

Nick Schafstall

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC DEGREE

2016 – 2021 PhD studies, Czech University of Life Science, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences. “Reconstructing climate and disturbance dynamics in central Europe from insect remains”. Successfully defended on 12 March 2021.
2010 – 2012 Master of Science Ecology and Natural Resource Management (spec. Paleoecology) at Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands
2006 – 2009 Bachelor of Science Biology at Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2026 04 – present **Researcher**
Quaternary Research Laboratory at Nature Research Centre, Vilnius
2024 04 – 2026 03 **Postdoctoral fellow**
Quaternary Research Laboratory at Nature Research Centre, Vilnius
2022 09 – 2024 04 **Postdoctoral researcher**
Global Change Research Group at Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague
2021 01 – present **Entomo-archaeological reconstructions**
Freelance
2019 09 – 2022 09 **Postdoctoral researcher**
BESTFORCE project (GACR) at Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague
2016 07 – 2018 12 **Post-graduate researcher**
PEDECO project (GACR) at Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague
2015 01 – 2016 12 **Guest researcher**
Quaternary Entomology, NBC Leiden
2011 06 – 2011 08 **Research assistant**
Palynology project, Utrecht University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My work in paleoecology mainly concerns the use of fossil beetle records from peat bogs to reconstruct the surrounding landscape; for instance, the identification and quantification of bark beetle fossils to record past outbreaks. In general, I am interested in differences between the past and present distribution of beetle species (and other insects), and if these changed due to natural causes such as climate change or if they were caused by anthropogenic influence. The past is the key to the present and will help us to understand what can happen in the future.

PUBLICATIONS

Scientific articles published in journals, indexed in „Clarivate Analytics Web of Science“ database (with citation index May 2026):

1. Schafstall, N. et al., 2025. First Records of Beetle Fauna (Insecta: Coleoptera) from Late Glacial Sediments of Lithuania: Novel Environmental Reconstructions – *Diversity* 17(12): 820. <https://doi.org/10.3390/d17120820> (1)
2. Hlásny, T., [...], **Schafstall, N.** et al., 2025. Divergent Trends in Insect Disturbance Across Europe's Temperate and Boreal Forests – *Global Change Biology* 31(11): e70580. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.70580> (7)
3. Schafstall N. et al., 2024. Ten simple rules to bridge ecology and palaeoecology by publishing outside palaeoecological journals – *PLOS Computational Biology* 20(10): e1012487. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1012487> (4)
4. Schafstall N. et al., 2024. Assessing the effect of invasive organisms on forests under information uncertainty: The case of pine wood nematode in continental Europe – *Forest Ecosystems* 11(2): 100226. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fecs.2024.100226> (3)
5. Schafstall N. et al., 2023. The absence of disturbances promoted Late Holocene expansion of silver fir (*Abies alba*) in the Bohemian Forest – *Palaeogeography Palaeoclimatology Palaeoecology* 635(6): 111950. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2023.111950> (4)
6. Lestienne M., Jamrichova E., Kuosmanen N., Diaconu A.C., **Schafstall N.**, Goliáš V., Kletetschka G., Šulc V., Kuneš P., 2023. Development of high diversity beech forest in the eastern Carpathians – *Journal of Biogeography* 50(1), 699 – 714. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jbi.14562> (15)
7. Schafstall N. et al., 2021. Sub-fossil bark beetles as indicators of past disturbance events in temperate *Picea abies* mountain forests. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 275(1): 107289. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quascirev.2021.107289> (14)
8. Kuosmanen N., Čada V., Halsall K., Chiverrell, R.C., **Schafstall N.**, Kuneš P., Boyle, J.F., Knížek M., Appleby P.G., Svoboda M., Clear J.L., 2021. Integration of dendrochronological and palaeoecological disturbance reconstructions in temperate mountain forests. *Forest Ecology and Management* 475(8): 118413. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2020.118413> (19)
9. Schafstall N. et al., 2020. Changes in species composition and diversity of a montane beetle community over the last millennium in the High Tatras, Slovakia: Implications for forest conservation and management. *Palaeogeography Palaeoclimatology Palaeoecology* 555(1): 109834. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2020.109834> (11)
10. Schafstall N. et al., 2020. Late Glacial and Holocene records of tree-killing conifer bark beetles in Europe and North America: Implications for forest disturbance dynamics. *The Holocene* 30(16): 095968362090221. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0959683620902214> (17)
11. Vondrák D., **Schafstall N.**, Chvojka P., Chiverrell R.C., Kuosmanen N., Tatosová J., Clear J.L., 2019. Postglacial succession of caddisfly (Trichoptera) assemblages in a central European montane lake. *Biologia* 74(4), 1325 – 1338. <https://doi.org/10.2478/s11756-019-00249-4> (8)

Scientific articles published in conference proceedings

1. Duduman L.M. et al., (2019) IUFRO 7.03.10. Methodology of forest insect and disease survey in Central Europe 16-20 September 2019, Suceava, Romania: Recent Changes in Forest Insects and Pathogens Significance. BOOK OF ABSTRACTS
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/335971416_IUFRO_70310_Methodology_of_forest_insect_and_disease_survey_in_Central_Europe_16-20_September_2019_Suceava_Romania_Recent_Changes_in_Forest_Insects_and_Pathogens_Significance_BOOK_OF_ABSTRACTS

Popular science articles:

1. Schafstall N., Evans M., Valero-Garcés B.L., Ait-Brahim, Y., Falster, G., Van Rensburg, C., Meissner, K., 2022. Toward a more inclusive and diverse PAGES community. Global Changes Magazine 30(2), 124. <https://doi.org/10.22498/pages.30.2.124>
2. Alexandroff S., Benito-Granel X., Bonk A., Mette M., **Schafstall N.**, Trofimova, T., 2020. PAGES ECN develops activity clusters: A new structure to support global networking. Past Global Changes Magazine 28(2), 65. <https://doi.org/10.22498/pages.28.2.65>
3. Razanatsoa E. Ait-Brahim, Y., **Schafstall N.**, 2017. Strategies in highlighting paleo research. Past Global Changes Magazine 25(2), 105. <https://doi.org/10.22498/pages.25.2.105>

Other reviewed scientific publications (books, books' chapters, collections of articles, articles, textbooks and etc.):

1. Jiří A. Svoboda and co-authors, Paleolithic of the Czech lands [in Czech], 2025. isbn: 978-80-200-3610-0

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

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| 2024 – 2026 | Postdoctoral fellowship “Reconstruction of pre-anthropogenic climate in the Baltics and Eastern Europe, based on the climate envelopes of beetle species”, Lithuanian Research Council (P-PD-23-192)
https://gamtostyrimai.lt/en/postdoctoral-internships/ |
| 2024 – present | Working group member on “PalaeOpen”, COST Action CA23116
https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23116/ |
| 2020 – 2022 | Postdoctoral researcher on BESTFORCE, Czech Research Council (20-13368S) |
| 2016 – 2018 | PhD on PEDECO, Czech Research Council (16-23183Y) |

INTERNSHIP AND TRAINING

2025	Use of an insect museum collection to identify beetle (Coleoptera) remains at the National History Museum, London, United Kingdom
2024	Neotoma data steward training; Tilia, online
2022	Data assimilation workshop, Northern Arizona University, online
2022	Age modeling techniques (equipment, theory, practice, statistics) at NEIF, East Kilbride, Scotland
2018	Bayesian modeling workshop, University of Bergen, Norway
2017	Laboratory techniques for insect extraction, data interpretation, Plymouth University, United Kingdom
2011	Introduction to data homogenizing, comparing with model output, Leeds University, United Kingdom
2011	Introduction to Quaternary Entomology, Kalmar University, Sweden

PARTICIPATION IN SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

International scientific conferences:

- Schafstall et al., 2026. *Coleoptera-based MCR temperature reconstructions of the Last Glacial termination in Lithuania*. Peribaltic Working Group, Łódź.
- Schafstall et al., 2025. *First Coleoptera fossil records from Lithuania: Lateglacial and Early Holocene environmental reconstructions*. CPEG-CPB conference, Zürich.
- Hlasny T., Liebhold S., Schafstall N., [...], 2024. *Emerging biotic risks to European forests and the state of national disturbance monitoring systems*. XXVI World Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), Stockholm.
- Schafstall et al., 2023. *Palaeo-reconstructions from Central Europe based on subfossil beetles*. CPEG, Vilnius
- Schafstall et al., 2023. *Ten simple rules for publishing your research outside of the prefix "palaeo"*. CPEG, Vilnius
- Schafstall et al. 2023. *Modeling the effect of invasive forest pests on carbon stocks with an individual-based forest model*. European Conference on Ecological Modeling, Leipzig.
- Schafstall et al., 2022. *Subfossil beetles as indicators of past forest composition changes and disturbances in the High Tatras, Slovakia*. Forest Disturbances and Ecosystem Dynamics in a Changing World, Berchtesgaden.
- Schafstall et al., 2022. *Long-term changes in insect diversity under moderate human activity in a UNESCO biosphere reserve*. European Conference of Conservation Biology, Prague
- Schafstall et al., 2022. *Changes in species composition and diversity of a montane beetle community over the last millennium in the High Tatras, Slovakia: implications for conservation and management*. Biogeography of the Carpathians, Prague
- Schafstall et al., 2021. *From Dung Beetle to Bark Beetle: Using beetle remains to reconstruct long-term and short-term landscape dynamics in Central Europe*. Early Career Biogeographers Conference, online.
- Schafstall et al., 2021. *A 1400-year-long record of natural disturbances in Central Europe under anthropogenic pressure*. QRA Annual Discussion Meeting, online
- Schafstall et al., 2019. *Dynamics of a bark beetle community in a Norway spruce forest in the High Tatra Mountains, Slovakia*. IUFRO Working Party meeting xxxxx, Suceava, Romania.
- Schafstall et al., 2019. *Dynamics of a forest beetle community in a Norway Spruce forest in the High Tatra Mountains, Slovakia*. INQUA Dublin.

14. Schafstall et al., 2018. *The role of beetle communities in past forest dynamics in a Norway spruce forest in the High Tatra Mountains, Slovakia*. EGU General Assembly
15. Schafstall et al., 2018. *Historical forest dynamics in a Norway spruce forest in the High Tatra Mountains, Slovakia*. QRA ADM, Plymouth.
16. Schafstall et al., 2017. *Linking fossil bark beetles to the disturbance history of Šumava National Park, Czech Republic*. PAGES YSM and OSM, Zaragoza.

OTHERS

1. 2021 Professor Stoklasa award for best doctoral thesis (Czech University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Forestry)
2. 2019 Funding starts here – Grant writing for early-career researchers. PAGES ECN workshop, Prague (local organizing committee)