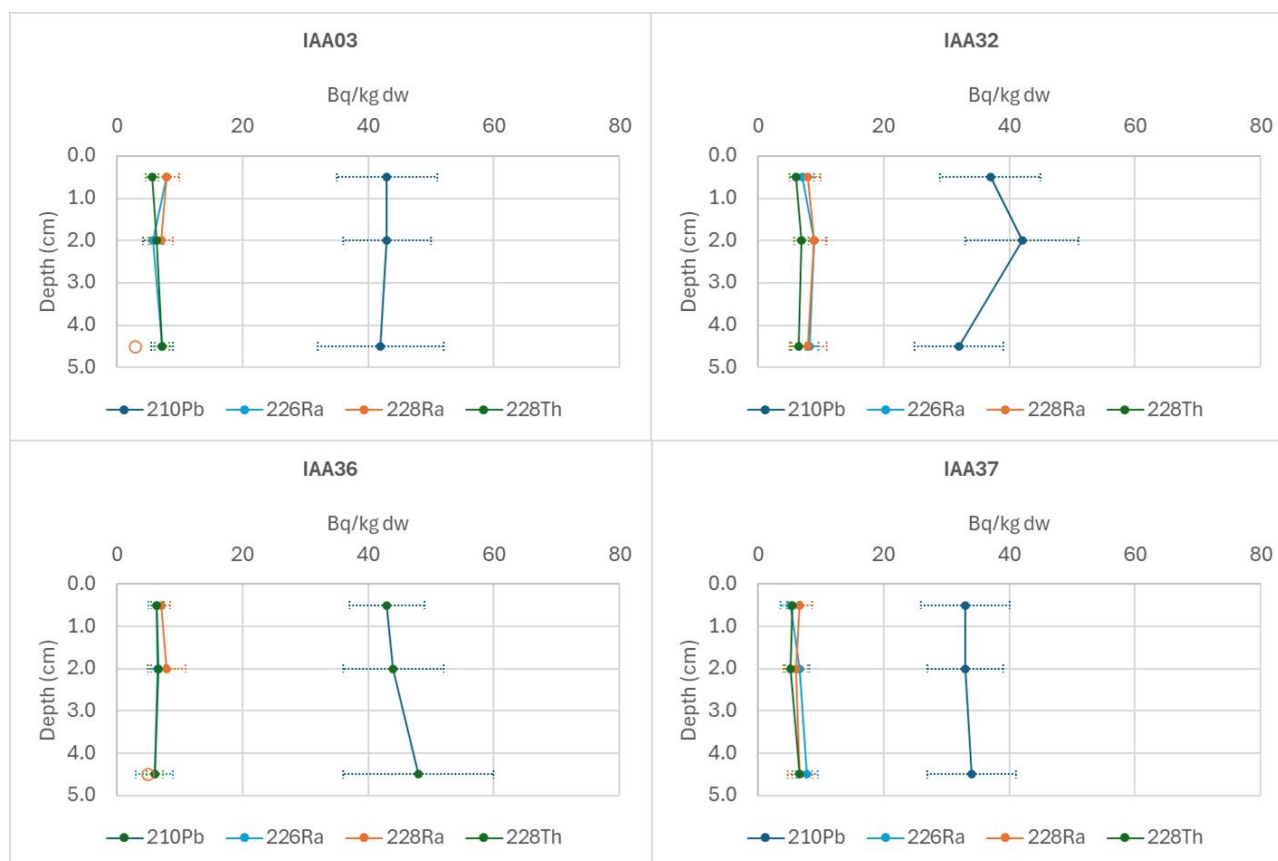


Figure 3 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th (Bq kg⁻¹ dw) in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations IAA03, IAA32, IAA36 and IAA37. The station name of IAA37 was originally IAA29. Results below detection limits are shown as open circles. Average depths of each section are plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

4.2.2.2 - ^{210}Pb dated cores

One sediment core was collected at station IAA32 with the aim of performing ^{210}Pb -dating. Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th , ranging from below detection limit to 16 Bq kg⁻¹ dw, are low and generally similar down core (Figure 4). One exception is a slightly elevated activity concentration of ^{228}Ra in the 6-7 cm layer. The levels of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ throughout the core range from 29 to 44 Bq kg⁻¹ dw (Figure 4), which also are low levels. There is no apparent pattern in the activity concentration of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ down core. Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs were below detection limit in all sediment layers and are not shown. The core is only 7 cm long, which is normally too short to perform ^{210}Pb dating. Equilibrium between ^{226}Ra and $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{total}}$ is not achieved. The core is not suitable for ^{210}Pb -dating.

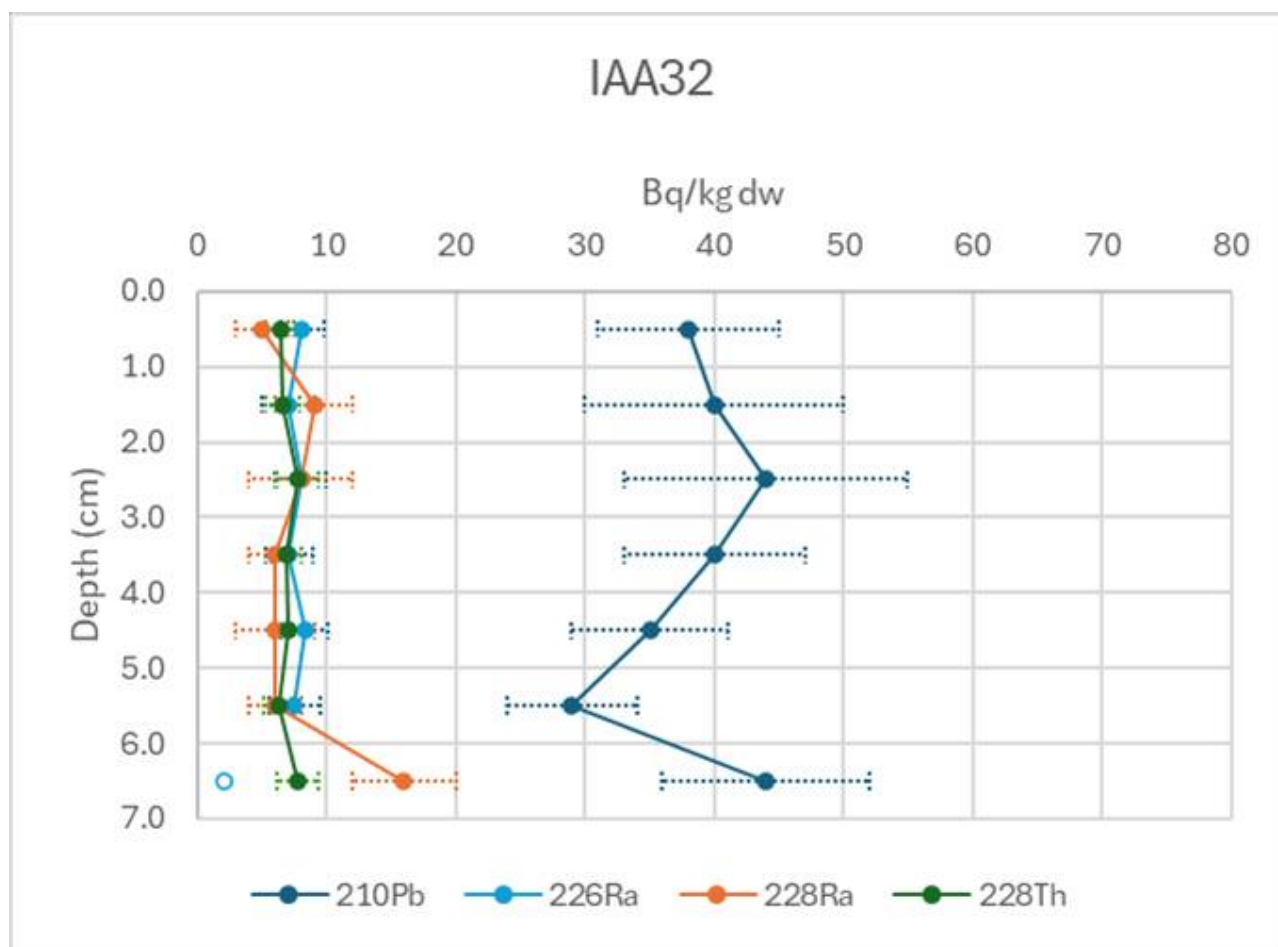


Figure 4 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in a sediment core from station IAA32. Results below detection limits are shown as open circles. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

4.2.3 - Region II – Edvard Grieg

4.2.3.1 - Sectioned sediment cores

Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th range from below detection limit to $13 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ (Figure 5). The activity concentrations are relatively similar down core for all three radionuclides. Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in the surface layer (0-1 cm) range from 32 to $43 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ and are relatively similar down core (Figure 5). Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs were below detection limit in all but one sample and are not shown.

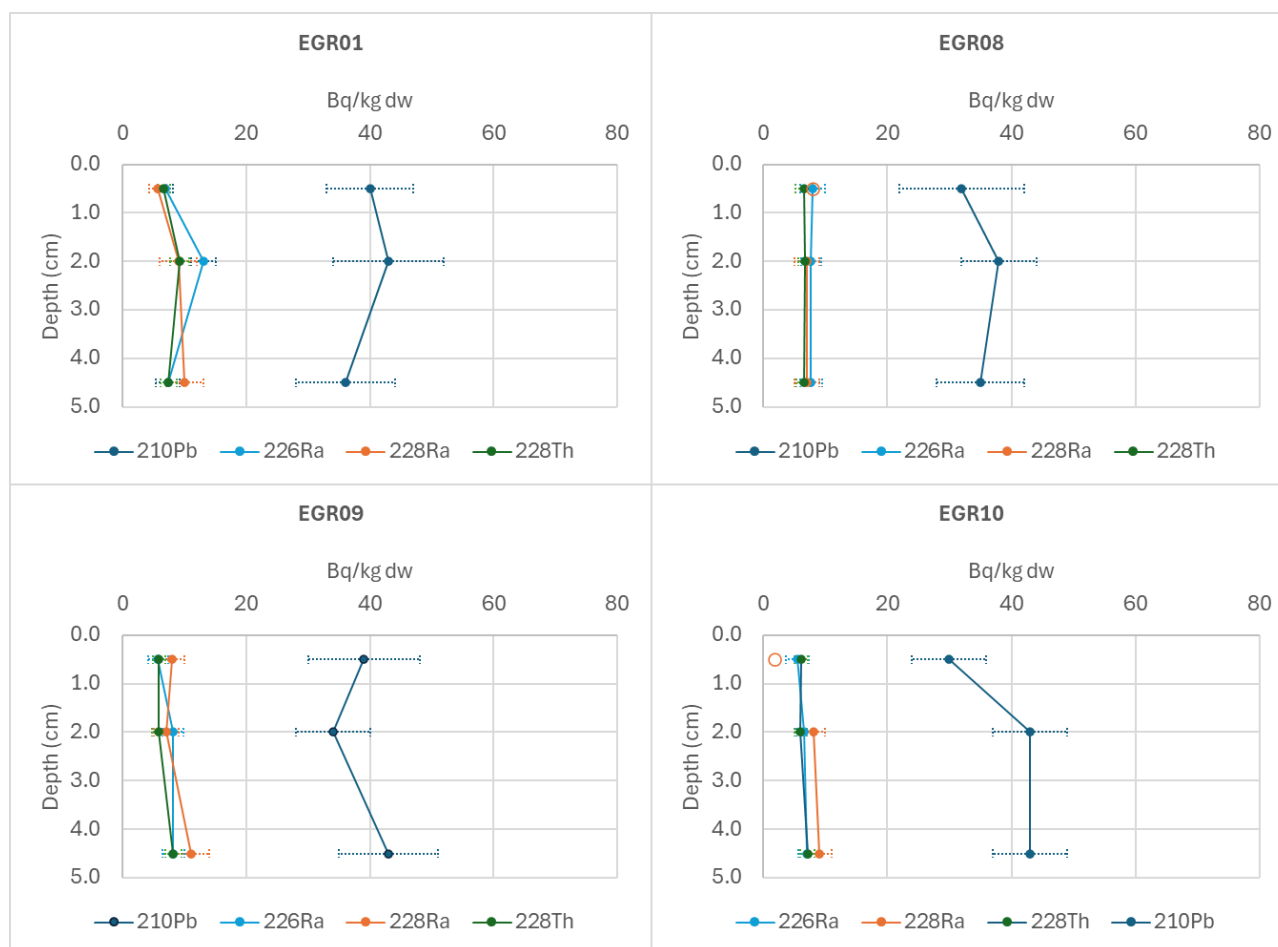


Figure 5 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations EGR01, EGR08, EGR09 and EGR10. Results below detection limits are shown as open circles. Average depths of each section are plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

4.2.3.2 - ^{210}Pb dated core

In addition to the four sectioned cores, a sediment core was collected at station EGR08 with the aim of performing ^{210}Pb -dating. Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th , ranging from 5 to 11 $\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$, are low and similar down core (Figure 6). The levels of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ range from 25 to 45 $\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ (Figure 6), which are also low levels. There is no apparent down core pattern in the activity concentration of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$. The core is only 7 cm long, which is also normally too short to perform a ^{210}Pb dating. Equilibrium between ^{226}Ra and $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{total}}$ is not achieved. The core is not suitable for ^{210}Pb -dating.

Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs were below detection limit in all but one sample and are not shown.

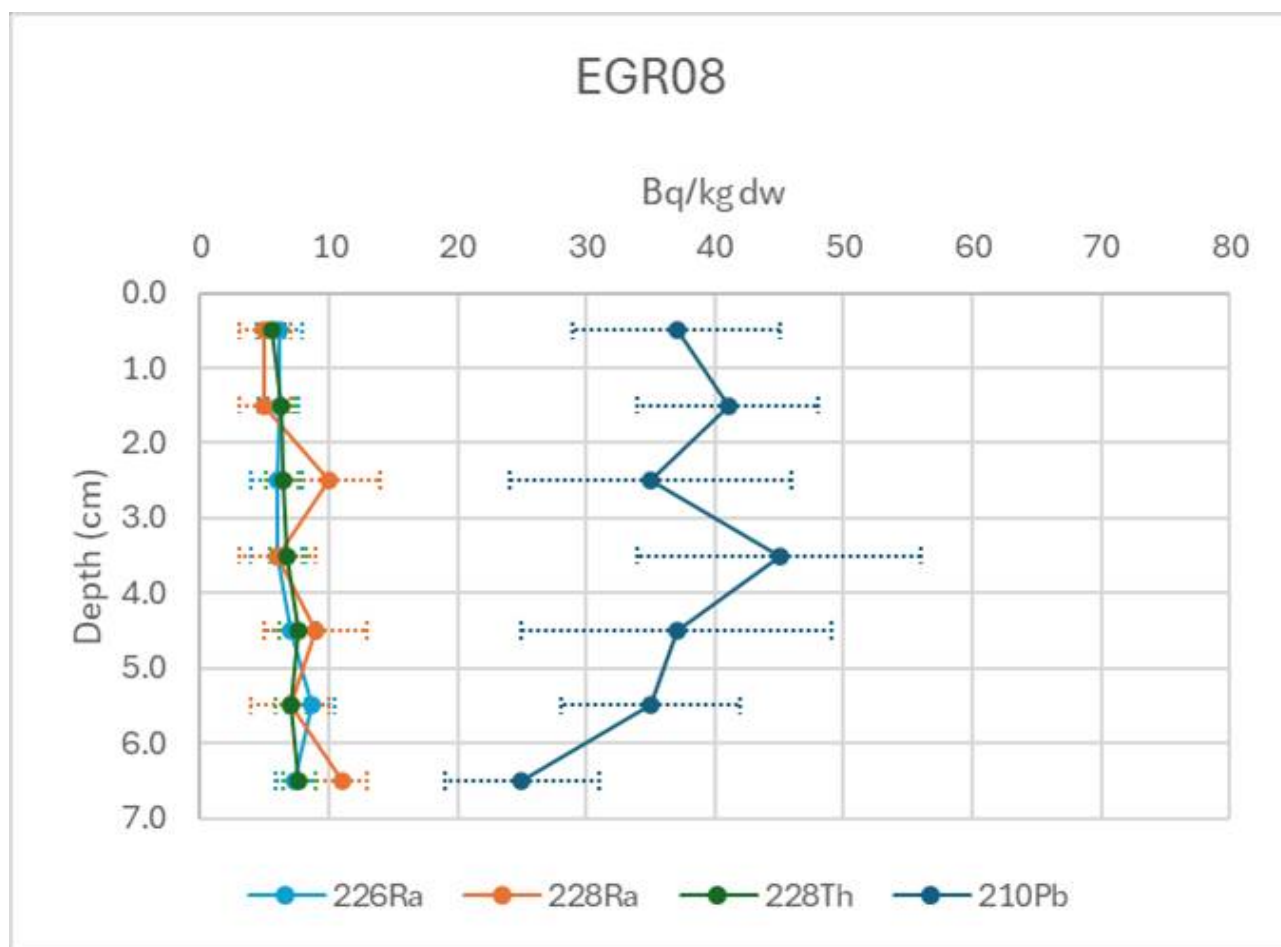


Figure 6 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in a sediment core from station ER08. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

4.2.4 - Region II – Regional stations

4.2.4.1 - ^{210}Pb dated cores,

Sediment cores were collected from seven regional stations in Region II with the aim of performing ^{210}Pb -dating. The locations of the stations are shown in Figure 7.

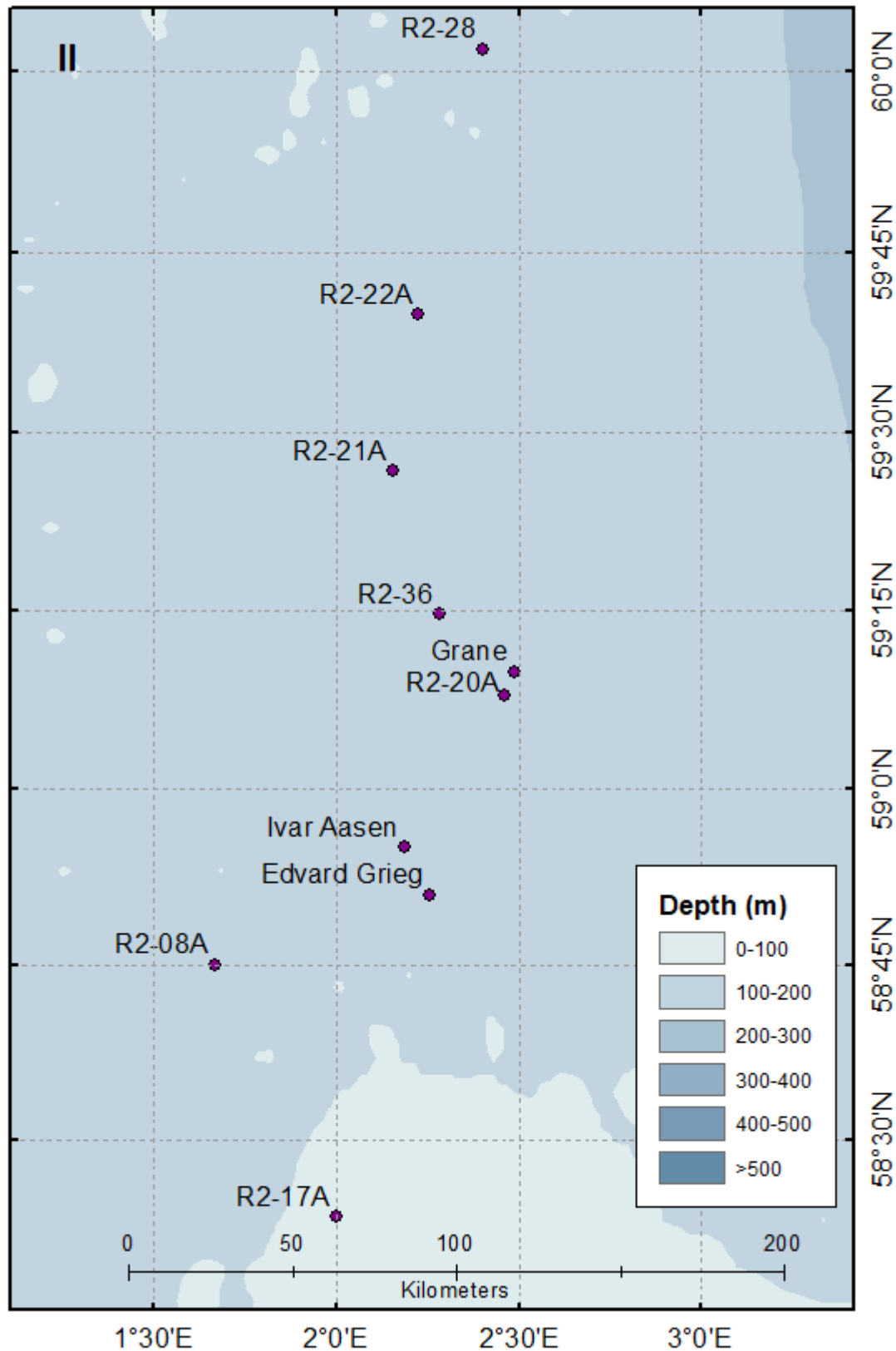


Figure 7 Location of the Regional stations in Region II from where cores were collected for ^{210}Pb -dating. The locations of surveyed stations at Grane, Edvard Grieg and Ivar Aasen are also shown.

Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th are relatively uniform down core at all stations (Figure 8), except there is a tendency of increasing levels of ^{228}Ra towards the bottom for some of the cores. This can be explained by a decreasing content of clay and silt towards the top of the sediment profile, but it can also be explained by a diffusive flux of radium from down in the core towards the top.

Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ range from approximately 20 to 100 Bq kg⁻¹ dw in all the layers from all the cores (Figure 8). In most of the cores, there are no apparent exponential decay in the activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ down core. Furthermore, equilibrium between ^{226}Ra and $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ is not achieved in any of the cores. The cores collected from REG2-17A, REG2-28 and REG2-36 do not show a steady decrease of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ down core. The cores collected from stations REG2-08A, REG2-20A and REG2-22A show a steady decrease of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in the lower part of the core, while the upper part of the core has a disturbed pattern of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$. None of these cores are suitable for ^{210}Pb -dating.

The core collected from station REG2-21A show, however, a relatively undisturbed exponential decay in the activity concentration of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ down core except for the uppermost layer (Figure 8), and we have chosen to date this core.

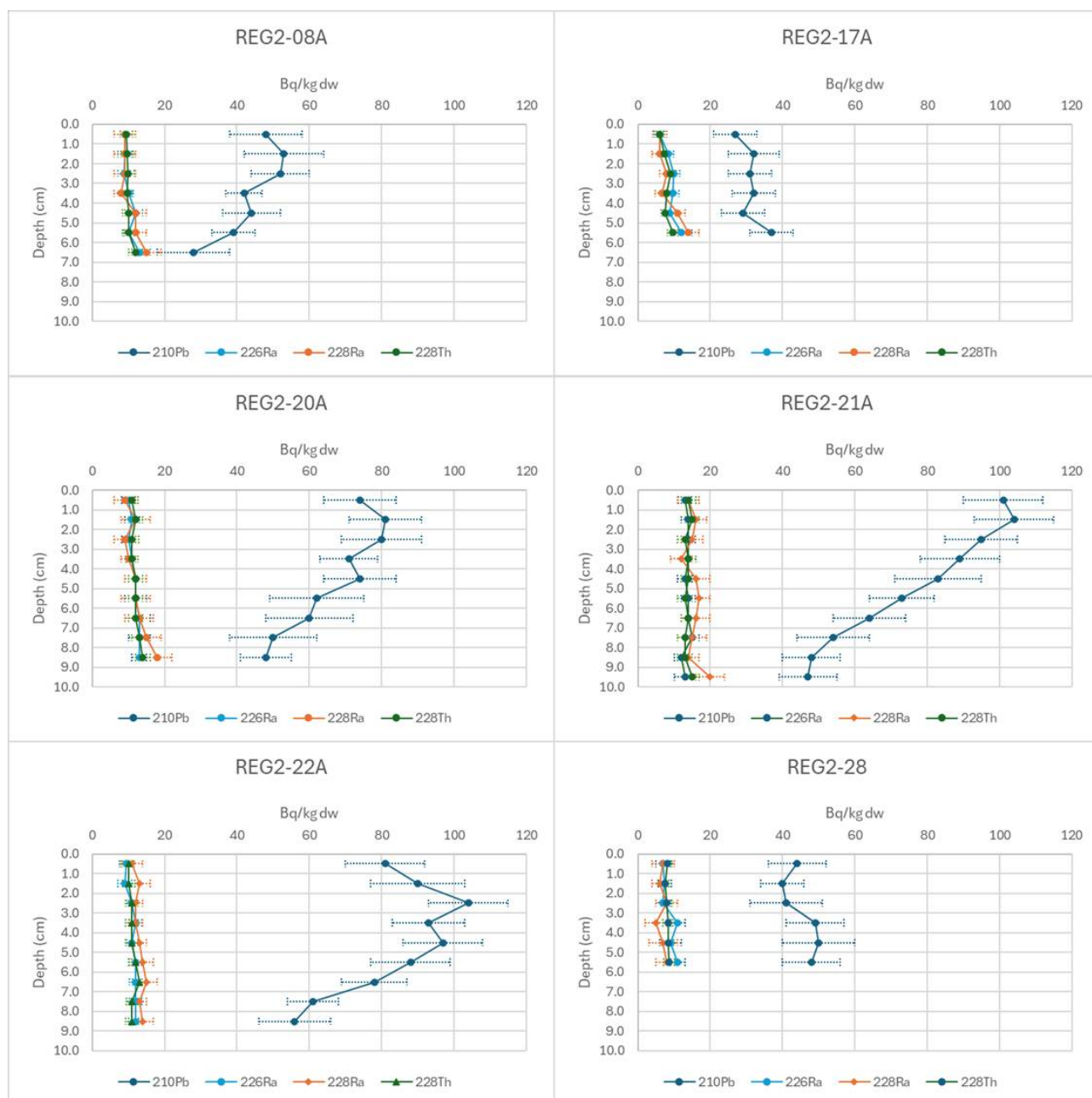


Figure 8 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th (Bq kg⁻¹ dw) in sediment cores from regional stations, Region II. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unSUPP}}$ in the sediment layers from the core collected at station REG2-21A are plotted against sediment depth (g cm⁻²) in Figure 9.

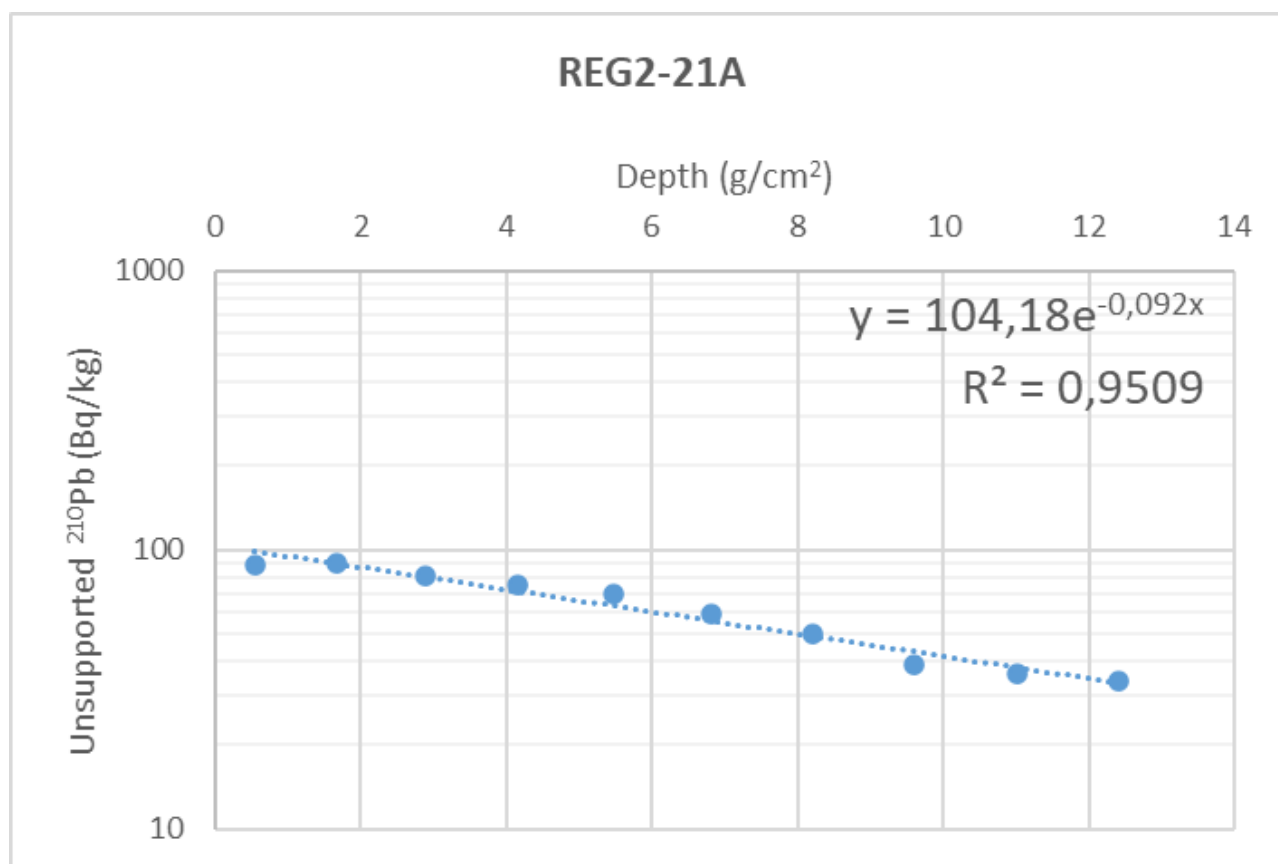


Figure 9 Activity concentrations of ²¹⁰Pb_{unsupp} in sediment layers from the core collected at station REG2-21A plotted against sediment depth (g cm⁻²). Average sedimentation rates were determined using exponential curve fits. Note logarithmic scales on the Y-axes.

The average sedimentation rate at station REG2-21A is calculated using Equation 1 to 0.34 g cm⁻² y⁻¹ (0.26 cm y⁻¹). Estimated ages of the sediment layers are given in Table 6 .

Table 6 Estimated ages of sediment layers from the sediment core collected at station REG2-21A calculated based on the CF:CS method.

Depth (g cm ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Estimated age (y)	Estimated year		
0.0	0	2024	±	0
0.5	6	2018	±	1
1.7	17	2007	±	3
2.9	29	1995	±	6
4.2	40	1984	±	8
5.5	51	1973	±	10
6.8	63	1961	±	13
8.2	74	1950	±	15
9.6	86	1938	±	17
11.0	97	1927	±	19
12.4	109	1915	±	22

There is a discrepancy in the calculated sedimentation rates for the two different depth parameters. The reason for this is unknown. Using $\text{g cm}^{-2} \text{ y}^{-1}$ as the depth parameter, the deepest layer (9-10 cm) is dated to 1915 ± 22 years (Table 6). In this case, the upper part of the core could potentially be affected by pollution from the petroleum industry, while the lower half of the core should be unaffected.

Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs are below detection limits in most sediment layers in the core. In samples where activity concentrations were above detection limits, the levels were low, ranging from 0.3 to $1 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$. The results do not show any patterns and cannot be used to support ^{210}Pb -dating. Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs are not shown in figures.

4.2.5 - Region VI – Heidrun

4.2.5.1 - Sectioned sediment cores

Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ranged from 17 to $34 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dry weight (dw)}$ (Figure 10). The activity concentrations are relatively similar down core for all three radionuclides. The levels of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in the surface layer (0-1 cm) range from 263 to $383 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$, and are decreasing down core, probably due to radioactive decay. It was not possible to measure $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in HEI47 due to high self-attenuation in the sample, due to presence of elements with high atomic number.

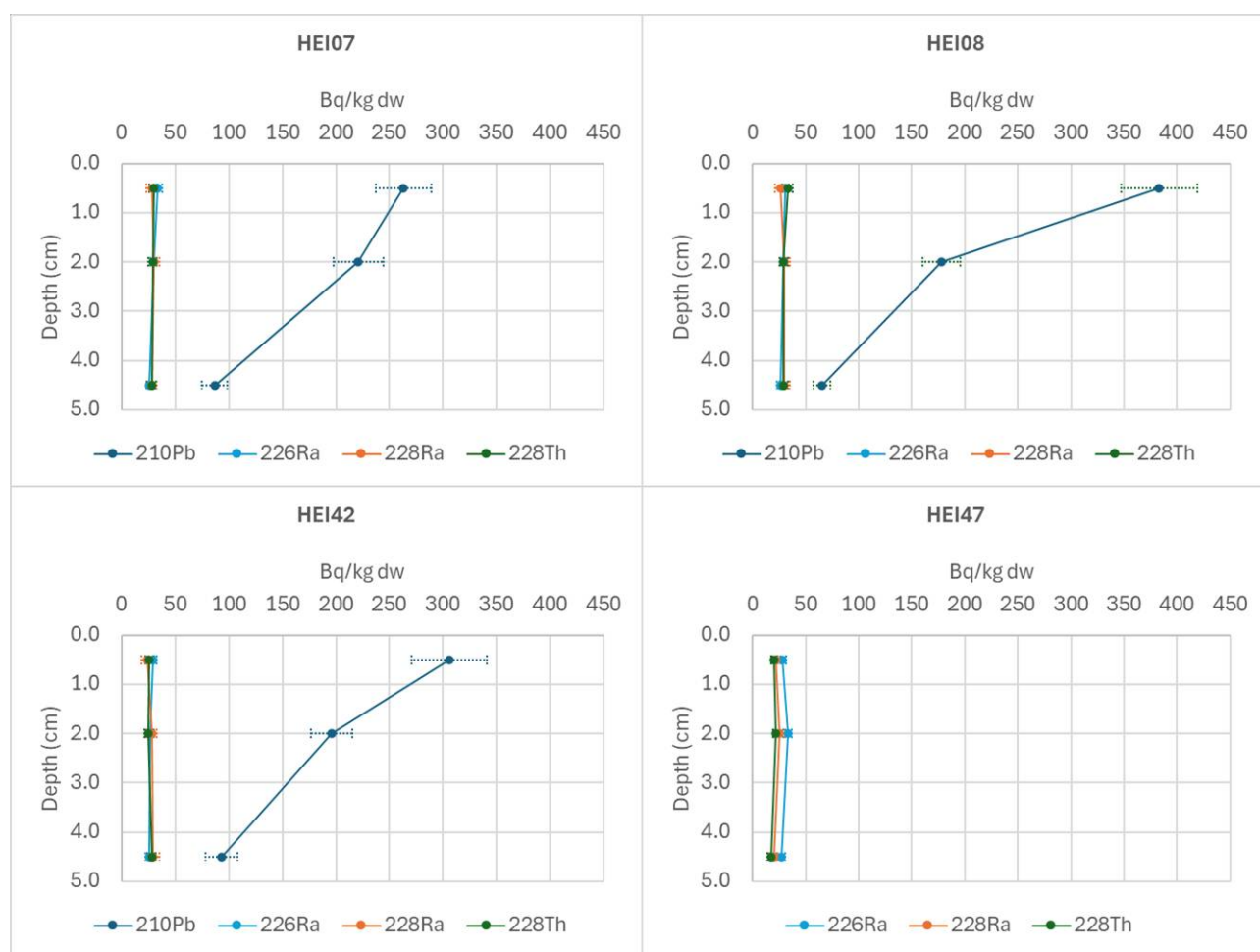


Figure 10 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations HEI07, HEI08, HEI42 and HEI47. Average depths of each section are plotted. It was not possible to determine the activity concentrations of ^{210}Pb for station HEI47 due to high self-attenuation in the sample, due to presence of elements with high atomic number. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ranged from below detection limits to $2.5 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ (Figure 11). Activity concentrations in the three layers at station HEI47 were all below detection limits.

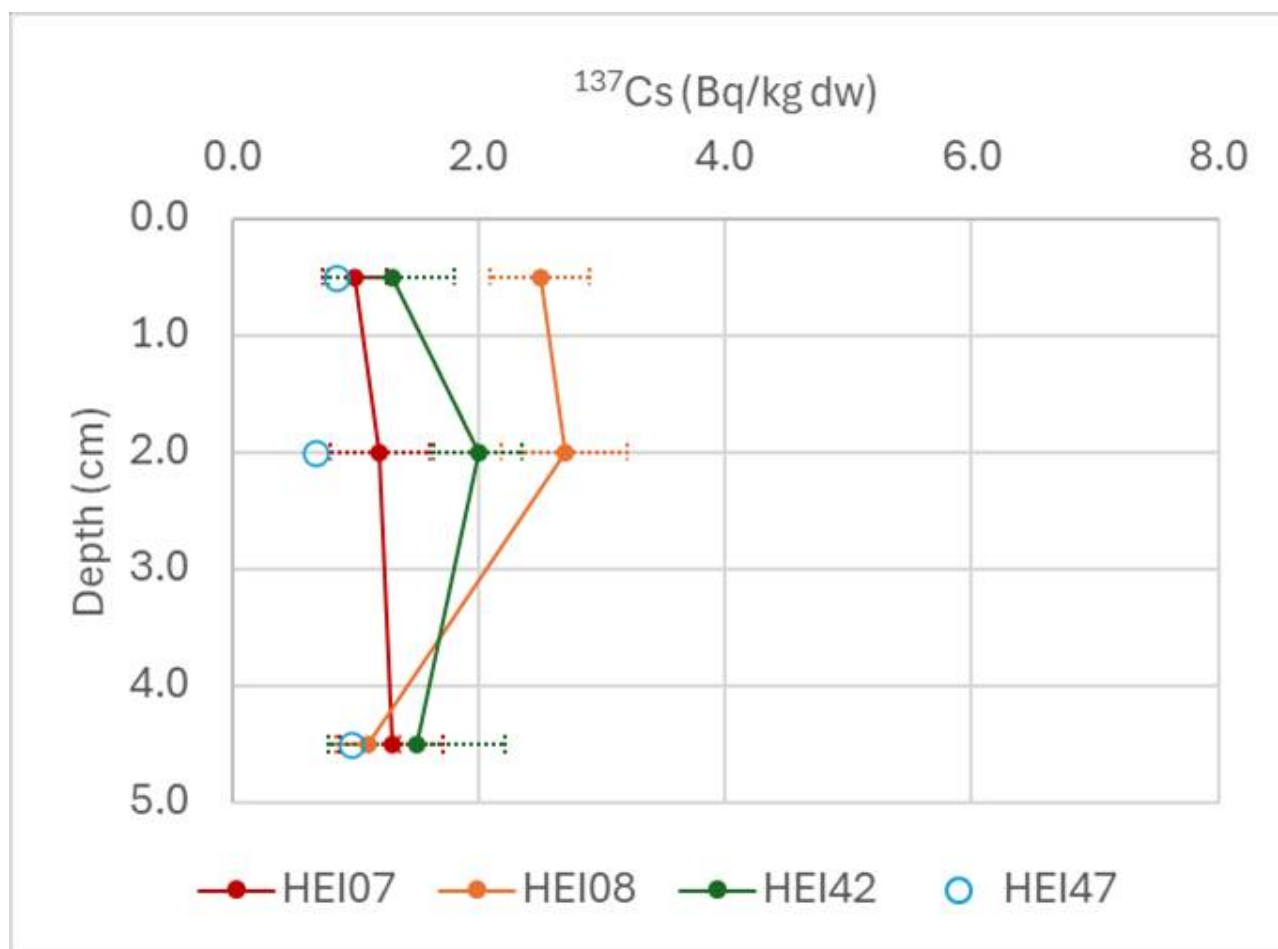


Figure 11 Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations HEI07, HEI08, HEI42 and HEI47. Average depths of each section are plotted. Activity concentrations in HEI47 were below detection limits in all samples. Detection limits are shown as open symbols. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

4.2.6 - Region VI – Njord

4.2.6.1 - Sectioned sediment cores

Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ranged from 22 to $33 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ (Figure 12). The activity concentrations are relatively similar down core for all three radionuclides. The levels of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in the surface layer (0-1 cm) range from 309 to $381 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$, and are decreasing down core, probably due to radioactive decay.

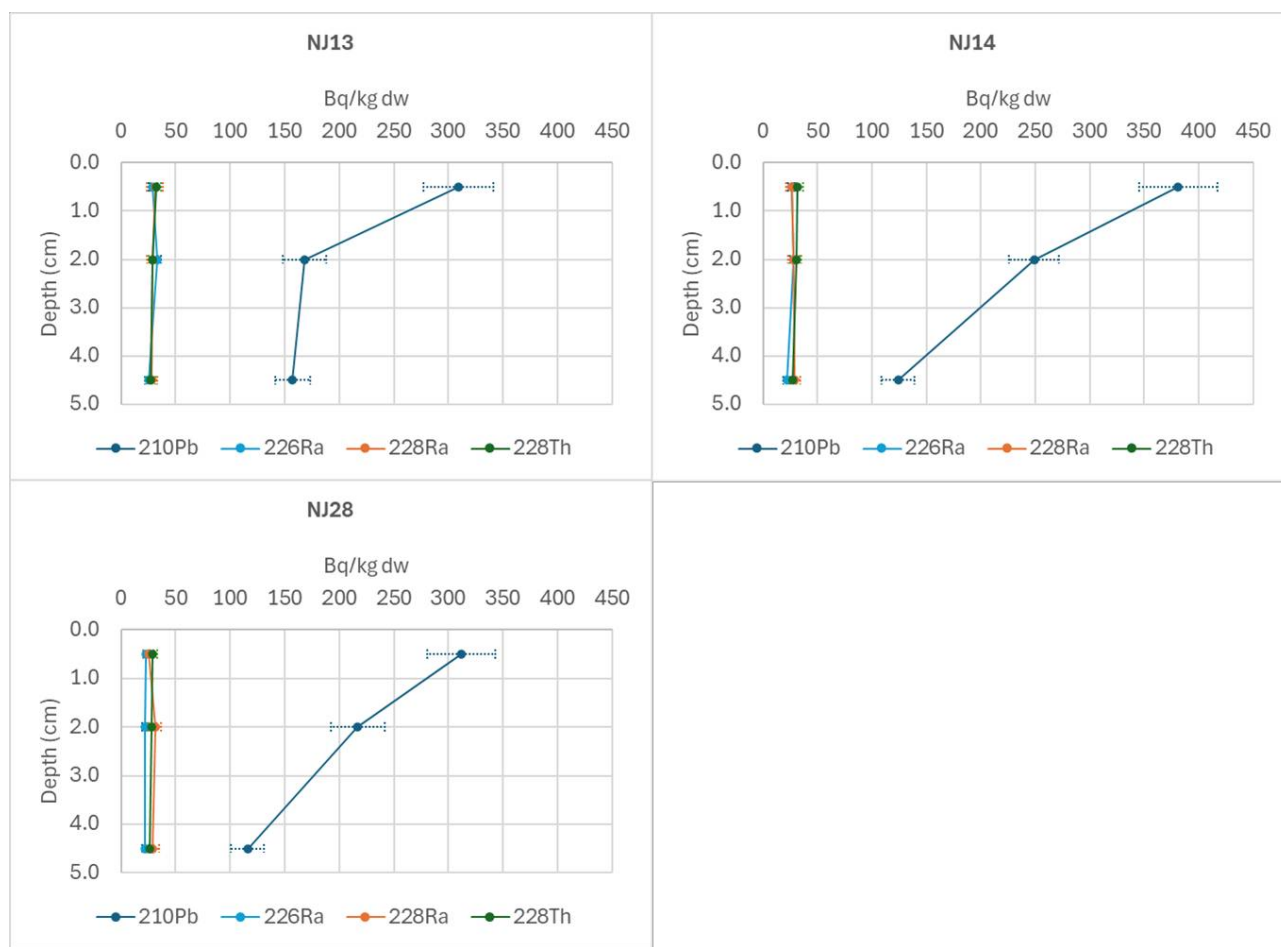


Figure 12 Activity concentrations ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations NJ13, NJ14 and NJ28. Average depths of each section are plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ranged from below detection limit to $4.7 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ (Figure 13).

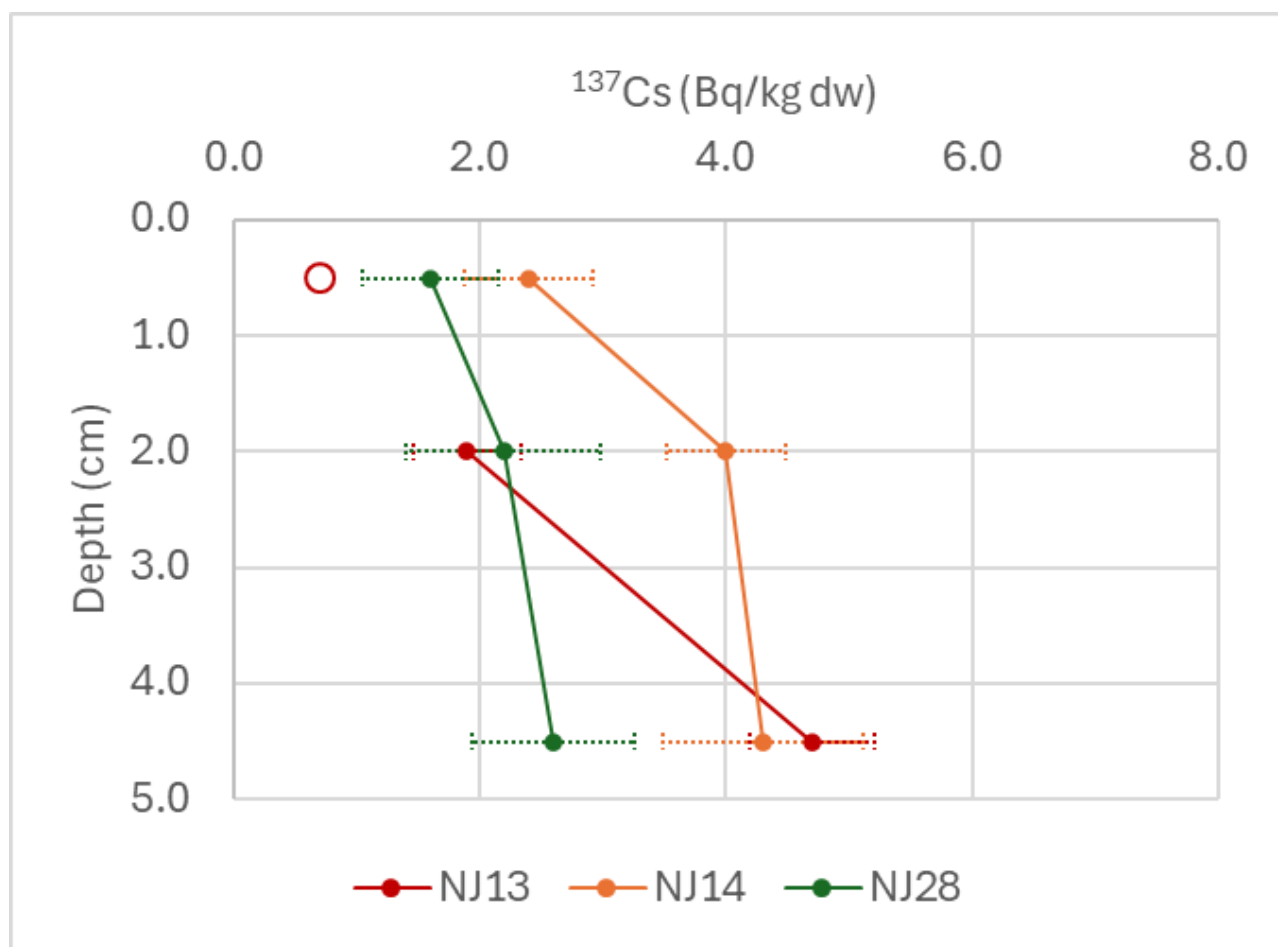


Figure 13 Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations NJ13, NJ14 and NJ28. Average depths of each section are plotted. Activity concentrations below detection limits are shown with open symbols. The detection limit is plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

4.2.6.2 - ^{210}Pb dated cores

In addition to the three sectioned cores, a sediment core was collected at station NJ13 with the aim of performing ^{210}Pb -dating. Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th range from 21 to 36 $\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ and are similar down core (Figure 14, left). The activity concentration of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ is 355 $\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ in the 0-1 cm layer and decrease exponentially to 35 $\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ in the 11-12 cm layer. This is equivalent to ^{226}Ra -levels. This core is suitable for ^{210}Pb -dating.

Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs range from 1.4 to 6.3 $\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$, and there is a distinct peak between 4-7 cm (Figure 14, right).

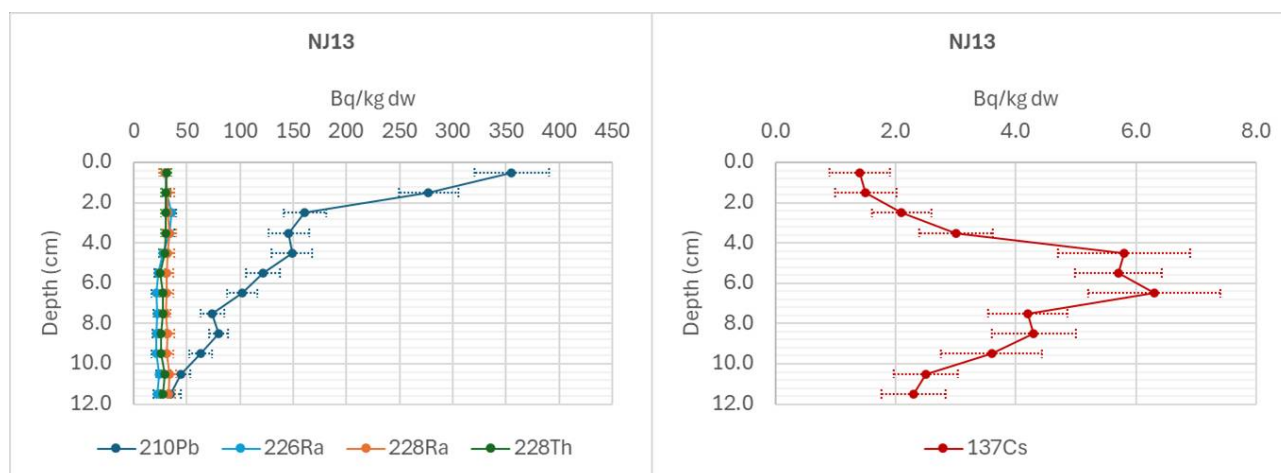


Figure 14 Activity concentrations ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th (left) and ^{137}Cs (right) in a sediment core collected from station NJ13. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unSUPP}}$ in the sediment layers from the core collected at station NJ13 are plotted against sediment depth (cm) in Figure 15.

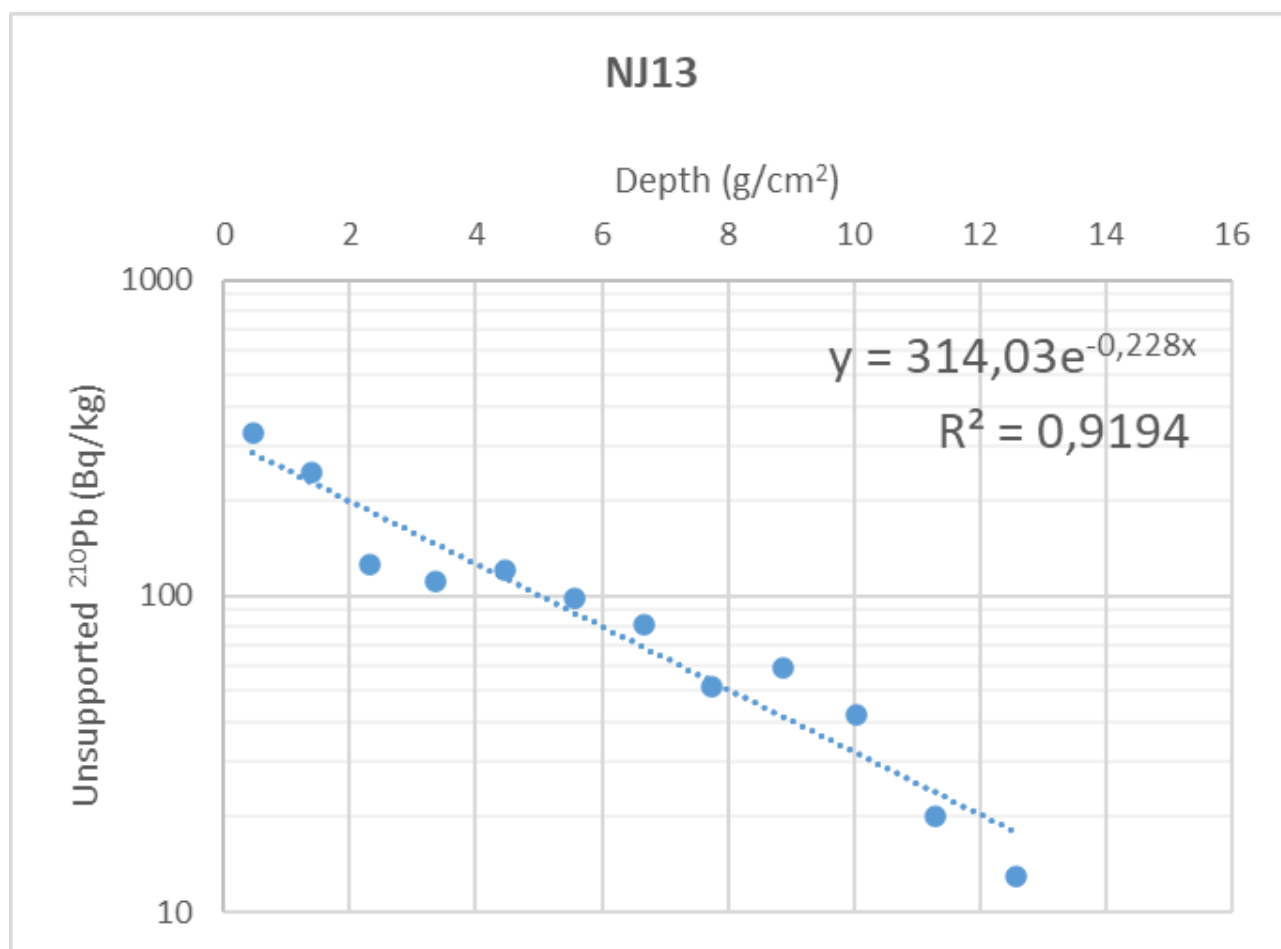


Figure 15 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unSUPP}}$ ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in the sediment layers from the core collected at station NJ13 plotted against sediment depth (g cm^{-2}). Sedimentation rate was determined using an exponential curve fit.

The sedimentation rate at station NJ13 is calculated according to Equation 1 to $0.14 \text{ g cm}^{-2} \text{ y}^{-1}$ (0.12 cm y^{-1}). Estimated age of the sediment layers are given in Table 7 .

Table 7 Estimated age of sediment layers from the sediment core collected at station NJ13 calculated based on the CF:CS method.

Depth ($\text{g cm}^{-2} \text{ y}^{-1}$)	Estimated age (y)	Estimated year		
0.0	0	2024	±	0
0.5	3	2021	±	1
1.4	10	2014	±	2
2.3	17	2007	±	3
3.4	25	1999	±	5
4.5	33	1991	±	7
5.6	41	1983	±	8
6.7	49	1975	±	10
7.8	57	1967	±	11
8.9	65	1959	±	13
10.0	73	1951	±	15
11.3	83	1941	±	17
12.6	92	1932	±	18

The deepest layer in the core was deposited in 1932 ± 18 (Table 7). This is before the start of the petroleum industry and should not be affected by pollution from this industry.

The ^{137}Cs -peak between 4 and 7 cm (Figure 14, right) is most likely due to the Chernobyl accident in 1986. As the ^{137}Cs -peak is rather broad, it is not possible to assign the year 1986 to a certain sediment layer. Nevertheless, it fits well with the ^{210}Pb -dating and confirms that this is quite consistent.

4.2.7 - Region VI – Draugen

4.2.7.1 - Sectioned sediment cores

Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ranged from 17 to $32 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ (Figure 16). The activity concentrations are relatively similar down core for all three radionuclides. The levels of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in the surface layer (0-1 cm) range from 79 to $293 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$, and are decreasing down core, probably due to radioactive decay.

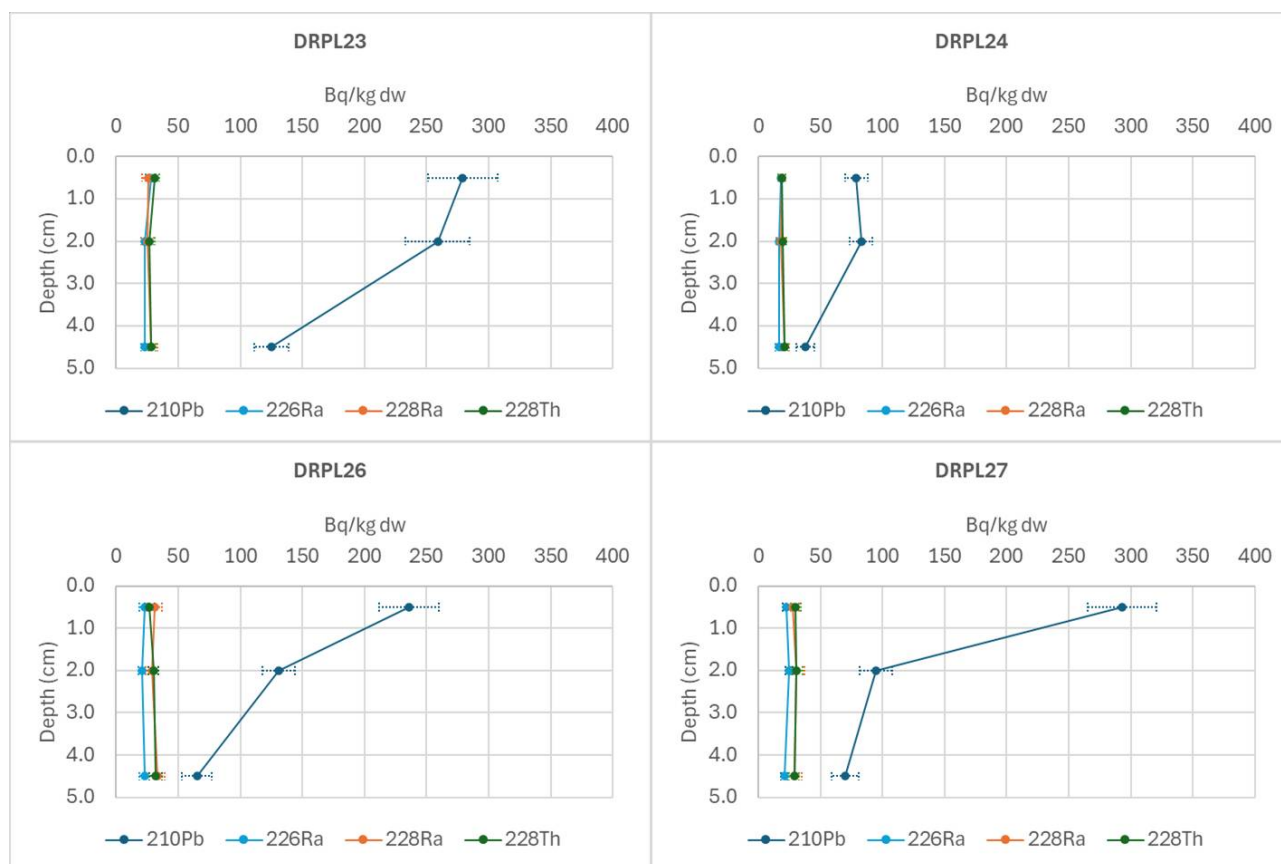


Figure 16 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th (Bq kg⁻¹ dw) in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations DRPL23, DRPL24, DRPL26 and DRPL27. Average depths of each section are plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ranged from 0.5 to 6 Bq kg⁻¹ dw (Figure 17).

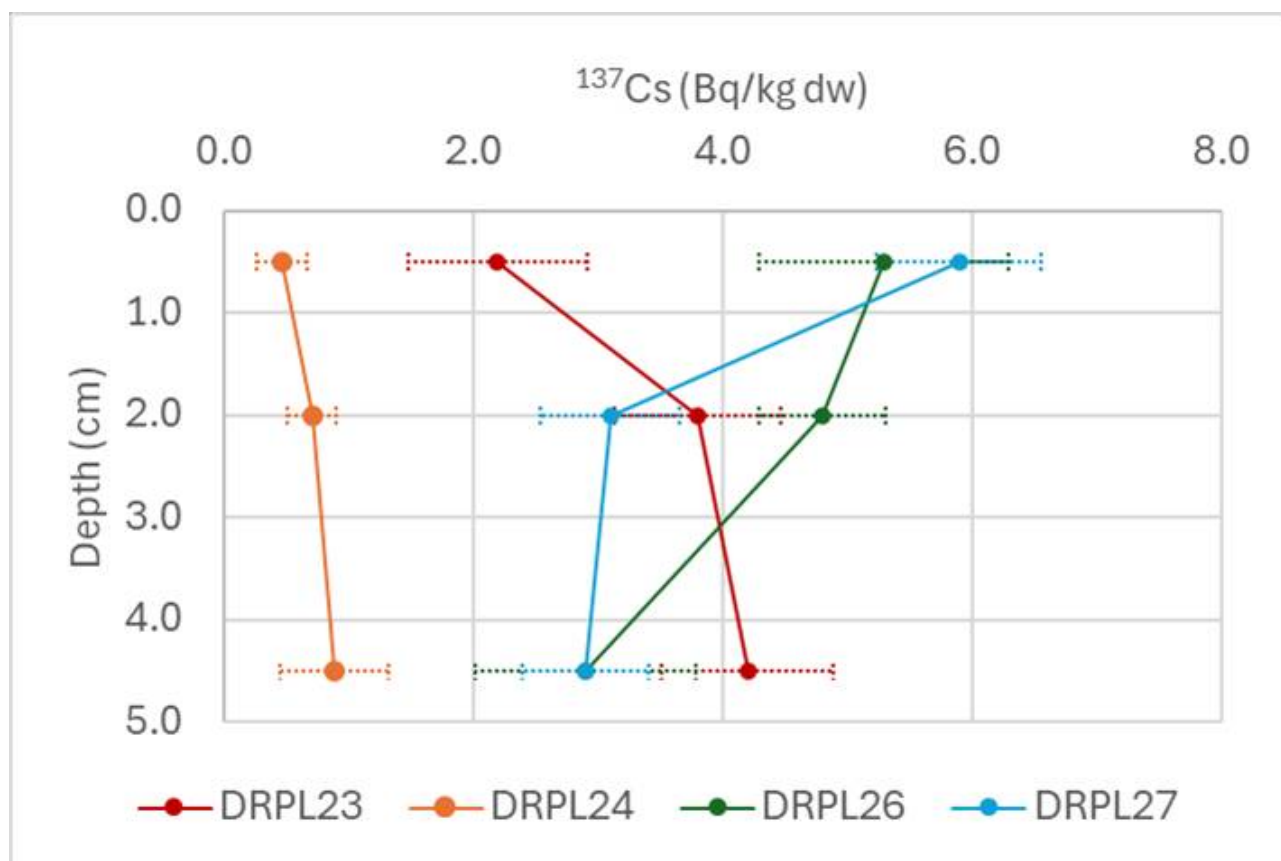


Figure 17 Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in sectioned (0-1, 1-3 and 3-6 cm) sediment cores from stations DRPL23, DRPL24, DRPL26 and DRPL27. Average depths of each section are plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

4.2.8 - Region VI – Regional stations

4.2.8.1 - ^{210}Pb dated cores

Sediment cores were collected from six regional stations in Region VI with the aim of performing ^{210}Pb -dating. The locations of the stations are shown in Figure 18.

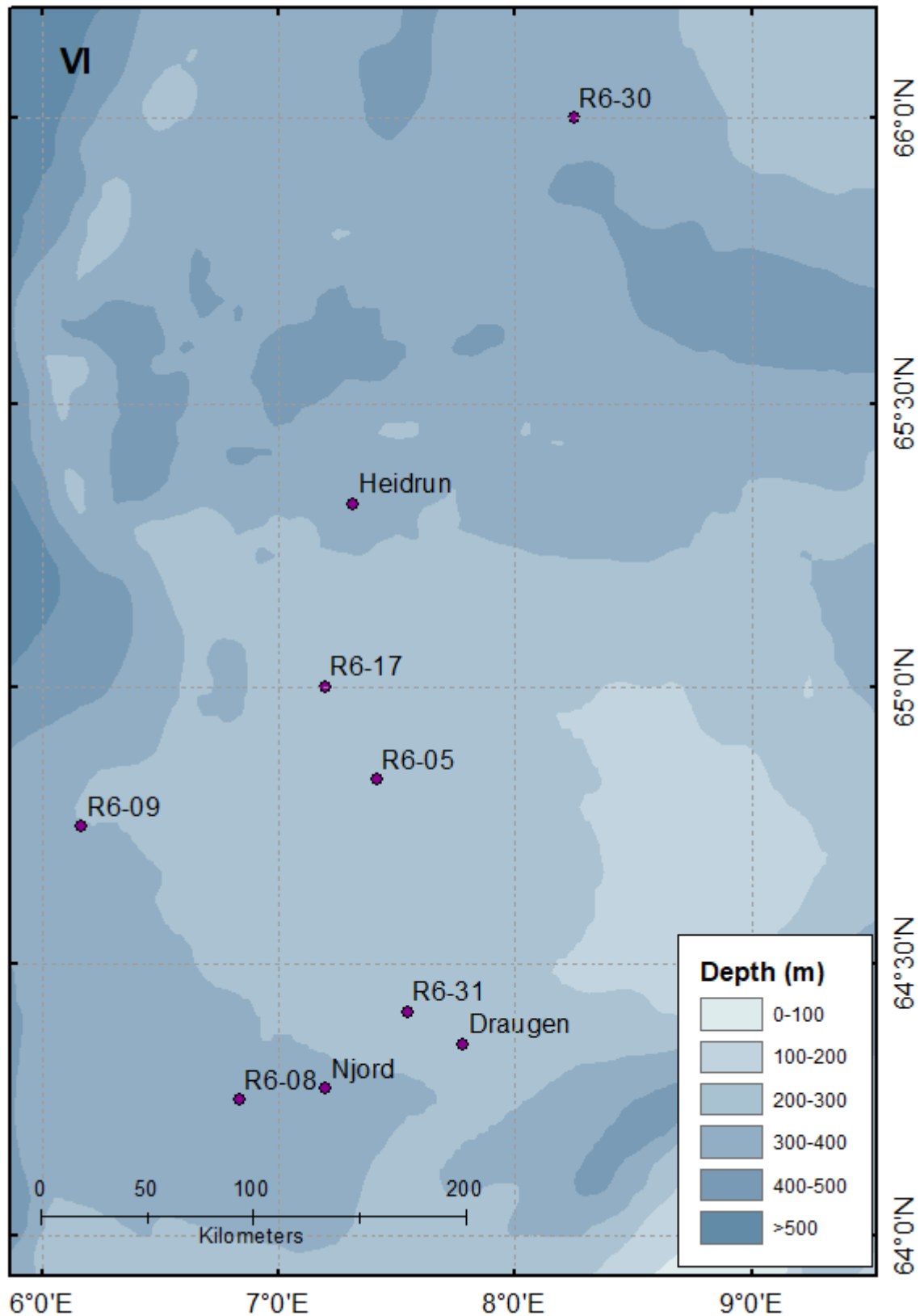


Figure 18 Location of Regional stations in Region VI. The locations of Heidrun, Draugen and Njord are shown.

Activity concentrations of ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th range from 17 to 55 Bq kg⁻¹ dw (Figure 19). The activity concentrations are relatively uniform down core for all three radionuclides. Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ in the 0-1 cm layer range from 264 to 577 Bq kg⁻¹ dw (Figure 19), and the levels show an exponential decay pattern in all cores except R6-30. This core seems disturbed or show lack of ^{210}Pb deposition in the upper 2-3 cm. The activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$ are generally approaching equilibrium with $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{supp}}$ (^{226}Ra), but equilibrium is not quite achieved. We have performed ^{210}Pb -dating of all cores except R6-30.

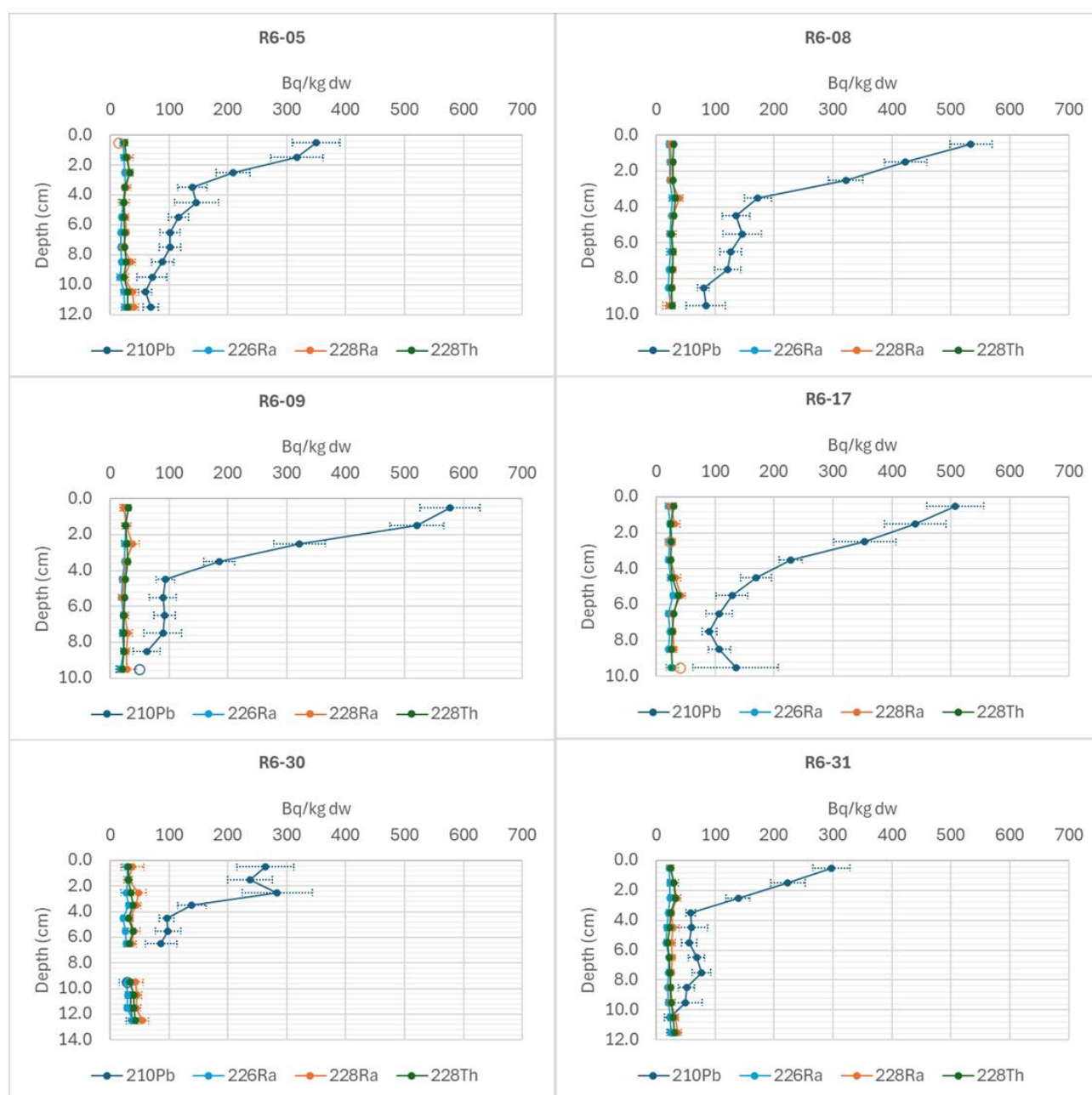


Figure 19 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{tot}}$, ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th (Bq kg⁻¹ dw) in sediment cores from regional stations, Region VI. Activity concentrations below detection limits are shown with open symbols. The detection limit is plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ranged from below detection limits to $7 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$ (Figure 20). Analytical uncertainties are high for many of the samples, and most of the profiles do not exhibit clear patterns. One exception is R6-09, which shows a peak in the 2-3 cm layer. This can be used to support results from the ^{210}Pb -dating.

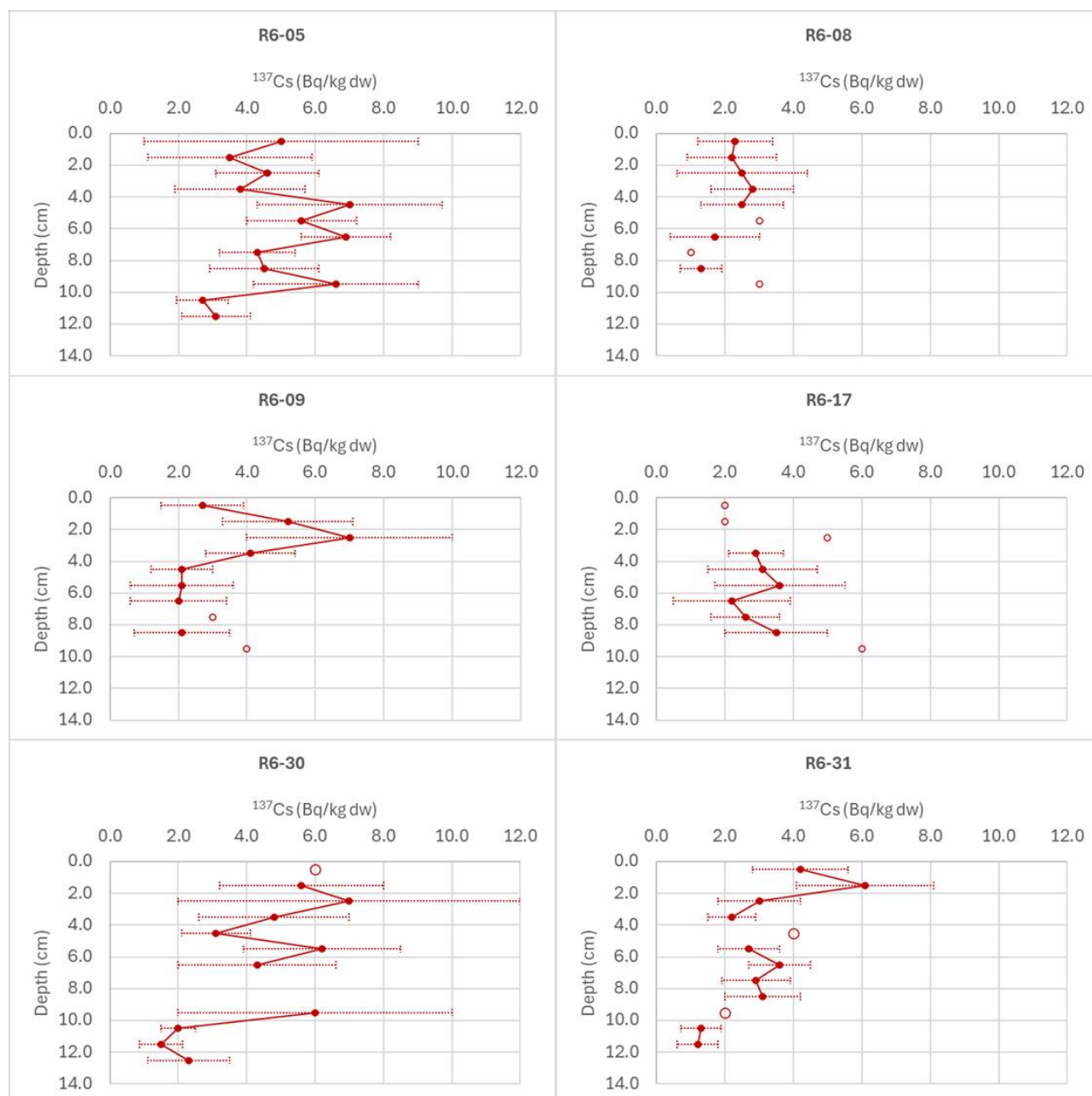


Figure 20 Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in sediment cores collected from Regional stations in Region IV. Activity concentrations below detection limits are shown with open symbols. The detection limit is plotted. Analytical uncertainties are given as $\pm 2\sigma$.

Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unSUPP}}$ in the sediment layers from the cores collected at regional stations in Region VI are plotted against sediment depth (g cm^{-2}) in Figure 21.

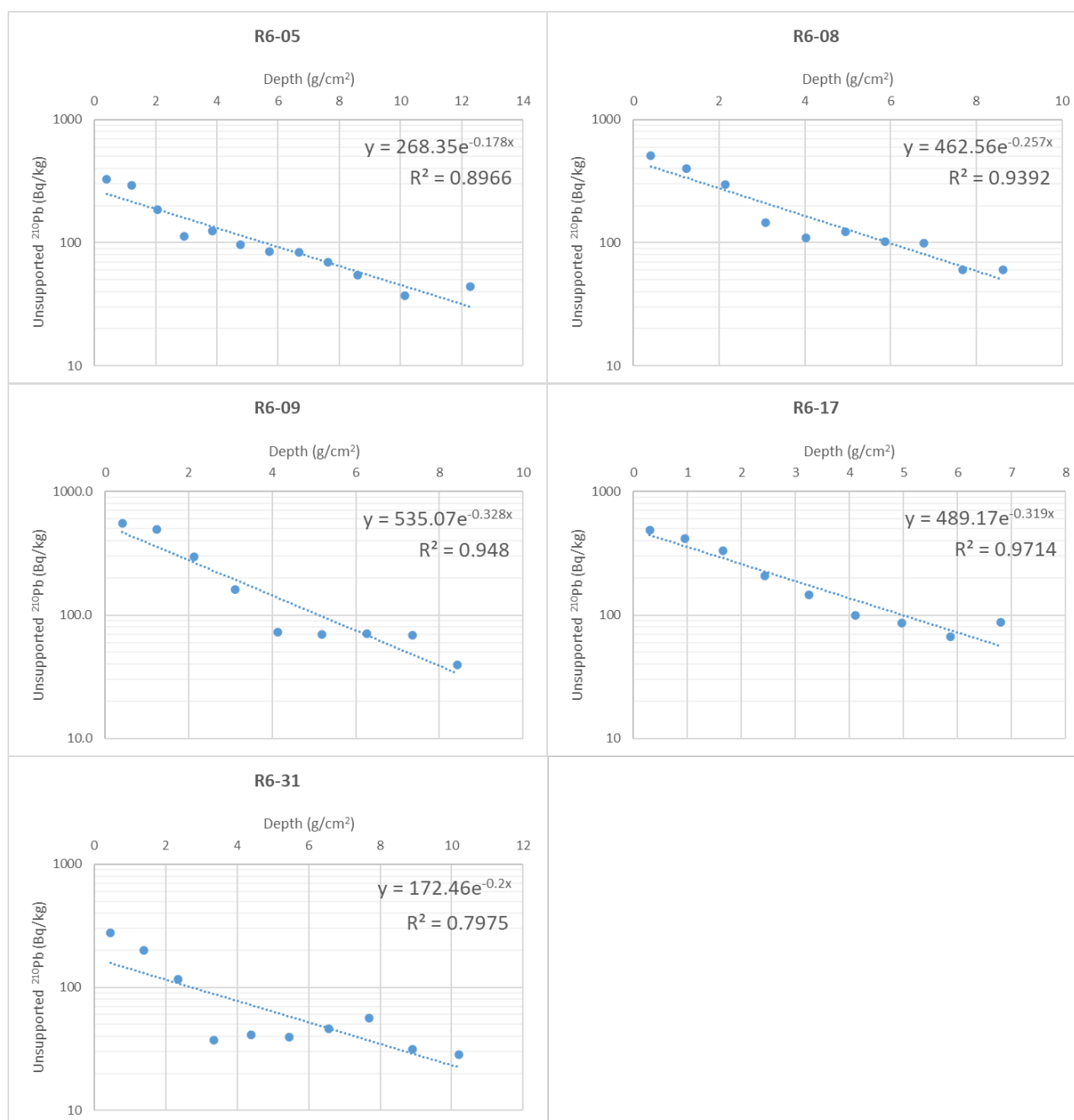


Figure 21 Activity concentrations of $^{210}\text{Pb}_{\text{unSUPP}}$ (Bq kg⁻¹ dw) in the sediment layers from the core collected at regional stations in Region VI plotted against sediment depth (g cm⁻²). Sedimentation rates were determined using an exponential curve fit.

The sedimentation rates at stations R6-05, R6-08, R6-09, R6-17 and R631 are calculated according to Equation 1 and given in Table 8. The sedimentation rates calculated for the two different depth parameters are quite consistent. Estimated age of the sediment layers are given in Tables 9-13. Sedimentation rates range from 0.09 to 0.18 g cm⁻² y⁻¹.

The core collected at station R6-09 has a clear ^{137}Cs -peak in the 2-3 cm layer (Figure 20). Assuming this originates from the Chernobyl accident, this layer can be dated to 1986. This does not quite correspond to the ^{210}Pb -dating, which dates the 3-4 cm layer to 1986, using the volumetric depth parameter. This core deviates somewhat from an exponential decay, which makes the ^{210}Pb -dating less robust. The latter also applies for the core collected from station R6-31.

Table 8 Sedimentation rates at regional stations in Region VI.

Station	Sedimentation rate (cm y^{-1})	Sedimentation rate ($\text{g cm}^{-2} \text{y}^{-1}$)
R6-05	0.18	0.17
R6-08	0.13	0.12
R6-09	0.09	0.10
R6-17	0.12	0.10
R6-31	0.14	0.16

Table 9 Estimated age of sediment layers from the sediment core collected at station R6-05 calculated based on the CF:CS method.

Depth ($\text{g cm}^{-2} \text{y}^{-1}$)	Estimated age (y)	Estimated year		
0	0	2024	±	0
0.4	2	2022	±	1
1.2	7	2017	±	1
2.1	12	2012	±	2
2.9	17	2007	±	3
3.8	23	2001	±	5
4.8	28	1996	±	6
5.7	34	1990	±	7
6.7	40	1984	±	8
7.6	45	1979	±	9
8.6	51	1973	±	10
10.2	60	1964	±	12
12.3	73	1951	±	15

Table 10 Estimated age of sediment layers from the sediment core collected at station R6-08 calculated based on the CF:CS method.

Depth ($\text{g cm}^{-2} \text{y}^{-1}$)	Estimated age (y)	Estimated year		
0.0	0	2024	±	0
0.4	3	2021	±	1
1.2	10	2014	±	2
2.1	18	2006	±	4
3.1	25	1999	±	5
4.0	33	1991	±	7
4.9	41	1983	±	8

5.9	48	1976	±	10
6.8	56	1968	±	11
7.7	63	1961	±	13
8.6	71	1953	±	14

Table 11 Estimated age of sediment layers from the sediment core collected at station R6-09 calculated based on the CF:CS method.

Depth (g cm ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Estimated age (y)	Estimated year		
0	0	2024	±	0
0.4	4	2020	±	1
1.2	13	2011	±	3
2.1	22	2002	±	5
3.1	33	1991	±	8
4.1	43	1981	±	10
5.2	55	1969	±	12
6.3	66	1958	±	14
7.3	77	1947	±	16
8.4	89	1935	±	18

Table 12 Estimated age of sediment layers from the sediment core collected at station R6-17 calculated based on the CF:CS method.

Depth (g cm ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Estimated age (y)	Estimated year		
0.0	0	2024	±	0
0.3	3	2021	±	1
0.9	10	2014	±	2
1.7	17	2007	±	3
2.4	25	1999	±	5
3.3	33	1991	±	7
4.1	42	1982	±	8
5.0	51	1973	±	10
5.9	60	1964	±	12
6.8	69	1955	±	14

Table 13 Estimated age of sediment layers from the sediment core collected at station R6-31 calculated based on the CF:CS method.

Depth (g cm ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Estimated age (y)	Estimated year		
0.0	0	2024	±	0
0.5	3	2021	±	1
1.4	9	2015	±	2
2.3	15	2009	±	3
3.4	21	2003	±	4
4.4	28	1996	±	6
5.5	35	1989	±	7
6.6	42	1982	±	8
7.7	49	1975	±	10
8.9	57	1967	±	11
10.2	65	1959	±	13

4.2.9 - Activity concentrations vs pelite and TOC in Region II and VI

It is well known that grain size affects radionuclide levels in sediments. For instance, He and Walling (1996) show that radionuclides primarily adhere to fine-grained particles due to their larger specific surface area. Activity concentrations of ²¹⁰Pb, ²²⁶Ra, ²²⁸Ra and ²²⁸Th are plotted against % pelite (grain size < 0.063 µm) for both Region II and VI in Figure 22. All samples collected in Region II are classified as “fine sand” (grain size 0.063–0.250 µm) and has corresponding low radionuclide levels. All samples collected in Region VI except a sample from station DRPL24 are classified as “pelite” and have higher radionuclide levels than the samples collected in Region II (Figure 22).

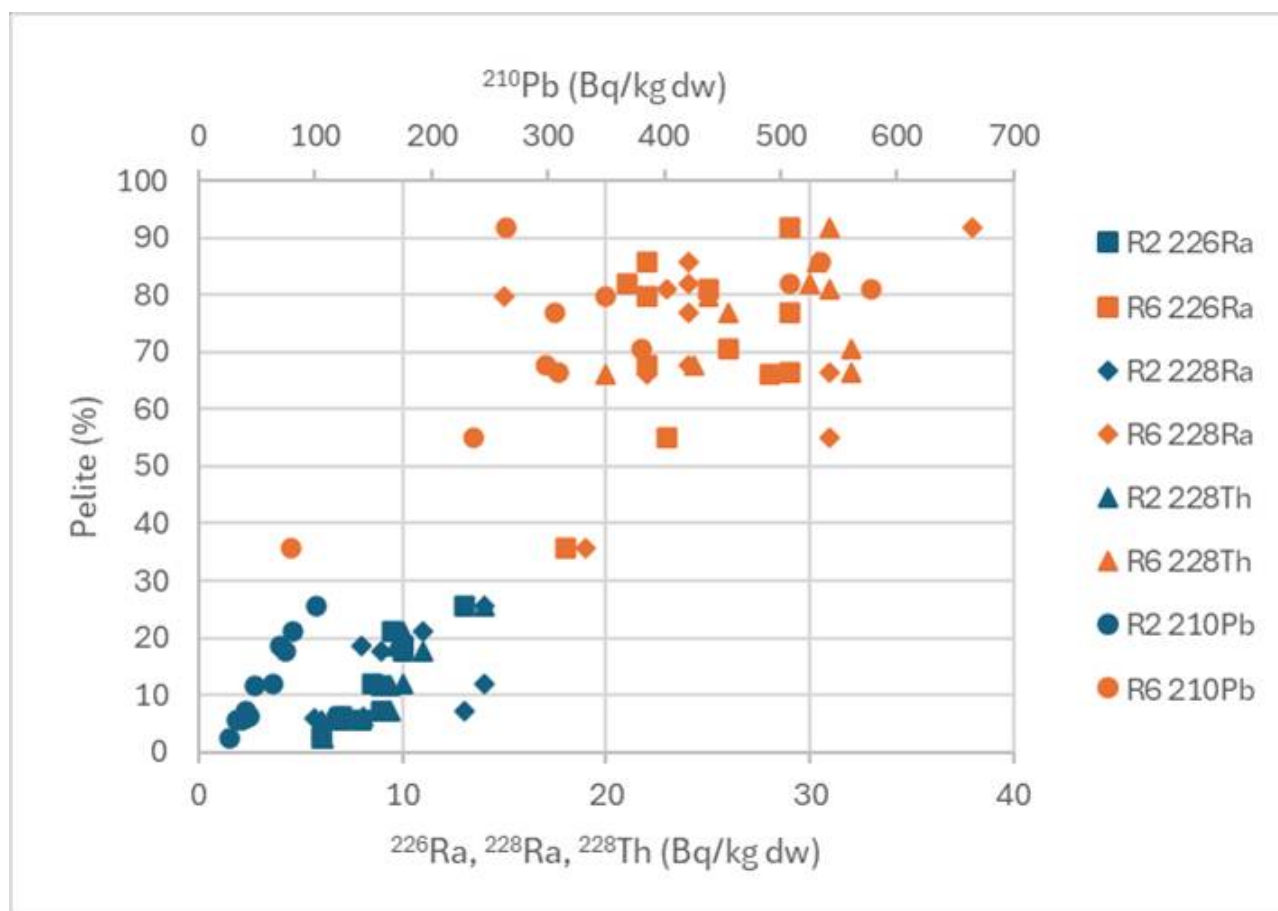


Figure 22 Pelite (%) (grain size < 0.063 μm) plotted against activity concentrations of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th (Bq kg^{-1} dw) in the 0-1 cm sediment layer. Blue=samples collected in Region II, orange=samples collected in Region VI.

Activity concentrations of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th in the 0-1 cm sediment layer are plotted against TOC (%) in Figure 23. Again, there is clearly a correlation between the TOC content and activity concentrations. The samples with the lowest TOC content are the ones from Region II with the lowest radionuclide levels. Samples collected in Region VI have somewhat higher TOC levels.

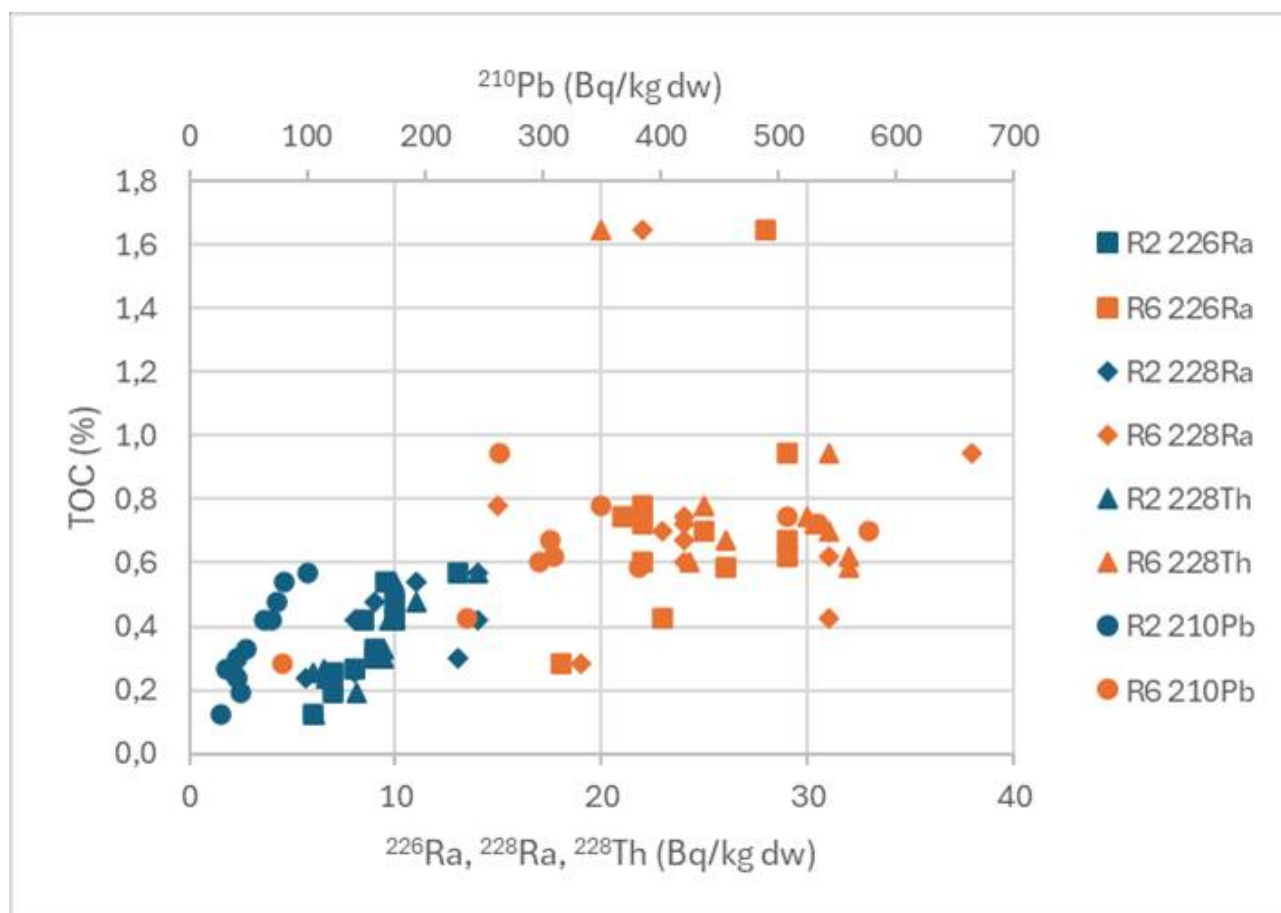


Figure 23 TOC (%) plotted against activity concentrations of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th ($\text{Bq kg}^{-1} \text{ dw}$) in the 0-1 cm sediment layer. Blue=samples collected in Region II, orange=samples collected in Region VI.

4.2.10 - Activity concentrations vs distance to discharge points in Region II and VI

Activity concentrations of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th are plotted against distance from station to discharge point in Region II in Figure 24. The distance from discharge points to stations in Region II varies from 250 to 1000 m. The results do not show elevated activity concentrations at the stations closest to the discharge points.

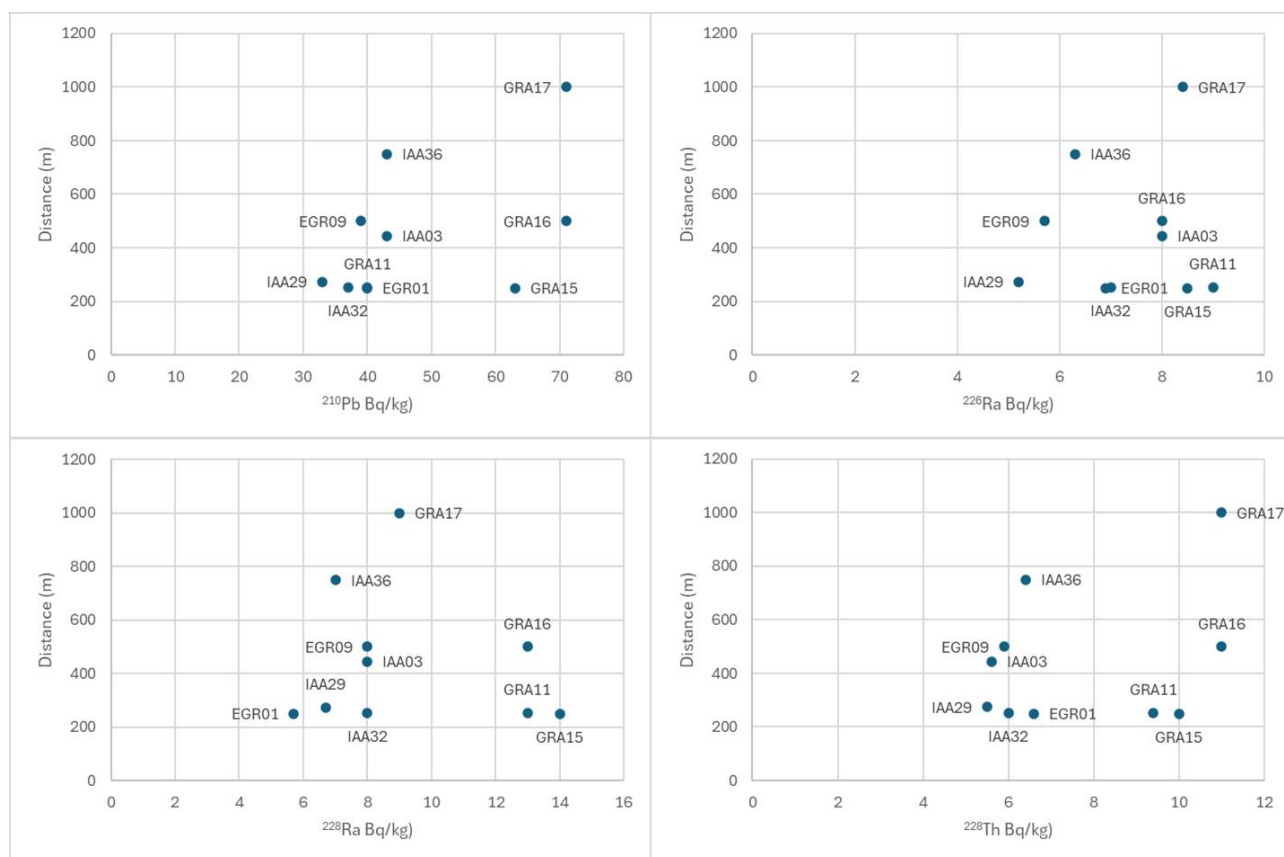


Figure 24 Activity concentrations (Bq kg⁻¹ dw) of ²¹⁰Pb (upper left), ²²⁶Ra (upper right), ²²⁸Ra (lower left) and ²²⁸Th (lower right) plotted against distance to the main discharge point for the Grane, Edvard Grieg and Ivar Aasen fields in Region II.

Activity concentrations of ²¹⁰Pb, ²²⁶Ra, ²²⁸Ra and ²²⁸Th are plotted against distance from station to discharge point in Region II in Figure 25. The distance from discharge points to stations in Region VI varies from 250 to 1491 m. The results do not show elevated activity concentrations at the stations closest to the discharge points.

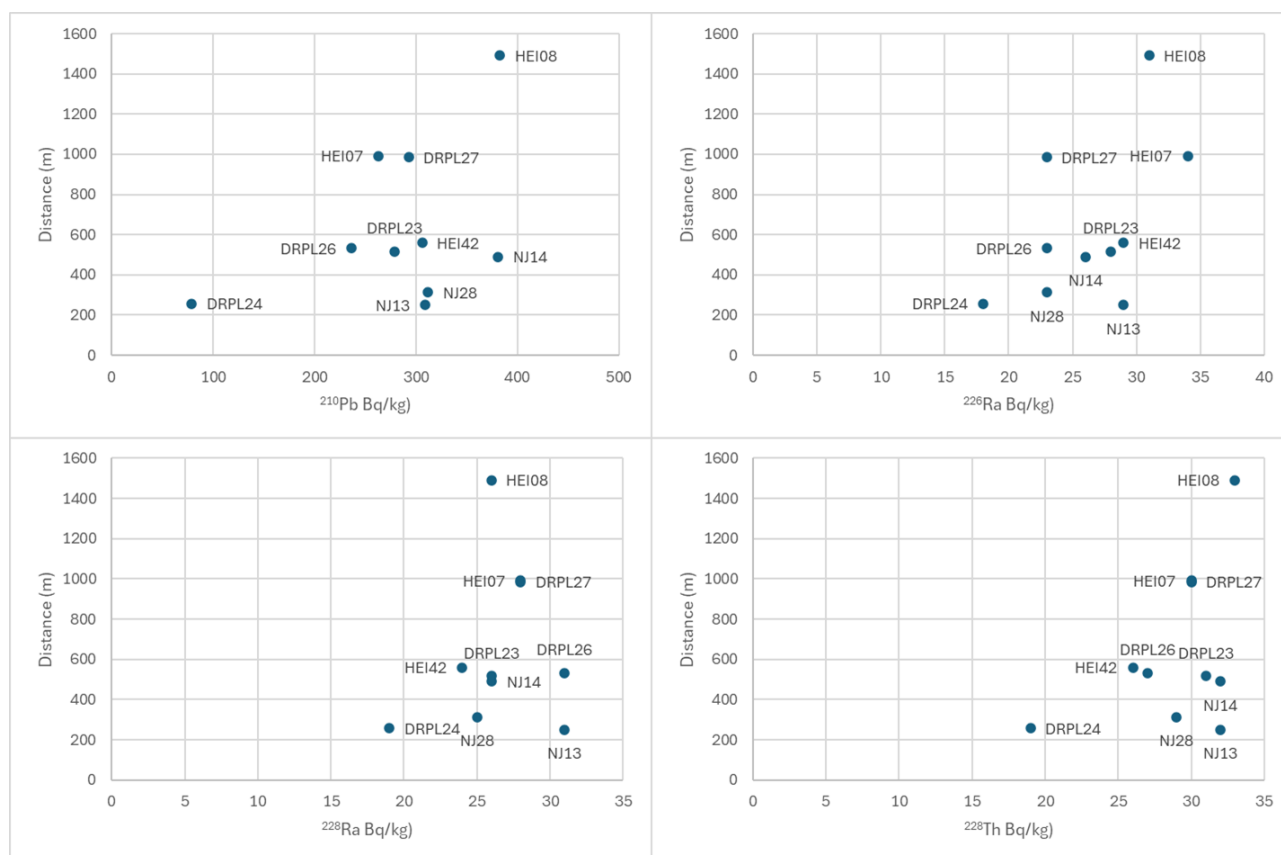


Figure 25 Activity concentrations (Bq kg⁻¹ dw) of ²¹⁰Pb (upper left), ²²⁶Ra (upper right), ²²⁸Ra (lower left) and ²²⁸Th (lower right) plotted against distance to the main discharge point for the Draugen, Heidrun and Njord fields in Region VI.

5 - Discussion and conclusions

5.1 - Fish samples

Data on natural radionuclides in muscle and bone tissues from fish in Norwegian marine areas are limited. Since all activity concentrations for the natural radionuclides measured in the current study were below detection limits, meaningful comparisons with existing data are not possible. To obtain more accurate results and enable robust comparisons across different geographical areas, it would be necessary to analyze samples using alpha spectrometry. However, this method is more labor-intensive and expensive. If the primary goal is to document low levels of radionuclides, gamma spectrometry, as used in this study, provides a sufficient approach.

A few relevant studies can be used for rough comparisons, as shown in Table 14. For example, Heldal et al. (2019) report levels of anthropogenic and natural radionuclides in Norwegian farmed salmon (*Salmo salar*) including analyses of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra and ^{228}Ra . In this study, ^{210}Pb was analysed using alpha spectrometry with activity concentrations ranging from 0.03 to 0.07 Bq kg⁻¹ fw. Both ^{226}Ra and ^{228}Ra were analysed using gamma spectrometry, and, like the present study, their activity concentrations were below detection limits.

Carvalho et al. (2011) report activity concentrations of a range of anthropogenic and natural radionuclides in deep-sea fish and other organisms from the North Atlantic Ocean. For ^{226}Ra and ^{210}Pb , which were analysed using alpha spectrometry, activity concentrations ranged from 15.6 to 876 and 12 to 200 mBq kg⁻¹ fw, respectively. Two examples from their study, one for a cod sample from the Barents Sea and another for a redfish sample from the Iceland Sea, are included in Table 14.

Overall, the findings of Heldal et al. (2019) and Carvalho et al. (2011) provide some context for understanding the levels of natural radionuclides in marine organisms. However, the differences in methodologies (alpha vs gamma spectrometry) make direct comparisons challenging.

The results of the present study do not indicate elevated activity concentrations of the natural radionuclides ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra and ^{228}Ra in fish caught near the petroleum installations Hywind, Snorre A and Oseberg. There is currently no available data on ^{228}Th in fish from Norwegian or adjacent marine areas. To draw more definitive conclusions, it would be necessary to achieve lower detection limits and obtain more precise measurements.

It is important to note that the primary dietary contributor to the internal radiation dose in humans from marine organisms is a different naturally occurring radionuclide: polonium-210 (^{210}Po) (e.g. Carvalho et al., 2011; Heldal et al., 2019; Hansen et al., 2022). ^{210}Po is an alpha emitter and needs to be analysed by alpha spectrometry.

In contrast to the natural radionuclides, there is a wealth of data available for anthropogenic radionuclides, particularly ^{137}Cs . Most of the data in Norwegian marine areas are obtained within Norway's national monitoring programme Radioactivity in the Marine Environment (RAME) (e.g. Skjerdal et al., 2020; Heldal et al., 2015). Activity concentrations of ^{137}Cs found in the present study are comparable to other data. The slightly higher activity concentrations ^{137}Cs in ling compared to cusc may be due to differences in the size of the fish (see Table 5).

Table 14 Activity concentrations (Bq kg⁻¹ fresh weight (fw)) in muscle in a range of fish species caught in Norwegian or adjacent marine areas.

Species	²¹⁰ Pb	²²⁶ Ra	²²⁸ Ra	¹³⁷ Cs	Reference
Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	<0.57-<0.70	<0.13-<0.16	<0.22-<0.28	0.31-0.38	This study
Cusc (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	<0.61-<0.74	<0.15-<0.18	<0.25-<0.31	0.21-0.25	This study
Farmed atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	0.03-0.07 ^a	<0.03-<0.18	<0.06-<0.39	0.05-0.25	Table 3, Heldal et al., 2019
Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)	0.02-0.07 ^a	-	-	-	Table 3, Heldal et al., 2019
Herring (<i>Clupea harangus</i>)	0.06 ^a	-	-	-	Table 3, Heldal et al., 2019
Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)	0.06 ^a	-	-	-	Table 3, Heldal et al., 2019
Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)	-	-	-	0.05-0.39	Skjerdal et al., 2020
Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>) ^{a,b}	0.02 ^a	0.02 ^a	-	0.17	Carvalho et al., 2011
Red fish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>) ^{a,c}	0.2 ^a	0.4 ^a	-	-	Carvalho et al., 2011

^a Analysed by alpha spectrometry ^b One fish caught in the Barents Sea in 2003 ^c Seven fish caught in the Iceland Sea in 2004

Conclusions

- Activity concentrations of ²¹⁰Pb, ²²⁶Ra, ²²⁸Ra and ²²⁸Th in muscle and bone of ling and cusc caught in areas adjacent to Hywind, Snorre A and Oseberg are low. Any potential health risk to consumers of these fish from these areas is negligible.
- The findings of the present study do not suggest that fish caught near the petroleum installations at Hywind, Snorre A and Oseberg have elevated activity concentrations of the natural radionuclides ²¹⁰Pb, ²²⁶Ra and ²²⁸Ra and ²²⁸Th as a result of produced water discharges.
- To enable more robust comparisons and draw firmer conclusions, it is necessary to obtain lower detection limits and more accurate results, particularly through the use of alpha spectrometry.
- If the primary goal is to document low levels of natural radionuclides in fish and seafood, gamma spectrometry, as used in this study, provides a sufficient approach.

5.2 - Sediment samples

The activity concentrations of natural radionuclides observed in the present study align with other Norwegian data (e. g. the Mareano program (which measure ²²⁶Ra and ²¹⁰Pb) (www.mareano.no); the national monitoring program Radioactivity in the Marine Environment (RAME) (e.g. Skjerdal et al., 2020) (which measures ²¹⁰Pb, ²²⁶Ra, ²²⁸Ra); Heldal et al., 2021a and b). Additionally, our findings are consistent with previously gathered data from regional sediment monitoring efforts, as documented in the MOD database. Furthermore, the levels found in our study correlate well with those reported for adjacent sea areas (e.g. Ilus et al., 2007 (Baltic Sea); Hosseini et al., 2010 and references therein (European marine areas); Din and Vesterbacka, 2012 (Baltic Sea)).

The results indicate no significant temporal variations in the levels of naturally occurring radionuclides over time at the Grane, Edvard Grieg and Ivar Aasen fields in Region II nor at the Draugen, Heidrun and Njord fields in Region VI. We did not observe any gradient relative to distance from discharge points.

Numerical modelling has demonstrated that PW and the associated naturally occurring radionuclides is rapidly diluted after discharge to the marine environment (e.g. Neff, 2002; NRPA, 2005; Rye et al., 2009; Skancke et al., 2014; Skancke and Norman, 2016). According to Neff (2002), the dilution factor for high-salinity PW

discharged to the North Sea may reach a 1000-fold at 1000 m from the discharge point. Despite dilution, pollution may be transported over long distances. Dowdall and Lepland (2012) reported elevated radium levels within the uppermost sediment layers of six out of eight cores collected in the 1990s from the Norwegian Trench, suggesting a possible association with discharges from the petroleum industry. The Norwegian Trench is recognized as a sink for pollution in the North Sea, and we recommend undertaking a dedicated sampling campaign in this area.

It is essential to contextualize radionuclide levels with respect to grain size and total organic carbon (TOC). Without this perspective, one might incorrectly interpret results as indicating higher pollution levels in Region VI compared to II. This raises concern about the effectiveness of the sampling strategy used. Findings from Region II may offer limited insights into potential contamination due to the sandy sediments' inability to retain pollutants, which can lead to misleading conclusions regarding environmental impact.

To improve our understanding of contamination patterns, it would be beneficial to conduct a comprehensive survey around the study sites, specifically targeting areas with clay-rich sediments near the discharge points, as these locations are likely to be more suitable for sampling. Collecting cores from sandy sediments is likely unproductive, as the results from such samples do not yield useful information regarding contamination levels.

Additionally, downgrading our sampling strategy in these sandy environments is necessary, as we have found that only the core from site REG2-21A is suitable for dating, and many other cores were too short for reliable age estimations. As such, efforts should focus on sites where sediments are more likely to capture and retain relevant contaminants to ensure a more effective assessment of the area's environmental condition.

Utilizing more suitable sampling equipment—such as a box corer instead of a Van Veen grab—and employing longer PVC tubes to obtain longer sediment cores would greatly enhance our sampling efforts.

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7 - Appendix 1

Appendix 1 Sample information and activity concentrations of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra , ^{228}Th (Bq kg^{-1} dry weight (dw)), Region II

Location	Station number	Sample date	From cm	To cm	^{210}Pb Bq kg^{-1}		^{226}Ra Bq kg^{-1}		^{228}Ra Bq kg^{-1}		^{228}Th Bq kg^{-1}		^{137}Cs Bq kg^{-1}		Lat (N)	Lon (E)	Alu tr. (g)	Fw (g)
E. Grieg	EGR01 ^{1,2}	29.5.24	0	1	40	± 7	7	± 1	6	± 1	7	± 1	<0.48	± -	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR01 ^{1,2}	29.5.24	1	3	43	± 9	13	± 2	9	± 3	9	± 2	<0.85	± -	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR01 ^{1,2}	29.5.24	3	6	36	± 8	7	± 2	10	± 3	7	± 1	<0.47	± -	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR08 ^{1,2}	29.5.24	0	1	32	± 10	8	± 2	<7.99	± -	7	± 1	<0.93	± -	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR08 ^{1,2}	29.5.24	1	3	38	± 6	8	± 2	7	± 2	7	± 1	<0.52	± -	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR08 ^{1,2}	29.5.24	3	6	35	± 7	8	± 2	7	± 2	7	± 1	1	± 0,4	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR09 ¹	29.5.24	0	1	39	± 9	6	± 2	8	± 2	6	± 1	<0.66	± -	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR09 ¹	29.5.24	1	3	34	± 6	8	± 2	7	± 2	6	± 1	<0.43	± -	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR09 ¹	29.5.24	3	6	43	± 8	8	± 2	11	± 3	8	± 1	<0.75	± -	58,84	2,25	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR10 ¹	29.5.24	0	1	30	± 6	6	± 2	<1.81	± -	6	± 1	<0.36	± -	58,83	2,24	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR10 ¹	29.5.24	1	3	43	± 6	7	± 1	8	± 2	6	± 1	<0.41	± -	58,83	2,24	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR10 ¹	29.5.24	3	6	43	± 6	7	± 1	9	± 2	7	± 1	<0.30	± -	58,83	2,24	-	-
E. Grieg	EGR08 ¹	29.5.24	0	1	37	± 8	6	± 2	5	± 2	6	± 1	<0.45	± -	58,84	2,25	4,86	140
E. Grieg	EGR08 ¹	29.5.24	1	2	41	± 7	6	± 2	5	± 2	6	± 1	<0.69	± -	58,84	2,25	4,86	140
E. Grieg	EGR08 ¹	29.5.24	2	3	35	± 11	6	± 2	10	± 4	6	± 1	<0.72	± -	58,84	2,25	4,86	171
E. Grieg	EGR08 ¹	29.5.24	3	4	45	± 11	6	± 2	6	± 3	7	± 1	<0.64	± -	58,84	2,25	4,86	153
E. Grieg	EGR08 ¹	29.5.24	4	5	37	± 12	7	± 2	9	± 4	8	± 2	<1.09	± -	58,84	2,25	4,86	161
E. Grieg	EGR08 ¹	29.5.24	5	6	35	± 7	9	± 2	7	± 3	7	± 1	<0.52	± -	58,84	2,25	4,86	163
E. Grieg	EGR08 ¹	29.5.24	6	7	25	± 6	7	± 2	11	± 2	8	± 1	0	± 0,2	58,84	2,25	2,43	62,1
Grane	GRA11 ³	31.5.24	0	1	40	± 7	9	± 1,7	13	± 3	9,4	± 1,5	<0.50	± -	59,16	2,48	-	-
Grane	GRA11 ¹	31.5.24	1	3	43	± 13	8	± 2	8	± 3	10	± 1,8	<0.72	± -	59,16	2,48	-	-

Location	Station	Sample	From	To	Pb			Ra			Ra			Th			Cs			Lat	Lon	Alu	Fw
	number	date	cm	cm	Bq	kg		Bq	kg		Bq	kg		Bq	kg		Bq	kg	(N)	(E)	tr.	(g)	
Grane	GRA11 ¹	31.5.24	3	6	27	± 6	13	± 2	13	± 3	13	± 2	<0.49	± -	59,16	2,48	-	-					
Grane	GRA15 ¹	31.5.24	0	1	63	± 9	8,5	± 1,8	14	± 3	10	± 1,6	<0.45	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
Grane	GRA15 ¹	31.5.24	1	3	59	± 14	11	± 2	10	± 3	10	± 1,8	<0.72	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
Grane	GRA15 ¹	31.5.24	3	6	44	± 9	10	± 2	12	± 3	11	± 1,8	<0.71	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
Grane	GRA16 ¹	31.5.24	0	1	71	± 11	8	± 2	13	± 3	11	± 1,7	<0.53	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
Grane	GRA16 ¹	31.5.24	1	3	62	± 8	9,7	± 1,7	9	± 2	9,7	± 1,5	<0.41	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
Grane	GRA16 ¹	31.5.24	3	6	64	± 11	<2.01	± -	14	± 4	11	± 1,8	<0.88	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
Grane	GRA17 ¹	31.5.24	0	1	71	± 10	8,4	± 1,9	9	± 3	11	± 1,7	<0.61	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
Grane	GRA17 ¹	31.5.24	1	3	72	± 10	9,5	± 1,9	11	± 3	10	± 1,6	<0.88	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
Grane	GRA17 ¹	31.5.24	3	6	63	± 9	11	± 1,8	12	± 3	12	± 1,9	<0.91	± -	59,17	2,49	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA03 ¹	29.5.24	0	1	43	± 8	8	± 2	8	± 2	5,6	± 1	<0.59	± -	58,92	2,20	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA03 ¹	29.5.24	1	3	43	± 7	5,7	± 1,5	7	± 2	6,4	± 1,1	<0.37	± -	58,92	2,20	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA03 ¹	29.5.24	3	6	42	± 10	7,2	± 1,7	<2.85	± -	7,2	± 1,2	<0.56	± -	58,92	2,20	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA29 ^{1,4}	29.5.24	0	1	33	± 7	5,2	± 1,6	6,7	± 2	5,5	± 0,92	<0.39	± -	58,92	2,19	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA29 ^{1,4}	29.5.24	1	3	33	± 6	6,6	± 1,6	6	± 2	5,2	± 0,92	<0.55	± -	58,92	2,19	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA29 ^{1,4}	29.5.24	3	6	34	± 7	7,8	± 1,7	6,7	± 2	6,6	± 1,1	<0.63	± -	58,92	2,19	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	0	1	37	± 8	7	± 2	8	± 2	6	± 1	<0.52	± -	58,92	2,20	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ³	29.5.24	1	3	42	± 9	8,9	± 1,9	9	± 2	6,9	± 1,2	<0.48	± -	58,92	2,20	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	3	6	32	± 7	8,2	± 1,5	8	± 3	6,5	± 1,1	<0.58	± -	58,92	2,20	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA36 ¹	29.5.24	0	1	43	± 6	6,3	± 1,2	7	± 1,5	6,4	± 0,98	0,39	± 0,23	58,92	2,21	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA36 ¹	29.5.24	1	3	44	± 8	6,5	± 1,6	8	± 3	6,6	± 1,1	<0.56	± -	58,92	2,21	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA36 ¹	29.5.24	3	6	48	± 12	6	± 3	<4.95	± -	6	± 1,3	<0.77	± -	58,92	2,21	-	-					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	0	1	38	± 7	8,1	± 1,7	5	± 2	6,4	± 1,1	<0.65	± -	58,92	2,20	4,86	183					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	1	2	40	± 10	7	± 2	9	± 3	6,6	± 1,3	<0.87	± -	58,92	2,20	4,86	155					

Location	Station	Sample	From	To	Pb			Ra			Ra			Th			Cs			Lat	Lon	Alu	Fw
	number	date	cm	cm	Bq kg			Bq kg			Bq kg			Bq kg			Bq kg			(N)	(E)	tr. (g)	(g)
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	2	3	44	± 11	8	± 2	8	± 4	7,7	± 1,6	<1.60	± -	58,92	2,20	4,86	160					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	3	4	40	± 7	7,1	± 1,8	6	± 2	6,9	± 1,2	<0.78	± -	58,92	2,20	4,86	159					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	4	5	35	± 6	8,3	± 1,8	6	± 3	7,1	± 1,2	<0.73	± -	58,92	2,20	4,86	123					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	5	6	29	± 5	7,5	± 2	6	± 2	6,3	± 1,1	<0.42	± -	58,92	2,20	2,43	75,0					
I. Aasen	IAA32 ¹	29.5.24	6	7	44	± 8	<2.01	± -	16	± 4	7,8	± 1,6	<0.95	± -	58,92	2,20	2,43	24,0					
Regional	REG2-08A ¹	26.5.24	0	1	48	± 10	9	± 3	9	± 3	9,4	± 1,7	<1.22	± -	58,75	1,67	4,86	162					
Regional	REG2-08A ¹	26.5.24	1	2	53	± 11	9	± 2	9	± 3	9,7	± 1,7	<0.75	± -	58,75	1,67	4,86	158					
Regional	REG2-08A ¹	26.5.24	2	3	52	± 8	8,8	± 1,8	9	± 3	9,9	± 1,6	<0.41	± -	58,75	1,67	4,86	161					
Regional	REG2-08A ¹	26.5.24	3	4	42	± 5	10	± 1,4	8	± 2	9,6	± 1,4	0,31	± 0,17	58,75	1,67	4,86	155					
Regional	REG2-08A ¹	26.5.24	4	5	44	± 8	12	± 2	12	± 3	10	± 1,6	<0.53	± -	58,75	1,67	4,86	158					
Regional	REG2-08A ¹	26.5.24	5	6	39	± 6	10	± 1,7	12	± 3	10	± 1,5	0,57	± 0,27	58,75	1,67	4,86	154					
Regional	REG2-08A ¹	26.5.24	6	7	28	± 10	13	± 3	15	± 4	12	± 2	0,83	± 0,52	58,75	1,67	2,43	29,0					
Regional	REG2-17A ¹	25.5.24	0	1	27	± 6	6	± 1,4	6	± 1,9	6,1	± 1	<0.42	± -	58,39	2,00	4,86	156					
Regional	REG2-17A ¹	25.5.24	1	2	32	± 7	8,3	± 1,6	6	± 2	7,4	± 1,2	<0.52	± -	58,39	2,00	4,86	158					
Regional	REG2-17A ¹	25.5.24	2	3	31	± 6	9,9	± 1,7	8	± 2	9,1	± 1,4	<0.64	± -	58,39	2,00	4,86	174					
Regional	REG2-17A ¹	25.5.24	3	4	32	± 6	9,7	± 1,6	6,6	± 1,8	8	± 1,3	<0.44	± -	58,39	2,00	4,86	146					
Regional	REG2-17A ¹	25.5.24	4	5	29	± 6	8,8	± 1,7	11	± 2	7,6	± 1,2	<0.56	± -	58,39	2,00	2,43	67,0					
Regional	REG2-17A ¹	25.5.24	5	6	37	± 6	12	± 3	14	± 3	9,6	± 1,5	<0.60	± -	58,39	2,00	2,43	36,0					
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	0	1	74	± 10	10	± 1,8	9	± 3	11	± 1,7	<0.58	± -	59,13	2,46	4,86	137					
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	1	2	81	± 10	11	± 2	12	± 4	12	± 1,9	<0.66	± -	59,13	2,46	4,86	140					
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	2	3	80	± 11	10	± 1,9	9	± 3	11	± 1,8	<0.48	± -	59,13	2,46	4,86	151					
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	3	4	71	± 8	11	± 1,6	10	± 2	11	± 1,7	0,51	± 0,2	59,13	2,46	4,86	151					
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	4	5	74	± 10	12	± 2	12	± 3	12	± 1,9	<0.85	± -	59,13	2,46	4,86	162					
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	5	6	62	± 13	12	± 3	12	± 4	12	± 2	<1.09	± -	59,13	2,46	4,86	159					

Location	Station	Sample	From	To	Pb			Ra			Ra			Th			Cs			Lat	Lon	Alu	Fw
	number	date	cm	cm	Bq	kg		Bq	kg		Bq	kg		Bq	kg		Bq	kg	(N)	(E)	(g)	(g)	
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	6	7	60	± 12	13	± 3	13	± 4	12	± 2	<1.05	± -	59,13	2,46	4,86	168					
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	7	8	50	± 12	13	± 3	15	± 4	13	± 2	<0.94	± -	59,13	2,46	4,86	159					
Regional	REG2-20A ¹	30.5.24	8	9	48	± 7	13	± 2	18	± 4	14	± 2	0,7	± 0,43	59,13	2,46	2,43	59,1					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	0	1	101	± 11	13	± 1,8	14	± 3	14	± 2	<0.47	± -	59,45	2,16	4,86	129					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	1	2	104	± 11	14	± 1,9	16	± 3	15	± 2	0,46	± 0,25	59,45	2,16	4,86	135					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	2	3	95	± 10	14	± 1,9	15	± 3	13	± 2	<0.50	± -	59,45	2,16	4,86	131					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	3	4	89	± 11	14	± 2	12	± 3	14	± 2	0,91	± 0,44	59,45	2,16	4,86	155					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	4	5	83	± 12	13	± 2	16	± 4	14	± 2	0,89	± 0,5	59,45	2,16	4,86	140					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	5	6	73	± 9	14	± 1,9	17	± 3	13	± 2	0,52	± 0,28	59,45	2,16	4,86	152					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	6	7	64	± 10	14	± 2	16	± 4	14	± 2	<0.80	± -	59,45	2,16	4,86	159					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	7	8	54	± 10	15	± 2	15	± 4	13	± 2	<0.72	± -	59,45	2,16	4,86	158					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	8	9	48	± 8	12	± 2	14	± 3	13	± 2	<0.58	± -	59,45	2,16	4,86	143					
Regional	REG2-21A ¹	1.6.24	9	10	47	± 8	13	± 3	20	± 4	15	± 2	<0.67	± -	59,45	2,16	2,43	30,1					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	0	1	81	± 11	9,5	± 1,9	11	± 3	10	± 1,6	0,58	± 0,35	59,66	2,23	4,86	117					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	1	2	90	± 13	9	± 2	13	± 3	10	± 1,7	<0.65	± -	59,66	2,23	4,86	157					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	2	3	104	± 11	11	± 1,6	12	± 2	11	± 1,7	<0.48	± -	59,66	2,23	4,86	148					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	3	4	93	± 10	12	± 1,8	12	± 2	11	± 1,7	<0.36	± -	59,66	2,23	4,86	154					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	4	5	97	± 11	11	± 1,6	13	± 2	11	± 1,7	0,55	± 0,29	59,66	2,23	4,86	161					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	5	6	88	± 11	12	± 2	14	± 3	12	± 1,8	0,99	± 0,49	59,66	2,23	4,86	158					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	6	7	78	± 9	12	± 1,7	15	± 3	13	± 1,9	<0.51	± -	59,66	2,23	4,86	144					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	7	8	61	± 7	12	± 1,7	13	± 2	11	± 1,6	0,63	± 0,3	59,66	2,23	4,86	166					
Regional	REG2-22A ¹	2.6.24	8	9	56	± 10	12	± 2	14	± 3	11	± 1,8	<0.61	± -	59,66	2,23	4,86	174					
Regional	REG2-28 ¹	10.6.24	0	1	44	± 8	7	± 2	7	± 3	8,1	± 1,4	<0.78	± -	60,03	2,40	4,86	104					
Regional	REG2-28 ¹	10.6.24	1	2	40	± 6	7,4	± 1,8	6	± 2	7,5	± 1,2	<0.41	± -	60,03	2,40	4,86	109					

Location	Station number	Sample date	From cm	To cm	Pb Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Th Bq kg			Cs Bq kg			Lat (N)	Lon (E)	Alu tr. (g)	Fw (g)
Regional	REG2-28 ¹	10.6.24	2	3	41	±	10	7	±	2	8	±	3	7,9	±	1,5	<0.57	±	-	60,03	2,40	4,86	112
Regional	REG2-28 ¹	10.6.24	3	4	49	±	8	11	±	2	5	±	3	8,3	±	1,4	<0.50	±	-	60,03	2,40	4,86	112
Regional	REG2-28 ¹	10.6.24	4	5	50	±	10	9	±	3	7	±	4	8,3	±	1,5	<0.75	±	-	60,03	2,40	4,86	115
Regional	REG2-28 ¹	10.6.24	5	6	48	±	8	11	±	2	8	±	3	8,7	±	1,5	<0.86	±	-	60,03	2,40	4,86	107
Regional	REG2-36 ¹	31.5.24	0	1	70	±	12	10	±	3	8	±	3	9,7	±	1,7	<1.11	±	-	59,25	2,28	4,86	139
Regional	REG2-36 ¹	31.5.24	1	2	71	±	11	9,4	±	1,8	8	±	3	10	±	1,6	<0.56	±	-	59,25	2,28	4,86	145
Regional	REG2-36 ¹	31.5.24	2	3	70	±	12	10	±	3	12	±	4	10	±	1,8	<1.12	±	-	59,25	2,28	4,86	156
Regional	REG2-36 ¹	31.5.24	3	4	51	±	14	11	±	3	14	±	5	10	±	1,8	<1.02	±	-	59,25	2,28	4,86	156
Regional	REG2-36 ¹	31.5.24	4	5	73	±	9	11	±	1,9	9	±	3	11	±	1,7	0,58	±	0,34	59,25	2,28	4,86	157
Regional	REG2-36 ¹	31.5.24	5	6	68	±	10	11	±	1,9	12	±	3	12	±	1,8	<0.56	±	-	59,25	2,28	4,86	158
Regional	REG2-36 ¹	31.5.24	6	7	56	±	9	13	±	2	12	±	3	11	±	1,7	<0.63	±	-	59,25	2,28	4,86	120
Regional	REG2-36 ¹	31.5.24	7	8	59	±	12	16	±	6	26	±	7	13	±	3	<1.47	±	-	59,25	2,28	2,43	14,

¹Pb210 and Th228 results are not accredited.

²These samples do not have serial numbers.

³Not accredited. The sample has been diluted with silica due to small sample size.

⁴New station name IAA37

8 - Appendix 2

Appendix 2 Sample information and activity concentrations of ^{210}Pb , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra , ^{228}Th (Bq kg^{-1} dry weight (dw)), Region VI

Location	Station number	Sample date	From cm	To cm	^{210}Pb Bq kg^{-1}			^{226}Ra Bq kg^{-1}			^{228}Ra Bq kg^{-1}			^{228}Th Bq kg^{-1}			^{137}Cs Bq kg^{-1}			Lat (N)	Lon (E)	Alu tray (g)	Fw (g)
Heidrun	HEI07 ¹	12.4.24	0	1	263	±	26	34	±	4	28	±	5	30	±	4	1,0	±	0,3	65,33	7,33	-	-
Heidrun	HEI07 ¹	12.4.24	1	3	221	±	23	30	±	3	30	±	5	29	±	4	1,2	±	0,4	65,33	7,33	-	-
Heidrun	HEI07 ¹	12.4.24	3	6	87	±	12	26	±	3	28	±	5	28	±	4	1,3	±	0,4	65,33	7,33	-	-
Heidrun	HEI08 ¹	12.4.24	0	1	383	±	36	31	±	3	26	±	5	33	±	5	2,5	±	0,4	65,34	7,34	-	-
Heidrun	HEI08 ¹	12.4.24	1	3	178	±	18	29	±	3	30	±	5	29	±	4	2,7	±	0,5	65,34	7,34	-	-
Heidrun	HEI08 ¹	12.4.24	3	6	65	±	8	26	±	3	30	±	5	29	±	4	1,1	±	0,3	65,34	7,34	-	-
Heidrun	HEI42 ¹	11.4.24	0	1	306	±	35	29	±	4	24	±	5	26	±	4	1,3	±	0,5	65,32	7,31	-	-
Heidrun	HEI42 ¹	11.4.24	1	3	196	±	19	27	±	3	28	±	5	25	±	4	2,0	±	0,4	65,32	7,31	-	-
Heidrun	HEI42 ¹	11.4.24	3	6	93	±	15	26	±	4	29	±	6	28	±	4	1,5	±	0,7	65,32	7,31	-	-
Heidrun	HEI47 ²	11.4.24	0	1	-		-	28	±	4	22	±	4	20	±	3	<0.85		-	65,33	7,32	-	-
Heidrun	HEI47 ²	11.4.24	1	3	-		-	33	±	4	25	±	6	22	±	3	<0.67		-	65,33	7,32	-	-
Heidrun	HEI47 ²	11.4.24	3	6	-		-	27	±	4	20	±	4	17	±	3	<0.96		-	65,33	7,32	-	-
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	0	1	309	±	32	29	±	4	31	±	7	32	±	5	<1.41	±	-	64,27	7,20	-	-
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	1	3	168	±	20	33	±	4	29	±	5	29	±	4	1,9	±	0,4	64,27	7,20	-	-
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	3	6	157	±	16	25	±	3	28	±	5	27	±	4	4,7	±	0,5	64,27	7,20	-	-
Njord	NJ14 ¹	8.4.24	0	1	381	±	36	26	±	3	26	±	5	32	±	5	2,4	±	0,5	64,27	7,20	-	-
Njord	NJ14 ¹	8.4.24	1	3	249	±	23	28	±	3	28	±	5	31	±	4	4,0	±	0,5	64,27	7,20	-	-
Njord	NJ14 ¹	8.4.24	3	6	124	±	15	22	±	3	29	±	5	27	±	4	4,3	±	0,8	64,27	7,20	-	-
Njord	NJ28 ¹	7.4.24	0	1	312	±	31	23	±	3	25	±	5	29	±	4	1,6	±	0,6	64,27	7,20	-	-

Location	Station number	Sample date	From cm	To cm	Pb Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Th Bq kg			Cs Bq kg			Lat (N)	Lon (E)	Alu tray (g)	Fw (g)
Njord	NJ28 ¹	7.4.24	1	3	217	±	25	22	±	3	31	±	6	28	±	4	2,2	±	0,8	64,27	7,20	-	-
Njord	NJ28 ¹	7.4.24	3	6	116	±	15	22	±	3	29	±	6	26	±	4	2,6	±	0,7	64,27	7,20	-	-
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	0	1	355	±	35	29	±	4	29	±	5	31	±	5	1,4	±	0,5	64,27	7,20	2,43	44,5
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	1	2	277	±	28	31	±	4	32	±	6	30	±	4	1,5	±	0,5	64,27	7,20	2,43	55,5
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	2	3	161	±	20	36	±	4	32	±	6	30	±	4	2,1	±	0,5	64,27	7,20	2,43	56,1
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	3	4	146	±	19	34	±	4	34	±	6	30	±	4	3,0	±	0,6	64,27	7,20	2,43	56,9
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	4	5	149	±	19	28	±	4	32	±	6	29	±	4	5,8	±	1,1	64,27	7,20	2,43	52,8
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	5	6	122	±	16	23	±	3	31	±	6	25	±	4	5,7	±	0,7	64,27	7,20	2,43	52,5
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	6	7	102	±	14	21	±	4	31	±	6	28	±	4	6,3	±	1,1	64,27	7,20	2,43	58,1
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	7	8	74	±	11	22	±	3	30	±	5	28	±	4	4,2	±	0,7	64,27	7,20	2,43	53,1
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	8	9	80	±	9	21	±	3	32	±	6	26	±	4	4,3	±	0,7	64,27	7,20	2,43	60,5
Njord	NJ13 ¹	7.4.24	9	10	63	±	11	21	±	4	31	±	6	26	±	4	3,6	±	0,8	64,27	7,20	2,43	57,8
Njord	NJ13 ³	7.4.24	10	11	44	±	9	24	±	3	34	±	6	29	±	4	2,5	±	0,5	64,27	7,20	2,43	55,0
Njord	NJ13 ³	7.4.24	11	12	35	±	9	22	±	3	33	±	6	28	±	4	2,3	±	0,5	64,27	7,20	2,43	65,7
Draugen	DRPL23 ¹	17.4.24	0	1	279	±	28	28	±	4	26	±	5	31	±	4	2	±	1	64,36	7,77	-	-
Draugen	DRPL23 ¹	17.4.24	1	3	259	±	26	23	±	3	25	±	5	27	±	4	4	±	1	64,36	7,77	-	-
Draugen	DRPL23 ¹	17.4.24	3	6	125	±	14	23	±	3	28	±	5	28	±	4	4	±	1	64,36	7,77	-	-
Draugen	DRPL24 ¹	17.4.24	0	1	79	±	9	18	±	2	19	±	3	19	±	3	0,5	±	0,2	64,35	7,78	-	-
Draugen	DRPL24 ¹	17.4.24	1	3	83	±	9	17	±	2	18	±	3	20	±	3	0,7	±	0,2	64,35	7,78	-	-
Draugen	DRPL24 ¹	17.4.24	3	6	38	±	7	17	±	3	21	±	4	21	±	3	0,9	±	0,4	64,35	7,78	-	-
Draugen	DRPL26 ¹	17.4.24	0	1	236	±	24	23	±	4	31	±	6	27	±	4	5	±	1	64,35	7,78	-	-
Draugen	DRPL26 ¹	17.4.24	1	3	131	±	13	21	±	3	29	±	5	30	±	4	5	±	1	64,35	7,78	-	-

Location	Station number	Sample date	From cm	To cm	Pb Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Th Bq kg			Cs Bq kg			Lat (N)	Lon (E)	Alu tray (g)	Fw (g)
Draugen	DRPL26 ¹	17.4.24	3	6	65	±	12	23	±	4	33	±	6	32	±	5	3	±	1	64,35	7,78	-	-
Draugen	DRPL27 ¹	17.4.24	0	1	293	±	28	23	±	3	28	±	5	30	±	4	6	±	1	64,34	7,79	-	-
Draugen	DRPL27 ¹	17.4.24	1	3	95	±	13	25	±	3	31	±	6	31	±	5	3	±	1	64,34	7,79	-	-
Draugen	DRPL27 ¹	17.4.24	3	6	70	±	11	21	±	3	29	±	6	29	±	4	3	±	1	64,34	7,79	-	-
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	0	1	350	±	41	22	±	5	<15	±	-	25	±	5	5,0	±	4,0	64,83	7,42	2,43	48,0
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	1	2	317	±	44	23	±	5	30	±	9	28	±	4	3,5	±	2,4	64,83	7,42	2,43	47,4
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	2	3	210	±	29	25	±	3	33	±	6	34	±	4	4,6	±	1,5	64,83	7,42	2,43	52,7
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	3	4	139	±	25	26	±	4	28	±	7	25	±	3	3,8	±	1,9	64,83	7,42	2,43	50,3
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	4	5	147	±	37	22	±	5	24	±	9	23	±	4	7,0	±	2,7	64,83	7,42	2,43	51,9
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	5	6	116	±	17	20	±	3	26	±	5	24	±	2	5,6	±	1,6	64,83	7,42	2,43	51,0
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	6	7	103	±	17	18	±	3	27	±	5	24	±	2	6,9	±	1,3	64,83	7,42	2,43	57,9
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	7	8	102	±	18	19	±	2	22	±	5	25	±	2	4,3	±	1,1	64,83	7,42	2,43	58,3
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	8	9	89	±	19	20	±	3	35	±	8	27	±	3	4,5	±	1,6	64,83	7,42	2,43	54,2
Regional	R6-05 ⁴	16.4.24	9	10	72	±	26	17	±	5	24	±	7	24	±	3	6,6	±	2,4	64,83	7,42	2,43	62,6
Regional	R6-05 ³	16.4.24	10	11	60	±	11	23	±	4	38	±	7	30	±	4	2,7	±	0,8	64,83	7,42	2,43	28,5
Regional	R6-05 ³	16.4.24	11	12	69	±	13	25	±	5	40	±	8	30	±	5	3,1	±	1,0	64,83	7,42	2,43	19,8
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	0	1	534	±	36	22	±	4	24	±	4	30	±	3	2,3	±	1,1	64,25	6,83	2,43	43,1
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	1	2	423	±	36	23	±	3	26	±	7	28	±	3	2,2	±	1,3	64,25	6,83	2,43	49,3
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	2	3	322	±	30	23	±	3	25	±	6	28	±	3	2,5	±	1,9	64,25	6,83	2,43	50,9
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	3	4	173	±	23	27	±	5	39	±	6	33	±	3	2,8	±	1,2	64,25	6,83	2,43	52,9
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	4	5	135	±	24	25	±	3	29	±	5	29	±	3	2,5	±	1,2	64,25	6,83	2,43	56,4
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	5	6	146	±	33	23	±	4	26	±	8	26	±	4	<3	±	-	64,25	6,83	2,43	57,3

Location	Station number	Sample date	From cm	To cm	Pb Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Th Bq kg			Cs Bq kg			Lat (N)	Lon (E)	Alu tray (g)	Fw (g)
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	6	7	126	±	19	24	±	6	28	±	6	28	±	3	1,7	±	1,3	64,25	6,83	2,43	59,9
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	7	8	121	±	23	22	±	3	28	±	6	27	±	3	<1	±	-	64,25	6,83	2,43	56,9
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	8	9	80	±	10	20	±	2	27	±	4	25	±	2	1,3	±	0,6	64,25	6,83	2,43	53,4
Regional	R6-08 ⁴	22.4.24	9	10	84	±	33	24	±	7	22	±	10	27	±	4	<3	±	-	64,25	6,83	2,43	50,5
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	0	1	577	±	51	25	±	4	23	±	6	31	±	4	2,7	±	1,2	64,75	6,16	2,43	53,3
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	1	2	521	±	46	27	±	5	28	±	8	26	±	3	5,2	±	1,9	64,75	6,16	2,43	53,4
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	2	3	322	±	44	25	±	5	38	±	12	29	±	4	7,0	±	3,0	64,75	6,16	2,43	51,7
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	3	4	185	±	27	25	±	3	28	±	6	30	±	3	4,1	±	1,3	64,75	6,16	2,43	54,6
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	4	5	94	±	16	21	±	4	23	±	5	26	±	2	2,1	±	0,9	64,75	6,16	2,43	58,2
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	5	6	90	±	23	20	±	6	21	±	7	25	±	3	2,1	±	1,5	64,75	6,16	2,43	64,5
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	6	7	93	±	18	22	±	4	25	±	6	24	±	2	2,0	±	1,4	64,75	6,16	2,43	59,4
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	7	8	90	±	32	21	±	4	30	±	8	24	±	4	<3	±	-	64,75	6,16	2,43	54,4
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	8	9	63	±	23	23	±	4	27	±	6	24	±	3	2,1	±	1,4	64,75	6,16	2,43	39,3
Regional	R6-09 ⁴	8.4.24	9	10	<50	±	-	17	±	7	29	±	16	21	±	8	<4	±	-	64,75	6,16	2,43	15,6
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	0	1	507	±	48	21	±	6	24	±	9	30	±	4	<2	±	-	65,00	7,20	2,43	35,1
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	1	2	440	±	52	23	±	4	31	±	9	24	±	4	<2	±	-	65,00	7,20	2,43	39,5
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	2	3	354	±	53	23	±	7	<23	±	-	26	±	6	<5	±	-	65,00	7,20	2,43	40,8
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	3	4	228	±	19	20	±	3	24	±	4	24	±	2	2,9	±	0,8	65,00	7,20	2,43	45,8
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	4	5	170	±	26	24	±	5	33	±	8	28	±	3	3,1	±	1,6	65,00	7,20	2,43	51,4
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	5	6	128	±	27	29	±	4	42	±	7	38	±	4	3,6	±	1,9	65,00	7,20	2,43	47,3
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	6	7	107	±	22	21	±	4	27	±	6	30	±	3	2,2	±	1,7	65,00	7,20	2,43	51,5
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	7	8	90	±	12	23	±	2	28	±	4	27	±	2	2,6	±	1,0	65,00	7,20	2,43	50,4

Location	Station number	Sample date	From cm	To cm	Pb Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Th Bq kg			Cs Bq kg			Lat (N)	Lon (E)	Alu tray (g)	Fw (g)
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	8	9	107	±	19	20	±	3	30	±	5	25	±	2	3,5	±	1,5	65,00	7,20	2,43	28,8
Regional	R6-17 ⁴	10.4.24	9	10	135	±	73	<25	±	-	<40	±	-	27	±	10	<6	±	-	65,00	7,20	2,43	9,7
Regional	R6-30 ⁴	15.4.24	0	1	264	±	49	29	±	8	38	±	20	31	±	6	<6	±	-	66,00	8,25	2,43	40,2
Regional	R6-30 ⁴	15.4.24	1	2	237	±	38	30	±	7	31	±	7	32	±	4	5,6	±	2,4	66,00	8,25	2,43	46,0
Regional	R6-30 ⁴	15.4.24	2	3	284	±	60	27	±	9	49	±	13	36	±	5	7,0	±	5,0	66,00	8,25	2,43	47,9
Regional	R6-30 ⁴	15.4.24	3	4	139	±	25	32	±	5	44	±	9	39	±	4	4,8	±	2,2	66,00	8,25	2,43	45,7
Regional	R6-30 ⁴	15.4.24	4	5	96	±	12	22	±	2	34	±	5	32	±	2	3,1	±	1,0	66,00	8,25	2,43	47,1
Regional	R6-30 ⁴	15.4.24	5	6	99	±	22	26	±	4	41	±	10	39	±	4	6,2	±	2,3	66,00	8,25	2,43	45,4
Regional	R6-30 ⁴	15.4.24	6	7	86	±	27	28	±	5	37	±	8	33	±	4	4,3	±	2,3	66,00	8,25	2,43	45,8
Regional	R6-30 ^{4,5}	15.4.24	7	8	-	±	-	-	±	-	-	±	-	-	±	-	-	±	-	66,00	8,25	2,43	47,1
Regional	R6-30 ^{4,5}	15.4.24	8	9	-	±	-	-	±	-	-	±	-	-	±	-	-	±	-	66,00	8,25	2,43	49,4
Regional	R6-30 ⁴	15.4.24	9	10	<29			27	±	11	43	±	13	34	±	5	6,0	±	4,0	66,00	8,25	2,43	50,5
Regional	R6-30 ³	15.4.24	10	11	35	±	7	30	±	4	46	±	8	41	±	6	2,0	±	0,5	66,00	8,25	2,43	53,5
Regional	R6-30 ³	15.4.24	11	12	35	±	8	29	±	4	45	±	8	40	±	6	1,5	±	0,6	66,00	8,25	2,43	56,6
Regional	R6-30 ³	15.4.24	12	13	38	±	11	39	±	8	55	±	11	43	±	7	2,3	±	1,2	66,00	8,25	2,43	14,5
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	0	1	297	±	32	22	±	4	24	±	6	24	±	3	4,2	±	1,4	64,41	7,55	2,43	55,5
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	1	2	223	±	29	23	±	4	30	±	7	30	±	3	6,1	±	2,0	64,41	7,55	2,43	49,7
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	2	3	139	±	21	23	±	3	35	±	7	32	±	3	3,0	±	1,2	64,41	7,55	2,43	53
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	3	4	58	±	7	21	±	3	26	±	4	25	±	2	2,2	±	0,7	64,41	7,55	2,43	52,8
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	4	5	59	±	28	18	±	4	29	±	10	23	±	4	<4	±	-	64,41	7,55	2,43	53,1
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	5	6	56	±	13	17	±	2	26	±	6	20	±	2	2,7	±	0,9	64,41	7,55	2,43	52,5
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	6	7	68	±	13	22	±	2	27	±	6	23	±	2	3,6	±	0,9	64,41	7,55	2,43	64,8

Location	Station number	Sample date	From cm	To cm	Pb Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Ra Bq kg			Th Bq kg			Cs Bq kg			Lat (N)	Lon (E)	Alu tray (g)	Fw (g)
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	7	8	77	±	16	20	±	2	26	±	4	24	±	2	2,9	±	1,0	64,41	7,55	2,43	58,8
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	8	9	51	±	14	20	±	2	23	±	5	25	±	2	3,1	±	1,1	64,41	7,55	2,43	61,2
Regional	R6-31 ⁴	18.4.24	9	10	49	±	29	21	±	4	25	±	7	26	±	3	<2	±	-	64,41	7,55	2,43	62,7
Regional	R6-31 ³	18.4.24	10	11	23	±	9	24	±	4	32	±	6	29	±	4	1,3	±	0,6	64,41	7,55	2,43	60,8
Regional	R6-31 ³	18.4.24	11	12	26	±	8	24	±	4	36	±	7	31	±	5	1,2	±	0,6	64,41	7,55	2,43	26,7

¹210Pb and 228Th results are not accredited.

²Pb210 measurement not possible because of high self attenuateion in sample, due to presence of elements with high atomic number.

³Not accredited. The sample has been diluted with silica due to small sample size

⁴Analysed by Institute for Energt Technology (IFE)

⁵Sample lost.



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