



1 Geographic variation and temporal trends in ice phenology in Norwegian lakes over a century

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13



14 Abstract

15 Long-term observations of ice phenology in lakes are ideal for studying climatic variation in time and
16 space. We used a large set of observations from 1890 to 2020 of the timing of freeze-up and break-
17 up, and the length of ice-free season, for 101 Norwegian lakes to elucidate variation in ice phenology
18 across time and space. The dataset of Norwegian lakes is unusual, covering considerable variation in
19 altitude (4 – 1401 m a.s.l.) and climate (from oceanic to continental) within a substantial latitudinal
20 and longitudinal gradient (58.2 – 69.9 °N; 4.9 – 30.2 °E).

21 The average date of ice break-up occurred later in spring with increasing altitude, latitude and
22 longitude. The average date of freeze-up and the length of the ice-free period decreased significantly
23 with altitude and longitude. No correlation with distance from the ocean was detected, although the
24 geographical gradients were related to regional climate due to adiabatic processes (altitude), solar
25 radian (latitude) and the degree of continentality (longitude). There was a significant lake area effect
26 as small lakes froze-up earlier due to less volume. There was also a significant trend that lakes were
27 completely frozen over later in the autumn in recent years. After accounting for the effect of long-
28 term trends in the large-scale NAO index, a significant but weak trend over time for earlier ice break-
29 up was detected.

30 An analysis of different time periods revealed significant and accelerating trends for earlier break-up,
31 later freeze-up and completely frozen lakes after 1991. Moreover, the trend for a longer ice-free
32 period also accelerated during this period, although not significant.

33 An understanding of the relationship between ice phenology and geographical parameters is a
34 prerequisite for predicting the potential future consequences of climate change on ice phenology.
35 Changes in ice phenology will have consequences for the behaviour and life cycle dynamics of the
36 aquatic biota.

37

38 Keywords: Lake ice, Ice phenology, Climate change, Lake characteristics, Geographical variation



39 1 Introduction

40 Lakes make up a substantial part (15-40 %) of the arctic and sub-arctic regions of the Northern
41 Hemisphere (Brown and Duguay 2010). Most of these lakes freeze over annually. In addition to its
42 substantial biological importance (Prowse 2001), this annual freezing has significant repercussions for
43 transportation, local cultural identity and religion (Magnusson et al., 2000; Sharma et al., 2016; Knoll
44 et al., 2019). The importance of freshwater and ice formation for people has resulted in the
45 monitoring of freezing and thawing of lake ice for centuries (Sharma et al., 2016).

46 Lakes and their ice phenology are effective sentinels of climate change (Adrian et al., 2009) and ice
47 phenology has been studied extensively (e.g., reviewed by Brown and Duguay, 2010). In general,
48 freeze-up occurs later and break-up appears earlier on global (Magnuson et al., 2000; Benson et al.,
49 2012; Du et al., 2017), regional (Duguay et al., 2006; Mishra et al., 2011; Hewitt et al., 2018) and local
50 scales (Choiński et al., 2015; Takács et al., 2018). Despite these general results, the strength of the
51 trends varies among studies. The time of freeze-up was delayed by 0.3 to 5.7 days/decade (Benson et
52 al. 2012, Magnusson et al. 2000), whereas the timing of ice break-up was delayed by between 0.2
53 and 6.3 days/decade (Mishra et al., 2011; Magnusson et al., 2000). Some of this variation is a
54 consequence of differences in the length of the study period, covering from more than a century to
55 just a single decade. This wide variation in time period and the particular time-period studied is
56 important to consider when trying to compare the strength of trends in ice phenology parameters.
57 Global mean temperature has changed considerably after 1880 (Hansen et al., 2006), and the change
58 (increase) in temperature is particularly evident in later decades. By dividing data from the 1931-
59 2005 period into shorter timer periods, Newton and Mullan (2020) showed, for Fennoscandia, an
60 increase in the magnitude of the general trend in earlier break-up in 1991-2005 compared to earlier
61 periods. In North America the trend was for earlier break-up, but it was neither spatially nor
62 temporally consistently explained by local or regional variation in climate (Jensen et al., 2007).

63 In Fennoscandia, recording ice phenology has long traditions due to the importance of frozen lakes
64 and rivers for transport and recreation (Sharma et al., 2016). Data from Swedish and Finnish lakes
65 have been studied in detail by Eklund (1999), Blenckner et al. (2004) and Palecki & Barry (1986).
66 Based on Swedish data for the period 1710-2000, Eklund (1999) showed that ice break-up did not
67 change from 1739 to 1909, became 5 days earlier in the period 1910-1988 and still 13 days earlier
68 during the final period (1988-1999). Furthermore, ice freeze-up was later in the 1931-1999 period
69 than in the 1901-1930 period. Similarly, stronger trends in both freeze-up and break-up in the last
70 decade of the 1950-2009 time period have been shown for both Finnish and Karelian lakes
71 (Blenckner et al., 2004; Efremova et al., 2004). Moreover, Blenckner et al. (2004) showed that large



72 variability was apparent south of 62° N, indicating that lakes in southern Sweden were more
73 influenced by large-scale climate effects (such as the North Atlantic Oscillation; NAO (Hurrell, 1995))
74 than northern lakes. This pattern was explained by the mountain range between Norway and
75 Sweden affecting the regional circulation in the north.

76 Despite the fact that registration of ice phenology has been undertaken in a large number of lakes
77 and rivers in Norway, as early as 1818 in some lakes (www.nve.no), few lakes have been studied in
78 detail and no country-wide analysis has been done. Trends in freeze-up and break-up have been
79 analyzed for two subalpine lakes in Central Norway (Kvambekk and Melvold, 2010; Tvede, 2004).
80 Although not covering the exact same period, both freeze-up and break-up show different trends in
81 the two lakes. Although geographically close to lakes in Sweden and Finland, Norwegian lakes
82 demonstrate considerably more variation in topography and climate. Norwegian lakes, situated in
83 the western parts of the Scandinavian peninsula, encompass a large a variation in altitude over short
84 distances as well as substantial latitudinal and longitudinal variation. A large and complex coast also
85 introduces considerable climate variability. This makes Norwegian lakes well suited for testing the
86 effect of climate change on ice phenology, also in relation to altitude.

87 In the present study, we have analysed long-term (1890-2020) observations of lake freeze-up, ice
88 break-up and length of ice-free period in 101 Norwegian lakes. The lakes cover a broad range of
89 climatic zones described by geographical parameters (elevation, latitude and longitude), as well as
90 lake characteristics (area, water inflow and water level amplitude). The main aim of the analyses was
91 to detect potential temporal trends in ice phenology while adjusting for both geographical
92 parameters and lake characteristics.

93

94 2 Material and methods

95 2.1 Lakes studied

96 We collated observations from 101 Norwegian lakes, covering a wide range in latitude (58.2 – 69.9
97 °N), longitude (4.9 – 30.2 °E) and altitude (4 – 1401 m a.s.l.). The lakes are situated in three major
98 climatic zones (boreal, subalpine, alpine) and with varying distances from the ocean. Thus, they differ
99 widely in several geographic characteristics (Figure 1, Appendix 1). Most of the lakes are relatively
100 small (median area 6.9 km²), although the dataset also includes Norway's largest lake, Mjøsa (369.3
101 km²). Their catchment areas vary between 7.1 and 18101.9 km² (median 235 km²) and mean annual
102 inflow to the lakes varies between 5.6 10⁶ and 9935.7 10⁶ m³ year⁻¹ (median 256 10⁶ m³ year⁻¹). About
103 50 % of the lakes (N = 53) were developed for hydropower production with an annual water level



104 variation varying from 1 to 30.3 m. The lake and catchment information were extracted from
105 www.nve.no.

106 2.2 Ice observations

107 Observations of the timing of ice formation on the lakes in autumn and ice break-up in spring were
108 undertaken visually or by fixed-location video cameras. The data were made available by the
109 Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE), the hydropower association Glommens
110 og Laagens Brukseierforening, or by private persons. NVE operates a national hydrological database
111 that contains information on ice conditions. The first observations are from 1818, but substantial
112 records started in the 1890s. Video cameras have now replaced visual observations in some lakes.
113 Satellite data is also being increasingly used to detect ice cover or open water. In our dataset, we
114 have included lakes with more than 7 years of observations for at least one ice phenology variable in
115 the analysis. This resulted in 101 lakes of which 76 have a registration period exceeding 30 years
116 (Figure 2, Appendix 2). The average length of the data series was 53 years (range 11 – 149 years).

117 The date of ice break-up was set when the lake was estimated to be free of ice based on the available
118 observations. The length of the ice-free period during summer was then estimated as the difference
119 between the day of freeze-up in the autumn and the day of ice break-up in spring. All dates are given
120 as Julian day number during the year (1 January is day 1). For some lakes in certain years ice
121 formation started in winter after 1 January. For these years the day number was extended past the
122 normal 365 days. The observations were always made at the same site in each lake. The date of
123 freeze-up was set when the first formation of ice was observed. Subsequent temporary ice-free
124 periods, often due to mild weather combined with strong winds, did not change this date. The date
125 when the whole lake was covered by ice was also noted, when possible. This date is more variable,
126 and information is frequently missing. It would require extensive travel and several observation
127 points to ascertain this date with high certainty, unless there are time-lapse cameras or satellite data.
128 We have a total of 4371 observations on ice break-up, 3035 observations of freeze-up, 4221
129 observations of when the lakes were completely frozen over, and 2808 observations of the length of
130 the ice-free period.

131 Some of the lakes are used as hydropower reservoirs, and thus within-year water level variation may
132 differ from the normal annual cycle. For such lakes we have included information on the year of
133 impoundment and the maximum amplitude of water level variation. Although we do not have
134 information on exact water level variation within a given year, maximum and minimum occurs when
135 freeze-up and break-up normally take place, respectively.



136 For one particular large lake there are observations from two different locations (called Tustervatn
137 and Røssvatn) that were partly overlapping in time. The observations of the time of ice break-up and
138 ice freeze-up were strongly and positively correlated. The correlation between the two different
139 estimates of time of freeze-up ($r = 0.501$, $n = 37$, $p = 0.002$) were lower than for the time of break-up
140 ($r = 0.887$, $n = 38$, $p < 0.001$). There was no tendency for a particular temporal trend for this
141 particular lake, so we have used the longest of the two time-series in the analyses.

142

143 2.3 Climate data

144 As a potential large-scale climate driver, especially impacting ice break-up, we used the North
145 Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) index. We therefore extracted the PCA-based winter (December to March)
146 NAO index (National Center for Atmospheric Research Staff (Eds.), last modified 10 September 2019:
147 [https://climatedataguide.ucar.edu/climate-data/hurrell-north-atlantic-oscillation-nao-index-pc-](https://climatedataguide.ucar.edu/climate-data/hurrell-north-atlantic-oscillation-nao-index-pc-based)
148 [based](https://climatedataguide.ucar.edu/climate-data/hurrell-north-atlantic-oscillation-nao-index-pc-based) (accessed 28 October 2020)). Variation in winter NAO is known to impact on winter
149 temperature and precipitation, depending on location (Hurrell 1995, Stenseth et al. 2003). An
150 elevated index leads to mild and wet winters in Europe, while a low index leads to cold and dry
151 winters. The PCA-based winter NAO-index covers the period from 1898 to 2020. The winter index
152 covers the period December – February, and we used this index to test for large-scale variation in
153 timing of ice break-up as the winter index influences both winter precipitation and temperature.

154

155 2.4 Statistical analyses

156 2.4.1 Average time of ice break-up and freezing and length of ice-free period

157 We tested for variation in timing of the different phenological events using general linear models
158 (glm) and model selection procedures. Based on prior knowledge, we assumed that these timing
159 traits would vary depending on longitude (Long), latitude (Lat), and elevation above sea level (Alt, m)
160 and that there might be interactions among these traits. Further, we assumed that distance to the
161 sea might be important as it impacts on both precipitation and temperature. We estimated the
162 distance from each lake to the sea as distance from the outlet of the lake to the coastal shelf (a line
163 drawn between the outermost islands along the coast) on maps (1:1,000,000). An increasing distance
164 from the coastal shelf line reflects an increasing importance of continental climate. As the coastline
165 of Norway bends eastwards at increasing latitude, the coastal distance may more correctly reflect
166 oceanic/continental climate than longitude.



167 Various lake and catchment characteristics may also have an impact on ice phenology. Thus, in this
168 analysis we used total lake area (Area, km²), total catchment area (Catch, km²) and annual mean
169 inflow (Flow, m³) as descriptors.

170 We started by evaluating the full model including all parameters (Appendix 3 and 4) and performed a
171 backward selection procedure until we ended with the “best model”. Models were compared with
172 the corrected Akaike Information Criteria (AIC_c) (Burnham and Anderson, 1998). Models with AIC_c
173 values 2 units below that of a competing model are assumed to be a better fit to the data. When
174 presenting the results of the model selection we present the AIC_c values for the three best models as
175 well as the full model in appendix tables and present the best model by giving parameter estimates
176 and overall model results.

177

178 2.4.2 Temporal variation in timing of ice break-up, freeze up and length of ice-free period
179 We used several different approaches to test for temporal variation in the different ice phenology
180 traits.

181 Firstly, in order to identify the main parameters influencing variation in time of freeze-up, time when
182 lakes were completely frozen over and length of the ice-free period, we used general linear mixed
183 models (glmm), using basically the same parameters as in our average modelling approach. Year was,
184 however, always included as a continuous variable to test for linear temporal trends. In addition, the
185 parameters Impounded (yes/no) and water level amplitude (Amplitude, m) were always either
186 excluded or included in parallel in the analyses. To account for temporal autocorrelation of
187 observations from the same lake we included lake identity as a random factor (random intercept) in
188 the analyses. We used the same model selection procedure as above, but always kept year as a fixed
189 factor.

190 Secondly, to test for temporal variation in timing of ice break-up, we used the same general linear
191 mixed models, with lake as a random variable (random intercept) and year was always included as a
192 fixed parameter to test for temporal trends. To test for which factors influenced the time of ice
193 break-up, in addition to the year effect, we included a large-scale climate index in the modelling. We
194 included both a linear and a non-linear effect of NAO as potential drivers of variation in the timing of
195 ice break-up. NAO-estimates are only available starting in 1899. Thus, this analysis covers a shorter
196 time frame than the other traits. We selected the best model based on the AIC criterion (Burnham
197 and Anderson, 2004).



198 Thirdly, we wanted to investigate if there has been any non-linearity in the temporal trends.
199 Numerous papers indicate that large-scale climatic changes have occurred mainly during recent years
200 (Blenckner et al., 2004; Mishra et al., 2011; Post et al., 2018), especially during the last decades. We
201 therefore selected several lakes ($N = 35$) with long and complete data series and analysed for
202 temporal trends in four different 30-year periods (1900-1930, 1931-1960, 1961-1990, 1991-2020). In
203 these analyses we applied a simplified approach. We used a general mixed modelling approach, with
204 ice phenology as response variable, year as predictor, and lake identity as random factor. In these
205 models we assume that all lakes have the same temporal trends (same slope) within each time
206 period. Including a random slope did not change the conclusions.

207 All statistical analyses were performed using JMP 12 (JMP Version 12. SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC,
208 1989-2019).

209

210 3 Results

211 All lakes had distinct periods without ice every year. The observations of average timing of ice break-
212 up, time of lake freeze-up, time when the lake was completely frozen and length of ice-free period
213 were strongly correlated (Figure 3, Table 1).

214

215 3.1 Spatial variation in average ice phenology

216 We tested for drivers of variation in average time of ice break-up, lake freeze up, time when a lake is
217 completely frozen over and the length of the ice-free period. A summary of the model selection
218 results is presented in Appendix 4.

219 The spatial variation in average time of ice break up was best explained by a complex model including
220 a three-way interaction between latitude, longitude and altitude (Table 2). The best model did,
221 however, include a weak negative effect of annual inflow to the lake, but not distance to the sea.
222 Distance to sea was, however, included in a model within 0.4 AIC_c units of the best model. There
223 were only small effects of the various lake characteristics, but ice break-up was later with increasing
224 latitude (2.3 days per °N), longitude (1.5 days per °E) and altitude (3.4 days per 100 m) (Figure 4). The
225 lakes are situated geographically such that latitude and longitude are strongly positively correlated (r
226 = 0.825, $p < 0.001$), indicating that the effects should be interpreted with caution. Furthermore, there
227 was large within-lake variability in timing of ice break-up (Table 3), with an average coefficient of
228 variation (CV; defined as standard deviation divided by the mean) of 8.90 %. Within-lake CV was



229 negatively correlated with latitude, longitude, altitude and distance to the coastline. This indicates
230 larger phenological variation in lakes in southern and western areas and at lower altitude.

231 The best models explaining variation in the timing of lake freeze-up, time when the lake is completely
232 frozen, and the length of the ice-free period usually contained an interaction effect between
233 longitude and altitude. All models also included a positive effect of lake area (Table 2, Appendix 3).
234 Overall, lakes freeze up earlier and have a shorter ice-free period with increasing longitude and
235 altitude. Large lakes also take longer to freeze and were ice-free for longer than smaller lakes. The
236 within-lake variation in timing of freeze-up (mean CV = 4.45 %) and when the lake was completely
237 frozen (mean CV = 4.55 %) was less than the variation in the length of the ice-free period (mean CV =
238 15.04 %). The CV of these three phenological traits were negatively correlated with altitude and
239 coastal distance (Table 3). The effect of longitude was more variable.

240

241 3.2 Temporal variation in timing of lake freeze up, time when the lake is completely
242 frozen and length of ice-free period

243 The best models, based on the AIC_c criterion, for timing of lake freeze-up, time when the lake was
244 completely frozen and the length of the ice-free period contained geographic parameters such as
245 altitude, latitude and longitude (Appendix 4). Lake area also had a positive effect on all these three
246 phenological traits. In addition, lake impoundment and the amplitudinal range in water level had an
247 impact on all traits. There was little temporal variation in these traits on the long timescale analysed
248 here; only for when the lake was completely frozen over, did we find a significant ($p < 0.001$) positive
249 temporal trend, indicating that the lakes are completely frozen later in the autumn in recent years
250 (Table 4).

251

252 3.3 Temporal trends in timing of ice break-up

253 The best model for the timing of ice break-up included the effects of geography, time and climate
254 (Appendix 5). Ice break-up occurred later during spring with increasing altitude, latitude, and
255 longitude. These effects are complex, as indicated by the various significant interaction effects. In
256 addition, there was a significant negative temporal trend in ice break-up, i.e. ice break-up occurred
257 earlier in the spring (Table 5). There was also a significant climate effect, with a negative linear effect
258 of the NAO ($p < 0.001$).

259



260 3.4 Non-linear temporal trends in ice phenology

261 Many studies indicate that climate is changing faster during recent decades. To investigate for
262 potential non-linear trends in ice phenology we analysed for temporal trends within four different
263 time periods (1900-1930, 1931-1960, 1961-1990, 1991-2020). We selected 35 lakes with relatively
264 long, and continuous data series exceeding 50 years for both date of break-up and date of
265 completely frozen lake (Appendix 6). We used a period-specific mixed mode, assuming similar
266 temporal trends (slopes) for all lakes (random intercept only). During the three first time periods
267 none of the slope estimates were significant (Figure 5, Table 6), whereas during the last time period
268 (1991-2020) most temporal trends were significant. During this period ice break up happened
269 approximately 2 days earlier per decade, whereas time of ice freeze-up and time when lake is
270 completely frozen were on average 6 and 3 days later per decade. Furthermore, the length of the ice-
271 free period has become 7 days longer per decade, although this effect was marginally non-significant
272 ($p = 0.068$).

273

274 4 Discussion

275 Our analysis of ice phenology of 101 Norwegian lakes covering the period from the 1890s to the
276 present day gave two major results. Firstly, the analysis indicated significant trends in ice phenology
277 in recent years. Ice break-up occurred earlier, ice freeze-up and completely frozen occurred later,
278 and all trends were accelerating. This results in a longer ice-free season. Secondly, the coefficient of
279 variation in the different ice phenology variables were larger in lakes in southern and western areas
280 and at lower altitudes, indicating that lakes in these areas are most influenced by climate change.

281 4.1. Geographical parameters

282 The investigated lakes cover a range of climatic zones in a latitudinal, longitudinal and elevational
283 perspective. This conglomerate of variables clearly showed complex and significant interactions,
284 especially for ice break-up, indicating the problems in illuminating the individual importance of the
285 geographical parameters. The date of break-up generally increases with latitude, modified by macro-
286 scale circulation, lake characteristic and local circulation (Blenckner et al. 2004, Livingstone et al.
287 2009). Our results support this latitudinal trend, but we also found that longitude, altitude and lake
288 size had significant effect.

289 We found that time of ice break-up was delayed by 2.3 days/ $^{\circ}$ N. This is considerably slower than
290 previously documented in Fennoscandia (3.3-5.4 days/ $^{\circ}$ N) (Efremova et al., 2013; Blenckner et al.,
291 2004) and in North America 3.5 days/ $^{\circ}$ N (Williams et al., 2006). There is no obvious reason for this



292 discrepancy. One possible explanation could be that registration of ice parameters differs both within
293 and between studies. Moreover, the oceanic effect could modify the relationship as the majority of
294 lakes in northern Norway are situated close to the ocean in contrast to the southern lakes that are
295 mostly continental.

296 Moreover, we found that ice break-up was 3.4 days delayed by a 100 m increase in elevation. This is
297 also slightly lower than in Karelian lakes where Efremova et al. (2013) found a delay of 5 days/100 m.
298 Although there is considerable climatic difference between Norway and Karelia as Karelian lakes in
299 general experience a more continental climate., The Karelian lakes also covers less variation in
300 altitude.

301 Although several studies have studied ice phenology in Europe, most of them have not included
302 longitude in their analyses. On exception is the study of Polish lakes by Wrzesinski et al. (2015). The
303 lakes are situated in the northern region and covered a wide longitudinal range (14 – 24 °E), although
304 a somewhat smaller range compared to the Norwegian lakes. Wrzesinski et al. (2015) found that
305 break-up increased by 1 day/°E, compared to 1.5 days/°E in our study. The location of the Polish lakes
306 indicate that any effect of the Baltic Ocean is similar. In contrast, the climate becomes more
307 continental when moving eastwards in Norway, especially south of 61 °N where the mountain chain
308 that runs north-south creates a distinct difference in climate from west to east. Thus, the longitudinal
309 effect could as well be due to the climatic conditions as the proximity to the ocean renders the
310 climate milder in the west. The longitudinal effect should therefore be treated with caution.
311 However, the global study by Sharma et al. (2019) showed that distance to the coast was important
312 in determining whether lakes had annual winter ice cover. In our analysis the distance from ocean
313 did not per se have any significant effect of any of the ice phenology parameters.

314 Our results demonstrated a complex relationship among geographical parameters describing date of
315 freeze-up. The best models explaining variation in the timing of lake freeze-up contained an
316 interaction effect between longitude and altitude, in addition to a positive effect of lake area. This
317 differs from the results from other studies in the region. The Karelian lakes, covering 54-68 °N,
318 freeze-up 2.3 days earlier for every degree of latitude (Efremova et al., 2013), while Swedish (58-68
319 °N) and Finnish (61-69 °N) lakes freeze-up 2.8 and 4.5 days earlier for each degree of latitude,
320 respectively (Blenckner et al., 2004). The most obvious explanation for this discrepancy is due to
321 altitudinal variation. The Norwegian lakes cover 1400 m in elevation range, whereas the lakes in
322 Karelia are all situated lower than 204 m, in Sweden lower than 340 m and in Finland lower than 473
323 m. An additional complicating factor is the oceanic climate that, if anything, is more pronounced for
324 Norwegian lakes than lakes in Sweden, Finland and Karelia.



325 In our model, distance from the coast does not significantly contribute neither to freeze-up nor
326 break-up date, probably as distance to the coast was included in both in the latitude and longitude
327 variables. This in in contrast to the analyses of 41 Finnish lakes where a pronounced deflection of
328 isolines of both freeze-up and break-up date northward near the Baltic Sea coast was documented
329 (Palecki and Barry, 1986).

330 The predictable seasonal cycle in solar radiation is characteristic of higher latitudes. Weyhenmeyer et
331 al. (2011) hypothesised, based on a global dataset, that lakes north of 61 °N had lower inter-annual
332 variability in seasonal cycle than lakes at latitudes lower than 61 °N. The Norwegian lakes are
333 distributed along a latitudinal gradient to test this hypothesis in a robust way. Our results lend
334 support to this, as the within-lake coefficient of variation (CV) of ice break-up, freeze-up and length
335 of ice-free season were negatively correlated with latitude, longitude, altitude and/or distance to
336 coastline. This indicates larger phenological variation in lakes in southern and western areas and at
337 lower altitude.

338

339 4.5 Temporal trends

340 Although many studies have documented trends in ice phenology, few studies have investigated
341 changes across specific periods to elucidate periods with stronger trends. In a study of global
342 datasets Benson et al. (2012) and Newton and Mullan (2020) showed that trends in ice variables
343 were steeper over the last 30-year period. Similar increase in trends in the last two decades have
344 been shown for Karelian lakes (Efremova et al., 2013) and the Great Lakes region (Mishra et al.,
345 2011).

346 Our analyses revealed significant, accelerating trends for earlier break-up, later freeze-up and
347 completely frozen lakes after 1991. Moreover, the trend for a longer ice-free period also accelerated
348 during this period, although the trend was not significant. These trends are in accordance with an
349 increase in air temperature in the spring and autumn, as well for the global temperature over the last
350 decades (Benson et al., 2012; Hansen et al., 2006). Our results are in accordance with Newton and
351 Mullan (2019), showing marked differences in ice phenology in Fennoscandian lakes (Sweden,
352 Finland) across 30-year periods after 1931. In Newton and Mullan (2020), break-up trends appeared
353 to be earlier and more pronounced in southern regions during the first period. In the next period,
354 1961-1999, break-up trends increased in magnitude, and the lakes with negative trends in the
355 previous period shifted to be positive. In last period, the strength of the trends in earlier break-up
356 increased and reached 3.9 days/decade. In our study, the trend in the 1991-2020 was 2.0
357 days/decade. One plausible reason for a slower trend in Norwegian lakes during this period than in



358 the rest of Fennoscandia is the influence of the ocean. The extension of the Gulf Stream, the North
359 Atlantic Drift, along the Norwegian coast contributes to a mild climate and reduced climate change
360 shown by the deflection of the 0 °C winter isotherm going northward (Newton and Mullan 2020).
361 Moreover, the speed of thermal change in the ocean is less rapid and less variable than in inland
362 waters (Woolway and Maberly, 2020).

363 Changes in ice phenology depend on several climatic forcing variables, such as air temperature, solar
364 radiation, wind and snowfall (Magnusson et al. 1997). A significant increase in global air temperature
365 during the last century is well documented (e.g. Hansen et al., 2006; Robinson, 2020). Newton and
366 Mullan (2020) showed that rising temperature appears to be the dominant factor for the shift
367 towards earlier break-up and later freeze-up in the Northern Hemisphere. Precipitation may also play
368 a role in the observed trends. Nordli et al. (2007) found a significant correlation ($R^2=0.58$) between
369 date of break-up in lake Randsfjorden and the mean temperature in February to April. Duguay et al.
370 (2006) showed that trends towards later freeze-up corresponded with areas of increasing autumn
371 snow cover, and that spatial trends in break-up were consistent with changes in spring snow cover
372 duration. Similarly, Jensen et al. (2007) in a study of ice phenology trends across the Laurentian Great
373 Lakes region found that variability in the strength of trends in earlier break-up were partly explained
374 by number of snow days or snow depth. For the lake Litlosvatn, in the mountain area of western
375 Norway, Borgstrøm (2001) found a clear relationship between spring snow depth and the date on
376 which the lake was free of ice. The altitudinal gradient causes considerable regional difference in
377 annual precipitation in Norway (Hanssen-Bauer, 2005). The general trend in increasing temperature
378 and precipitation observed from 1875 to 2004, has been modelled to increase to 2100, although
379 there will be regional differences (Hanssen-Bauer et al., 2017). Thus, our results concerning the
380 recent trends in ice phenology probably indicate a new situation for ice formation in Norwegian
381 lakes.

382 Biological consequences

383 Shifts in ice phenology have major repercussions for the biota of lakes and rivers (Prowse 2001,
384 Caldwell et al. 2020), as ice cover changes the aquatic environment, not only in terms of light
385 penetration, but also the physical characteristics of the environment such as temperature. Of special
386 interest is that the trend in earlier ice break-up and the loss of ice will stimulate biological
387 production. In late autumn, solar insolation is restricted and thus, a prolonged period without ice has
388 limited consequences for aquatic production. Caldwell et al. (2020) tested a conceptual model that
389 expressed how earlier break-up affected aquatic ecosystems. The effect differed between and within
390 tropic levels. Whereas contrasting effects were found between littoral and pelagic zooplankton
391 production, the modelled brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) did not profit from the increased



392 zooplankton production and experienced reduced fitness. A review of the long-term dynamics of fish
393 species in Europe (Jeppesen et al. 2011), revealed a shift towards higher dominance of eurythermal
394 species. Loss of ice cover increased resting metabolism by approximately 30 % in an Atlantic salmon
395 (*Salmo salar*) population (Finstad et al., 2004), and the recruitment of an alpine brown trout (*Salmo*
396 *trutta*) population was strongly affected by accumulated snow depth and thereby the timing of ice-
397 break (Borgstrøm and Museth, 2005). Moreover, the outcome of competition in sympatric
398 populations of brown trout and Arctic charr (*Salvelinus alpinus*) is strongly dependent on the
399 duration of ice-cover as high charr abundance is correlated with low trout population growth rate
400 only in combination with long winters (Helland et al., 2011). In addition, aquatic insects, such as
401 Ephemeroptera and Plecoptera may change their voltinism and their emergence timing in a warmer
402 climate (Brittain 1978, 2008; Sand & Brittain 2009). We still have limited knowledge about how
403 climate change in general may have impacts on Arctic and Alpine fishes and fish populations (Reist et
404 al., 2006). This is also the case with changes in ice phenology. The biological consequences of
405 changes in ice phenology will be first and most marked in lakes with high coefficient of variation in
406 the ice phenology parameters; that is, in lakes situated in the lowlands and in the southern part of
407 Norway.

408

409 5 Conclusions

410 Ice phenology is complex and determined by the interaction of a range of parameters. This study
411 shows that altitude, latitude and longitude all significantly affect ice phenology in Norwegian lakes.
412 Lake characteristics are of minor importance, although lake size had a significant effect. In addition,
413 there is a significant temporal effect of changing climate during the most recent time period (1991-
414 2020). There was a significant trend that lakes were completely frozen over later in the autumn in
415 recent years, as well as trend for earlier ice break-up in spring. An understanding of the relationship
416 between ice phenology and geographical and climate parameters is a prerequisite for predicting the
417 potential consequences of climate change on ice phenology and lake biota.

418

419

420 *Data availability.* All ice phenology data are available at doi:10.5061/dryad.bk3j9kd9x.

421 *Author contributions.* JHL-L designed this study. JHL-L, LAV and JEB led the writing of this paper. LAV
422 conducted the formal analysis. Data curation was conducted by JHL-L, ÅSK and TS. JHL-L collated
423 basic characteristics for individual lakes.



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428 and himself afterwards. Julio Pereira, NVE, kindly drew the maps.

429

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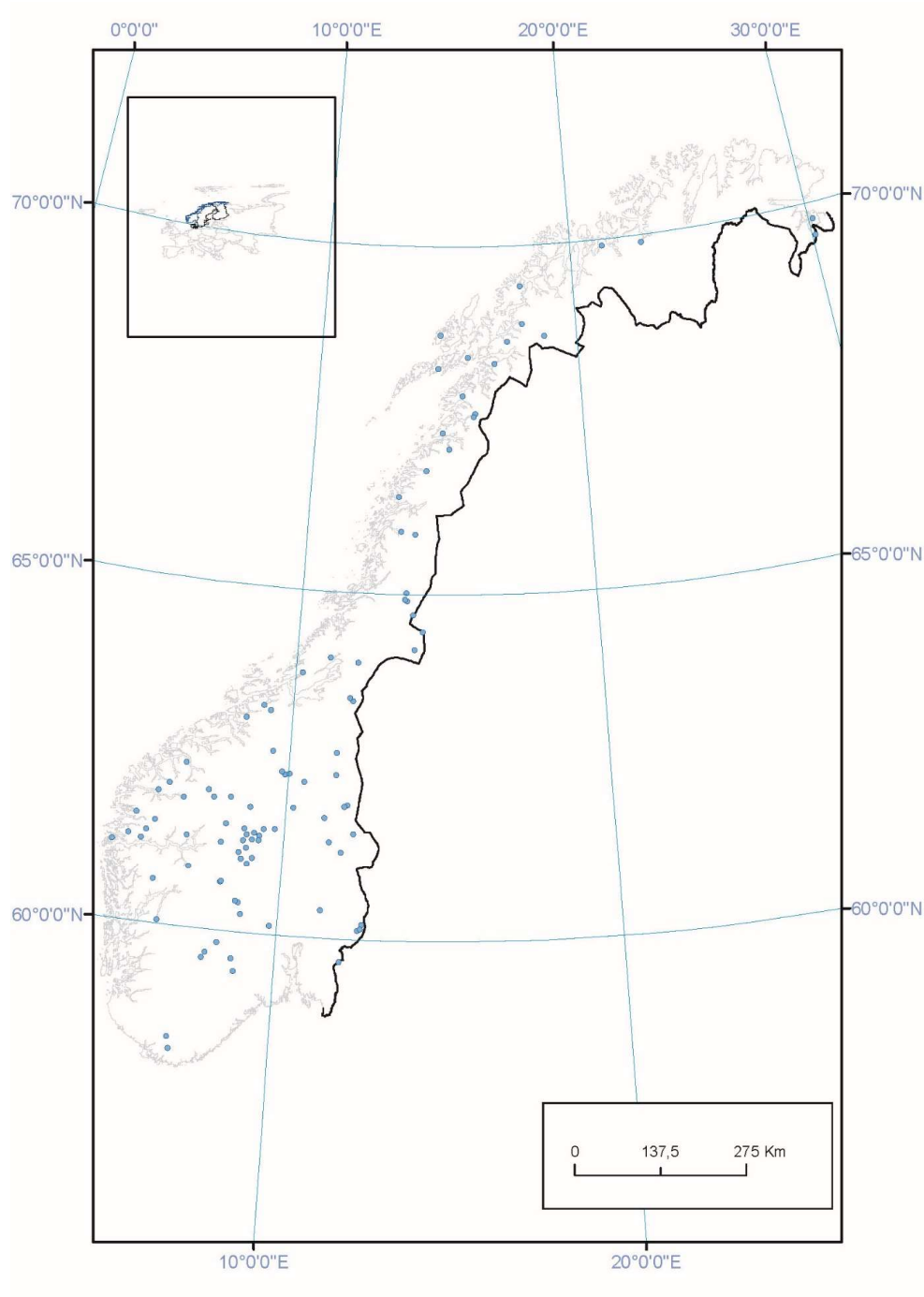
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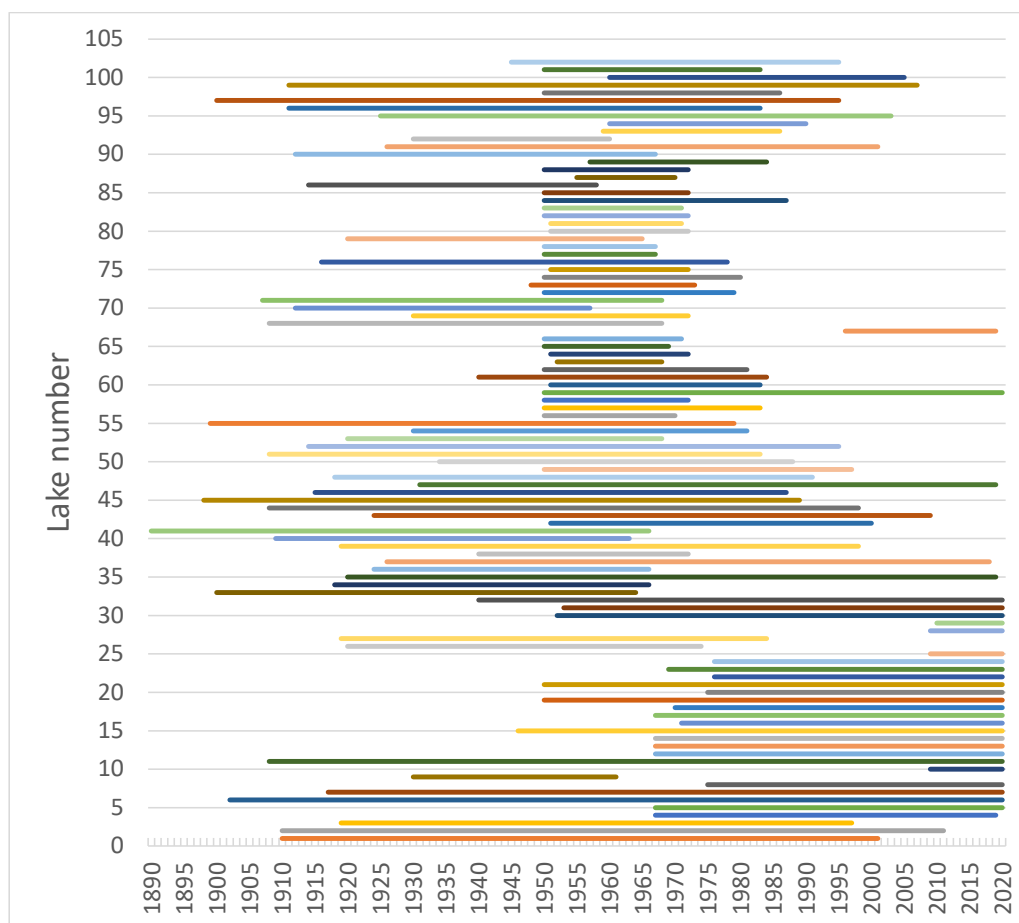


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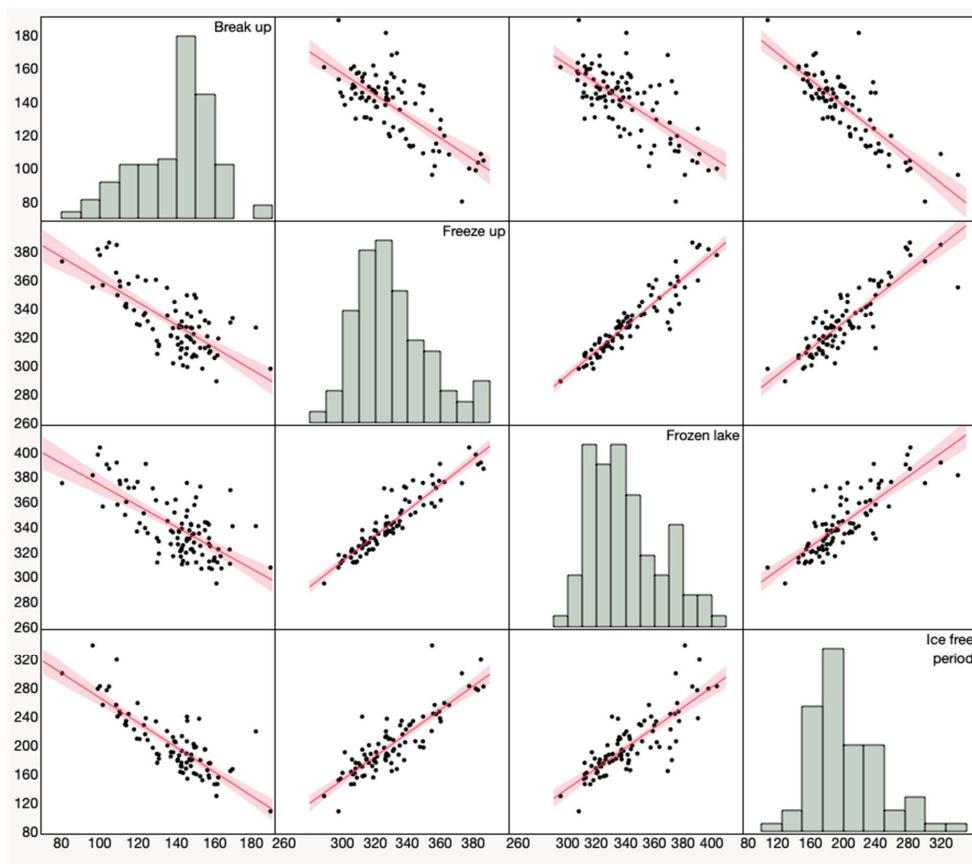
569 Figure 1. Map showing the locations of the 101 lakes included in the analysis. Information on the
570 locations and names of the lakes is given in Table S1 in the online Supplement.



571

572 Figure 2. Chart showing the registration periods for ice phenology (ice freeze-up, frozen lake and ice
573 break-up) for individual lakes. For Lake 41, registration started in 1818 but was not continuous. In
574 several data series there are years with missing registration of variables. For information on each
575 lake see Appendix 1.

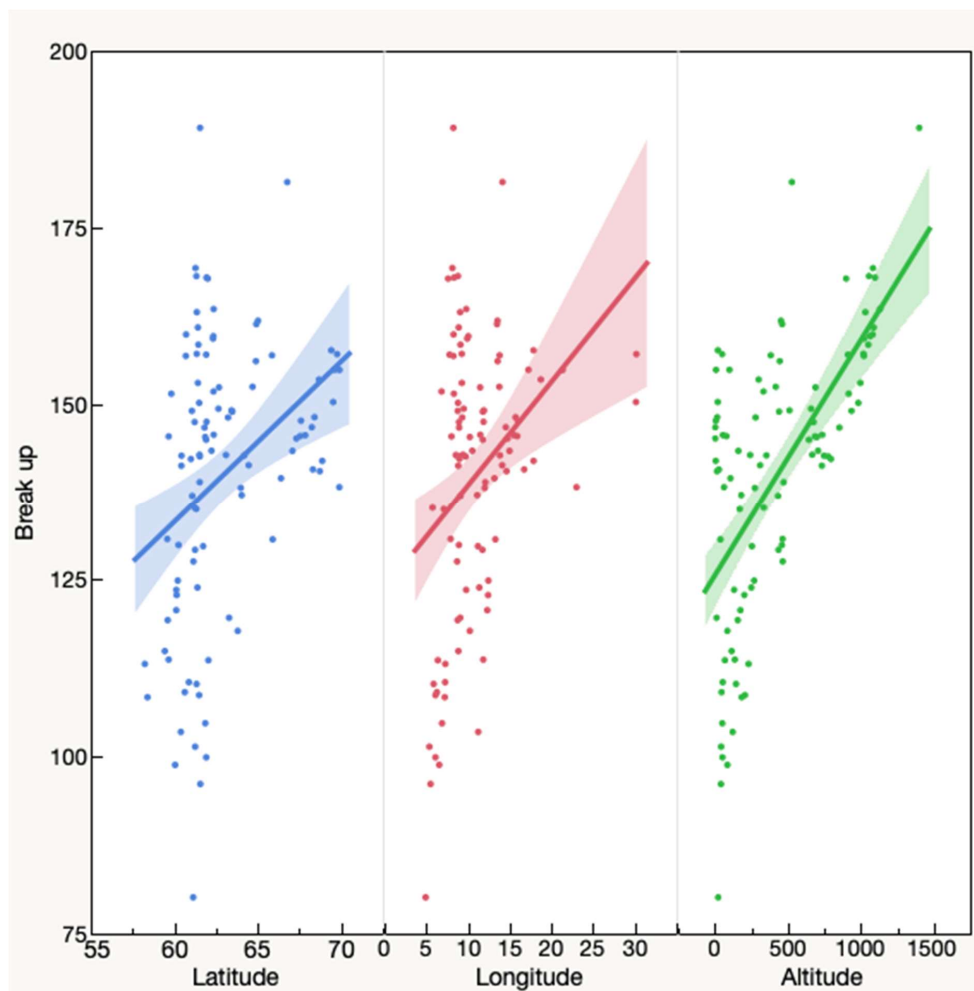
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578 Figure 3. The correlation between the average timing of ice break-up, freeze-up, frozen lake and
579 length of ice-free period in 101 Norwegian lakes during the period 1890-2020.

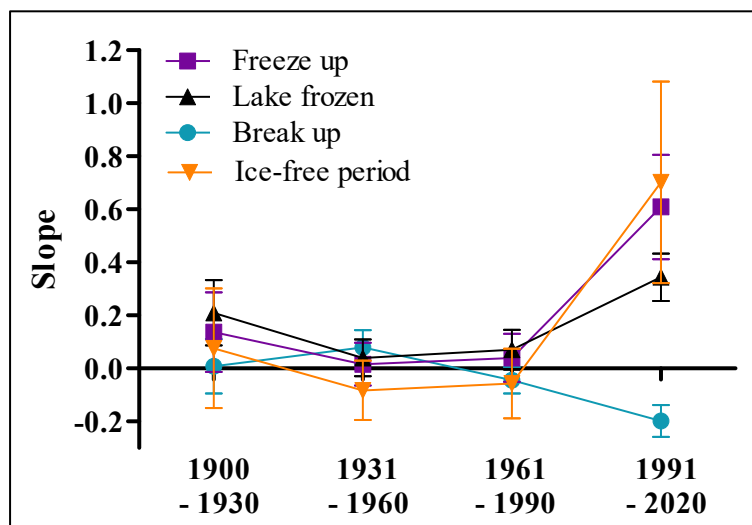
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581

582 Figure 4. The correlation between the average timing of ice break-up and latitude, longitude and
583 altitude of 101 Norwegian lakes during the period 1890-2020.

584



585

586 Figure 5. Estimated slopes from general linear mixed models with aspects of ice phenology as
587 response variables (Parameter estimates and significance level are given in Table 5). Means and
588 standard deviations are given.



589 **Table 1.**

590 Correlation between timing of ice-break-up, lake freeze-up, time when the lake was completely
591 frozen and length of ice-free period for 101 Norwegian lakes. All correlations coefficients are
592 significant at $P < 0.001$.

593

	Lake freeze-up	Lake completely frozen	Length of ice-free period
Ice break-up	-0.741	-0.692	-0.829
Lake freeze-up		0.934	0.868
Lake completely frozen			0.829

594

595



596 **Table 2. Model summary.** Testing for temporal variation in time of ice break-up, time of lake freeze-
 597 up, time when the lake is completely frozen, and length of ice-free period for 99 lakes in Norway.
 598 Parameter estimates for the best model are given (see Appendix table 1 for results from the model
 599 selection). Significant parameter estimates are given in bold.

600 **Time of ice break-up:** Summary statistics with parameter estimates ($\beta \pm$ S.E.), *t*-values and
 601 significance level (*P*). Model *F*-ratio = 91.46 (d.f. = 8, 92), total *N* = 101, *P* < 0.0001, *R*² = 0.888.

Parameter	β	S.E.	<i>t</i> -value	<i>P</i>
Intercept	-222.39	39.32	-5.66	<0.001
Latitude	5.58	0.69	8.08	<0.001
Longitude	-0.22	0.53	-0.41	0.684
Altitude	0.36	0.004	9.41	<0.001
Latitude*Longitude	0.10	0.15	0.65	0.515
Latitude*Altitude	0.008	0.002	3.65	<0.001
Longitude*Altitude	-0.008	0.002	-4.44	<0.001
Latitude*Longitude*Altitude	0.001	0.001	2.89	0.005
Annual inflow	-0.001	0.001	-1.77	0.080

602

603 **Time of lake freeze up:** Summary statistics with parameter estimates ($\beta \pm$ S.E.), *t*-values and
 604 significance level (*P*). Model *F*-ratio = 23.14 (d.f. = 6, 80), total *N* = 87, *P* < 0.0001, *R*² = 0.634.

Parameter	β	S.E.	<i>t</i> -value	<i>P</i>
Intercept	394.04	64.25	6.13	<0.001
Latitude	-0.32	1.08	-0.30	0.767
Longitude	-3.28	0.73	-4.48	<0.001
Altitude	-0.03	0.007	-4.28	<0.001
Latitude*Longitude	0.32	0.12	2.60	0.011
Latitude*Altitude	0.005	0.003	1.79	0.077
Lake area	0.14	0.03	4.05	<0.001

605

606 **Time when lake is completely frozen:** Summary statistics with parameter estimates ($\beta \pm$ S.E.), *t*-
 607 values and significance level (*P*). Model *F*-ratio = 42.57 (d.f. = 3, 96), total *N* = 100, *P* < 0.0001, *R*² =
 608 0.570.



Parameter	β	S.E.	t-value	P
Intercept	389.92	5.66	68.84	<0.001
Longitude	-3.08	0.39	-7.87	<0.001
Altitude	-0.04	0.005	-9.42	<0.001
Lake area	0.15	0.04	4.12	<0.001

609

610

611 **Length of ice-free period:** Summary statistics with parameter estimates ($\beta \pm$ S.E.), t-values and
612 significance level (P). Model F-ratio = 34.06 (d.f. = 6, 80), total N = 87, $P < 0.0001$, $R^2 = 0.719$.

Parameter	β	S.E.	t-value	P
Intercept	301.63	106.90	2.82	0.006
Latitude	-0.10	1.80	-0.06	0.954
Longitude	-6.43	1.22	-5.29	<0.001
Altitude	-0.08	0.01	-6.84	<0.001
Latitude*Longitude	0.62	0.21	3.07	0.003
Latitude*Altitude	0.01	0.005	1.88	0.064
Lake area	0.15	0.06	2.73	0.008

613



614 **Tabell 3.** Summary statistics for the coefficient of variation (mean, median and range), and
 615 correlation between CV and various geographic traits for each lake (altitude, latitude, longitude and
 616 distance to the coastline).

	CV			Correlation coefficient			
	mean	median	range	altitude	latitude	longitude	Coastal distance
Ice break-up	8.94	6.87	3.94 – 29.93	-0.477 (<0.001)	-0.238 (0.018)	-0.361 (<0.001)	-0.297 (0.003)
Lake freeze-up	4.45	4.16	1.94- 10.18	-0.228 (0.034)	-0.092 (0.397)	-0.229 (0.033)	-0.237 (0.027)
Lake completely frozen	4.60	4.31	2.82- 9.35	-0.445 (<0.001)	0.159 (0.117)	0.249 (0.808)	-0.367 (<0.001)
Length of ice-free period	15.04	11.55	5.73- 42.83	-0.225 (0.036)	0.542 (<0.001)	0.324 (0.002)	-0.427 (<0.001)

617



618 **Table 4. Model summary.** Testing for temporal variation in time of lake freeze-up, time when the
619 lake is completely frozen, and length of ice-free period for 99 lakes in Norway. Lake identity is
620 modelled as a random factor, and year is always included in the model as a fixed effect. Summary
621 statistics with parameter estimates ($\beta \pm$ S.E.), t -values and significance level (P) for the best model
622 are given (see Appendix table 2 for results from the model selection). Significant parameter
623 estimates are given in bold.

624 **Timing of lake freeze-up:** Total $N = 3035$, $R^2 = 0.676$, $P < 0.0001$. The random lake effect accounts for
625 44.0% of total variance.

Parameter	β	S.E.	t -value	P
Intercept	491.30	62.00	7.92	<0.001
Year	-0.006	0.016	-0.35	0.724
Latitude	-1.82	0.92	-1.97	0.052
Longitude	-2.10	0.60	-3.53	<0.001
Altitude	-0.04	0.005	-8.10	<0.001
Lake area	0.12	0.03	3.60	<0.001
Impoundment (no)	0.66	0.96	0.69	0.491
Amplitude	0.53	0.18	2.98	0.003

626

627 **Time when lake is completely frozen:** Total $N = 4084$, $R^2 = 0.697$, $P < 0.0001$. The random lake effect
628 accounts for 50.6% of total variance.

Parameter	β	S.E.	t -value	P
Intercept	301.62	65.86	4.58	<0.001
Year	0.06	0.01	4.68	<0.001
Latitude	-0.65	1.05	-0.62	0.537
Longitude	-2.68	0.67	-4.01	<0.001
Altitude	-0.05	0.005	-9.89	<0.001
Lake area	0.15	0.04	3.93	<0.001
Impoundment (no)	-0.53	0.84	-0.63	0.526
Amplitude	0.24	0.15	1.55	0.122

629

630 **Length of ice-free period:** Total $N = 2807$, $R^2 = 0.663$, $P < 0.0001$. The random lake effect account for
631 34.4% of total variance.



Parameter	β	S.E.	t-value	P
Intercept	433.89	108.63	3.99	<0.001
Year	0.02	0.03	0.52	0.606
Latitude	-2.80	1.50	-1.87	0.065
Longitude	-6.05	1.26	-4.78	<0.001
Altitude	-0.10	0.009	-10.90	<0.001
Latitude*Longitude	0.45	0.19	2.37	0.020
Lake area	0.16	0.06	2.87	0.005
Impoundment (no)	4.79	1.91	2.51	0.012
Amplitude	0.60	0.36	1.65	0.098

632



633 **Table 5. Model summary.** Temporal and climate effects on in time of ice break-up 98 lakes in
634 Norway. Lake identity is modelled as a random factor, and year is always included in the model as a
635 fixed effect. NAO is included as the climate effect. Summary statistics with parameter estimates ($\beta \pm$
636 S.E.), t -values and significance level (P) for the best model are given (see Appendix table 3 for results
637 from the model selection). Significant parameter estimates are given in bold.

638 Total N = 4194, $R^2 = 0.726$, $P < 0.0001$. The random lake effect account for 22.3 % of total variance.

Parameter	β	S.E.	t -value	P
Intercept	-205.98	46.00	-4.42	<0.001
NAO	-3.26	0.20	-16.61	<0.001
Year	-0.03	0.01	-2.86	0.004
Latitude	6.21	0.76	8.19	<0.001
Longitude	-0.64	0.59	-1.08	0.283
Altitude	0.04	0.003	13.99	<0.001
Latitude * Longitude	-0.30	0.07	-4.35	0.004
Latitude * Altitude	0.008	0.002	3.59	<0.001
Longitude * Altitude	-0.008	0.002	-4.25	0.004

639

640



641 **Table 6.** Parameters estimates (slope \pm se) from general linear mixed models with ice phenology
 642 estimates as response variables, year as predictor and lake identity as random effect. The
 643 time series are sorted into 30-year periods (1900-1930, 1931-1960, 1961-1990, 1991-2020).
 644 Significant estimates are given in bold, with number of observations in parenthesis. The lakes
 645 included is given in Appendix

646

	Break up	Freeze up	Lake frozen	Ice-free period
1900-1930	0.008 \pm 0.102 N=392	0.137 \pm 0.150 N=326	0.210 \pm 0.123 N=437	0.076 \pm 0.226 N=254
1931-1960	0.080 \pm 0.064 N=739	0.016 \pm 0.081 N=637	0.040 \pm 0.069 N=734	-0.083 \pm 0.112 N=586
1961-1990	-0.044 \pm 0.050 N=772	0.040 \pm 0.091 N=502	0.071 \pm 0.075 N=754	-0.057 \pm 0.1309 N=475
1991-2020	-0.198\pm0.060 N=411	0.609\pm0.197 N=116	0.344\pm0.089 N=391	0.702 \pm 0.380 N=107

647

648



649 **Appendix 1.**

650 Lake characteristics of the 101 Norwegian lakes used in the analyses.

Lake no	Lake	Coastal		Altitude (m asl.)	Area (km ²)	Mean annual inflow (10exp6 m ³)	Catchment		
		distance (km)	North East				(km ²)	Impounded	
1	Mjøsa (Hamar)	60,397	11,234	350	123	369,32	9953,72	16555,36	1920 (3.61 m)
2	Storsjø	61,392	11,363	357	251	48,1	1027,59	2293,6	1968 (3.64 m)
3	Lomnessjøen	61,732	11,202	329	255	3,67	511,93	1164,41	no
4	Osensjøen	61,246	11,739	385	437	43,37	665,79	1174,36	1941 (6.6 m)
5	Olstappen	61,514	9,402	231	668	3,2	1188,82	1305,11	1954 (13 m)
6	Aursunden	62,68	11,462	196	690	46,11	629,99	848,44	1923 (5.9 m)
7	Atnsjøen	61,852	10,226	217	701	5,01	323,1	463,2	no
8	Savalen	62,232	10,519	189	708	15,29	29,93	102,48	1973 (4.7 m)
9	Narsjø	62,364	11,477	238	737	1,95	70,67	118,86	no
10	Gållåvatn	61,53	9,717	270	778	3,04	9,72	23,1	no
11	Tesse	61,814	8,941	182	854	12,84	102,24	225,37	1942 (12 m)
12	Aursjø	61,934	8,327	140	1098	6,7	41,61	106,31	1967 (14.5 m)
13	Breidalsvatn	62,008	7,63	123	900	6,9	177,02	127,22	1944 (13 m)
14	Raudalsvatn	61,911	7,796	109	913	7,48	209,08	146,93	1952 (30.3 m)
15	Gjende	61,495	8,81	196	984	15,61	497,31	376,2	no
16	Veslevatn	61,416	9,273	224	998	4,22	33,98	44,11	1960 (2 m)
17	Kaldfjorden	61,35	9,263	245	1019	19,18	655,29	559,88	1956 (4.9 m)
18	Fundin	62,324	9,915	161	1022	10,4	155,13	252,86	1968 (11 m)
19	Vinstern	61,352	9,069	238	1032	28,19	573,95	466,3	1951 (4 m)
20	Nedre Heimdalsvatn	61,446	9,108	238	1052	7,25	134,72	129,2	1959 (2.2 m)
21	Bygdin	61,328	8,799	235	1057	40,03	398,02	305,59	1934 (9.15)
22	Marsjø	62,343	10,049	165	1064	2,68	13,95	23,39	1910 (4 m)
23	Øvre Heimdalsvatn	61,418	8,893	203	1089	0,78	26,89	24,94	no
24	Elgsjø	62,361	9,798	154	1132	2,38	22,16	33,75	1914 (5.35 m)
25	Leirvatnet	61,547	8,25	168	1401	1,04	170,31	154,72	no
26	Volbufjorden	61,08	9,11	238	434	3,94	446,88	675,85	1916 (3 m)
27	Øyangen	61,221	8,924	231	677	6,64	238,64	246,19	1918 (8.3 m)
28	Vasetvatnet	60,996	8,985	231	796	1,03	47,81	82,9	no
29	Midtre Syndin	61,058	8,782	224	937	2,73	15,68	21,47	no
30	Rødungen	60,696	8,256	193	1022	7,4	51,01	61,79	1943 (23 m)
31	Bergsjø	60,709	8,275	193	1082	1,68	5,58	28,09	1943 (11 m)
32	Vangsmjøsa	61,149	8,701	231	466	17,4	22,97	487,6	1963 (3 m)
33	Krøderen	60,123	9,783	270	133	43,91	3701,57	5091,06	1960 (2.6 m)
34	Fønnebfjorden	60,256	8,914	217	460	0,75	455,12	687,29	no
35	Tunhovdfjorden	60,426	8,833	221	734	25,55	1141,64	1857,98	1920 (18.15 m)
36	Pålsbufjorden	60,433	8,733	215	749	19,64	1063,35	1645,84	1946 (24.5 m)



37	Møsvatn	59,824	8,317	182	918	78,51	1573,04	1509,77	1903 (18.5)
38	Seljordvatn	59,434	8,854	214	116	16,49	428,07	724,97	1943 (1 m)
39	Hjartsjø	59,608	8,763	210	158	1,07	185,76	214,35	1957 (1.8 m)
40	Vinjevatn	59,582	7,926	158	465	3,32	1249,03	905,89	1960 (3.5 m)
41	Totak	59,664	8,026	168	687	36,59	1005,39	863,22	1958 (7 m)
42	Eptevatn	58,236	7,291	34	232	1,16	51,82	33,49	1921 (10 m)
43	Lygne	58,397	7,221	53	185	7,71	525,4	272,2	no
44	Sandvinvatn	60,053	6,555	91	87	4,37	1288,75	470,22	no
45	Vangsvatn	60,63	6,277	88	47	7,65	2225,36	1091,51	no
46	Vassbygdvatn	60,876	7,264	147	55	1,85	1136,22	760,47	1982 (1.4 m)
47	Tyin	61,275	8,139	189	1084	33,21	241,97	183,45	1942 (10.3 m)
48	Veitastondvatn	61,322	7,11	133	171	17,46	895,59	386,46	1982 (2.5 m)
49	Rørvikvatn	61,208	5,761	62	336	7,14	59,9	20,69	1920 (1 m)
50	Hersvikvatn	61,135	4,929	17	24	1,37	13,53	7,06	no
51	Nautsundvatn	61,252	5,379	39	44	0,676	595	218,87	no
52	Hestadjorden	61,335	5,887	67	146	3,24	1351,35	507,94	no
53	Jølstervatn	61,492	6,113	77	207	39,24	928,16	384,54	1952 (1.25m)
54	Blåmannsvatn	61,562	5,517	44	43	0,24	624,99	225,49	no
55	Lovatn	61,86	6,89	98	52	10,7	479,49	234,88	no
56	Hornindalsvatn	61,916	6,109	58	53	19,09	727,73	381,04	no
57	Kaldvatn	62,045	6,395	59	70	0,78	95,7	62,02	1955 (3 m)
58	Nysetervatn	62,352	6,835	55	334	2,36	59,93	29,65	1955 (13 m)
59	Gjevilvatn	62,648	9,49	112	660	21,18	167,83	169,63	1973 (15 m)
60	Engelivatn	63,1	8,545	56	243	1,81	41,51	20,6	1942 (7.5 m)
61	Søvatn	63,226	9,308	70	280	5,17	156,64	101,44	1940 (19.8 m)
62	Rovatn	63,287	9,069	560	13	7,74	352,35	237,87	no
63	Fjergen	63,434	11,91	126	512	13,45	303,99	227,42	1993 (16 m)
64	Funnsjøen	63,48	11,787	119	441	7,99	82,07	60,91	1938 (11.5 m)
65	Lustadvatn	63,991	12,013	91	275	7,11	82,46	68,81	no
66	Follavatn	64,04	11,113	53	182	1,44	420,12	252,29	1923 (9.5 m)
67	Krinsvatn	63,804	10,227	35	87	0,41	413,8	205,67	no
68	Namsvatn	65,019	13,539	98	454	39,44	1009,35	700,8	1951 (14 m)
69	Fustvatn	65,899	13,286	70	39	16,65	970,52	475,8	No
70	Røssvatn	65,858	13,794	91	384	47,78	2513,59	1501,21	No
71	Tustervatn	65,858	13,794	91	384	47,78	2513,59	1501,21	1957 (13 m)
72	Vassvatn	66,397	13,176	35	108	0,81	66,17	16,39	No
73	Storglåmvatn	66,773	14,143	49	529	6,18	72,53	84,79	1964 (12.5 m)
74	Skarsvatn	67,084	14,982	56	162	0,29	164,97	145,08	No
75	Vatnevatn	67,32	14,75	35	4	6,64	196,07	141,18	No
76	Kobbvatn	67,597	15,97	70	8	4,9	782,19	387,22	No
77	Sørfjordvatn	67,549	15,901	70	80	0,31	212,45	116	No
78	Storvatn	67,848	15,503	35	56	6,6	155,58	71,28	No



79	Forsavatn	68,31	16,739	112	29	1,2	250,48	232,54	No
80	Sneisvatn	68,405	15,709	74	17	0,37	86,75	29,45	No
81	Svolværvatn	68,246	14,541	21	4	0,93	21,45	18,5	No
82	Gåslandsvatn	68,723	14,628	140	16	1,54	11,9	7,35	No
83	Skodbergvatn	68,62	17,252	91	101	8,56	128,92	107,41	1953 (6.5 m)
84	Nervatn	68,869	17,867	77	7	1,2	681,76	535,57	No
85	Lysevatn	69,413	17,86	28	22	41,94	281,02	129,46	No
86	Insetvatn	68,677	18,735	126	301	3,72	1267,32	1389,68	No
87	Oksfjordvatn	69,903	21,347	56	9	58,12	256,65	265,83	No
88	Lille Mattisvatn	69,894	23,016	102	64	11,12	267,81	318,95	No
89	Lille Ropelvvann	69,761	30,188	18	51	1,19	20,41	48,87	No
90	Bjørnvatn	69,527	30,139	41	21	3,54	5207,35	18101,09	No
91	Murusjøen	64,46	14,103	168	311	7,19	266,73	346,39	No
92	Limingen	64,693	13,76	140	418	95,7	746,52	673	1955 (9 m)
93	Vekteren	64,894	13,563	119	446	8,8	381,72	310,05	1963 (5.5 m)
94	Saksvatn	64,919	13,482	112	462	1,69	76,14	63,86	No
95	Lenglingen	64,196	13,83	168	354	30,26	467,61	452,54	No
96	Engeren	61,527	12,082	364	472	11,49	231,52	395,05	No
97	Femunden	61,935	11,868	336	664	203,4	807,97	1793,94	No
98	Isteren	61,91	11,779	340	645	80,64	1129,71	2445,91	No
99	Møkeren	60,12	12,318	406	176	12,77	75,24	367,63	1928 (1.2 m)
100	Søndre Øyersjøen	60,209	12,448	417	270	2,06	34,26	66,26	1934 (4 m)
101	Varalden	60,144	12,416	413	203	6,5	103,95	214,11	1929 (4.5 m)
102	Rømsjøen	59,665	11,836	385	138	13,66	65,28	91,89	No

651

652



653 **Appendix 2.**

654 Summary of ice phenology recordings from 101 Norwegian lakes. Minimum and maximum recordings
 655 are given in brackets.

Lake			Break up		Freeze up		Frozen lake		Ice free period	
no	Lake	Period	n	Median	n	Median	n	Median	n	Median
1	Mjøsa (Hamar)	1910-2001	76	111 (23-139)	74	383 (318-440)	63	392 (350-435)	63	272 (208-401)
2	Storsjø	1910-2011	66	124 (97-140)	48	361 (333-392)	76	390 (349-443)	28	239 (200-276)
3	Lomnessjøen	1919-1997	66	131 (96-147)	69	320 (281-352)	54	327 (302-379)	58	186 (152-248)
4	Osensjøen	1967-2019	49	130 (106-142)	24	360 (336-394)	50	362 (338-406)	22	232 (210-277)
5	Olstappen	1967-2020	53	142 (129-158)			52	309 (285-329)		
6	Aursunden	1902-2020	115	152 (129-175)	58	314 (295-332)	116	324 (295-355)	57	158 (127-186)
7	Atnsjøen	1917-2020	87	145 (122-165)	95	320 (302-347)	98	328 (312-363)	84	176 (144-213)
8	Savalen	1975-2020	45	144 (128-160)			45	323 (306-360)		
9	Narsjø	1930-1961	31	145 (136-164)	29	300 (283-313)	31	311 (293-335)	29	154 (125-175)
10	Gålåvatn	2009-2020	11	145 (124-150)	11	315 (305-326)	11	322 (305-339)	10	175 (162-196)
11	Tesse	1908-2020	74	148 (121-167)			76	330 (311-363)		
12	Aursjø	1967-2020	53	169 (148-181)			53	310 (293-332)		
13	Breidalsvatn	1967-2020	53	168 (147-191)			53	323 (303-347)		
14	Raudalsvatn	1967-2020	53	157 (136-176)			53	329 (313-365)		
15	Gjende	1946-2020	15	149 (137-161)	14	348 (326-377)	19	358 (335-412)	12	194 (175-225)
16	Veslevatn	1971-2018	47	153 (84-182)			47	305 (285-332)		
17	Kaldfjorden	1967-2020	53	159 (136-170)			53	309 (285-332)		
18	Fundin	1970-2020	50	159 (138-174)			48	313 (297-328)		
19	Vinstern	1950-2020	64	163 (147-181)			69	317 (288-339)		
20	Nedre Heimdalsvatn	1975-2020	45	159 (134-171)			45	308 (283-326)		
21	Bygdin	1950-2020	64	170 (153-185)	15	326 (301-382)	65	370 (315-416)	14	157 (130-221)
22	Marsjø	1976-2020	45	160 (135-180)			44	314 (297-328)		
23	Øvre Heimdalsvatn	1969-2020	49	161 (137-188)	12	289 (277-302)	39	294 (279-309)	12	128 (111-151)
24	Elgsjø	1976-2020	45	164 (144-180)			44	306 (291-328)		
25	Leirvatnet	2009-2020	11	182 (157-234)	11	299 (283-312)	11	308 (286-331)	10	120 (55-142)
26	Volbufjorden	1920-1974	55	137 (119-150)	54	320 (305-344)	55	324 (312-353)	54	184 (164-214)
27	Øyangen	1919-1984	65	149 (130-168)	62	318 (299-343)	62	321 (304-344)	61	170 (137-200)
28	Vasetvatnet	2009-2020	11	143 (122-152)	11	307 (294-361)	11	315 (295-363)	10	163 (151-218)
29	Midtre Syndin	2010-2020	10	150 (128-158)	9	309 (280-332)	10	320 (302-334)	8	156 (129-187)
30	Rødungen	1952-2020	41	157 (112-175)	37	312 (301-335)	47	324 (311-366)	31	154 (136-223)
31	Bergsjø	1953-2020	58	160 (146-175)	47	304 (288-343)	56	314 (294-350)	47	144 (127-170)
32	Vangsmjøsa	1940-2020	34	134 (78-149)	33	323 (303-366)	32	375 (315-409)	32	196 (161-276)
33	Krøderen	1900-1964	64	124 (100-161)	7	335 (315-366)	60	338 (306-372)	7	214 (189-255)
34	Fønnebjorden	1918-1966	44	131 (104-145)	15	310 (290-321)	47	309 (289-366)	15	174 (152-201)
35	Tunhovdfjorden	1920-2020	73	142 (119-161)	45	329 (275-353)	77	335 (305-362)	41	186 (142-219)



36	Pålsbufjorden	1924-1966	37	145 (121-153)	32	310 (294-355)	39	321 (305-424)	31	166 (143-279)
37	Møsvatn	1926-2018	86	152 (134-176)			30	341 (319-360)		
38	Seljordvatn	1940-1972	30	115 (89-132)	26	359 (322-386)	23	367 (349-413)	24	244 (279-211)
39	Hjartsjø	1919-1998	74	121 (91-139)	43	328 (311-354)	70	334 (313-388)	42	207 (184-261)
40	Vinjevatn	1909-1963	46	133 (103-146)	16	313 (296-344)	46	317 (297-375)	16	182 (150-220)
41	Totak	1818-1966	79	146 (124-169)	25	348 (332-371)	20	373 (349-408)	22	207 (186-230)
42	Eptevatn	1951-2000	45	114 (22-136)	36	340 (315-382)	49	346 (327-386)	32	224 (182-318)
43	Lygne	1924-2009	72	112 (22-137)	71	362 (441-313)			60	253 (212-363)
44	Sandvinvatn	1908-1998	59	106 (33-131)	61	383 (224-437)	64	398 (359-453)	46	276 (225-342)
45	Vangsvatn	1898-1989	69	113 (38-138)	46	347 (316-402)	78	354 (327-420)	61	236 (197-333)
46	Vassbygdvatn	1915-1987	69	116 (56-139)	56	356 (277-401)	65	371 (330-435)	54	242 (158-305)
47	Tyin	1931-2019	26	170 (148-198)	29	335 (314-372)	30	338 (318-373)	24	166 (128-208)
48	Veitastondvatn	1918-1991	65	137 (76-152)	52	353 (311-416)	61	356 (326-428)	50	217 (171-284)
49	Rørvikvatn	1950-1997	47	137 (91-166)	47	335 (374-310)	48	342 (322-397)	46	199 (159-236)
50	Hersvikvatn	1934-1988	45	83 (18-115)	47	370 (335-413)	42	372 (337-412)	47	292 (245-395)
51	Nautsundvatn	1908-1983	55	106 (33-130)	75	353 (314-426)	75	353 (314-426)	54	248 (215-348)
52	Hestadfjorden	1914-1995	70	117 (17-140)	75	358 (320-423)	77	371 (323-446)	65	242 (192-382)
53	Jølstervatn	1920-1968	22	112 (67-137)	24	384 (340-434)	12	392 (352-430)	24	310 (235-406)
54	Blåmannsvatn	1930-1981	15	95 (39-122)	40	348 (323-407)	39	380 (332-436)	40	347 (221-407)
55	Lovatn	1899-1979	72	108 (18-132)	44	388 (347-436)	51	388 (355-440)	42	281 (227-395)
56	Hornindalsvatn	1950-1970	20	105 (58-128)	19	371 (359-414)	8	406 (378-422)	19	275 (232-363)
57	Kaldvatn	1950-1983	33	113 (82-135)	32	342 (314-385)	28	373 (340-423)	32	228 (179-341)
58	Nysetervatn	1950-1972	16	145 (120-180)	13	324 (309-376)	17	331 (312-381)	13	190 (163-329)
59	Gjevilvatn	1950-2020	13	151 (133-163)	15	347 (321-377)	18	356 (323-387)	8	194 (171-226)
60	Engelivatn	1951-1983	24	144 (118-158)	25	343 (298-344)	27	343 (321-368)	25	186 (147-344)
61	Søvatn	1940-1984	44	146 (118-250)	42	325 (308-347)	42	332 (313-362)	41	180 (62-229)
62	Rovatn	1950-1981	28	126 (87-135)	31	361 (325-413)	31	374 (341-416)	27	235 (200-302)
63	Fjergen	1952-1968	28	152 (122-160)	27	318 (294-335)	34	325 (309-366)	21	166 (141-191)
64	Funnsjøen	1951-1972	18	151 (131-169)	21	322 (297-341)	18	335 (310-362)	17	177 (141-204)
65	Lustadvatn	1950-1969	13	140 (127-147)	12	327 (306-341)	17	338 (314-353)	10	194 (164-210)
66	Follavatn	1950-1971	20	138 (118-155)	19	321 (303-343)	20	333 (312-367)	18	178 (163-222)
67	Krinsvatn	1996-2019	16	119 (92-134)	15	340 (246-384)	16	367 (327-4379)	11	224 (181-262)
68	Namsvatn	1908-1968	57	163 (137-184)	19	319 (301-341)	58	323 (291-351)	17	164 (126-183)
69	Fustvatn	1930-1972	34	135 (84-162)	37	315 (280-347)	39	329 (288-372)	30	182 (151-249)
70	Røssvatn	1912-1957	46	160 (141-182)	44	354 (310-406)	45	370 (337-417)	44	198 (144-248)
71	Tustervatn	1907-1968	54	156 (137-178)	44	328 (304-366)	50	343 (308-391)	41	174 (127-216)
72	Vassvatn	1950-1979	29	137 (113-175)	29	340 (314-363)	29	361 (330-412)	28	199 (158-232)
73	Storglåmvatn	1948-1973	17	178 (162-210)	20	329 (288-361)	20	342 (294-391)	12	151 (89-187)
74	Skarsvatn	1950-1980	30	144 (124-165)	29	300 (278-320)	30	310 (286-355)	28	154 (129-183)
75	Vatnevatn	1951-1972	21	141 (127-247)	21	325 (300-351)	20	345 (325-373)	20	186 (85-214)
76	Kobbvatn	1916-1978	61	149 (128-167)	58	330 (304-386)	60	339 (310-392)	56	185 (140-245)
77	Sørfjordvatn	1950-1967	7	145 (133-159)	10	310 (294-331)	15	322 (306-384)	5	171 (152-191)



78	Storvatn	1950-1967	9	144 (134-158)	10	335 (305-373)	14	353 (334-376)	7	190 (149-239)
79	Forsavatn	1920-1965	44	141 (117-159)	46	316 (288-350)	46	325 (294-403)	44	176 (134-206)
80	Sneisvatn	1951-1972	19	147 (129-180)	20	303 (274-340)	21	311 (284-395)	17	156 (121-194)
81	Svolværvatn	1951-1971	19	149 (116-168)	20	318 (297-318)	20	334 (310-393)	19	173 (135-206)
82	Gåslandsvatn	1950-1972	22	141 (111-172)	21	316 (283-359)	22	327 (309-367)	21	179 (128-229)
83	Skodbergvatn	1950-1971	11	151 (146-167)	9	331 (317-361)	9	336 (329-362)	8	177 (152-212)
84	Nervatn	1950-1987	37	144 (104-160)	36	305 (289-324)	36	319 (301-362)	34	164 (142-192)
85	Lysevatn	1950-1972	19	158 (127-177)	20	307 (296-332)	20	323 (305-359)	17	152 (125-170)
86	Insetvatn	1914-1958	43	152 (133-181)	45	296 (279-322)	45	314 (291-367)	43	145 (109-181)
87	Oksfjordvatn	1955-1970	15	156 (135-170)	5	339 (301-329)	15	339 (319-352)	5	171 (140-301)
88	Lille Mattisvatn	1950-1972	16	139 (129-151)	11	298 (280-314)	16	319 (296-246)	11	168 (143-312)
89	Lille Ropelvvann	1957-1984	27	161 (128-172)	11	309 (299-322)	27	311 (294-332)	11	152 (141-181)
90	Bjørnvatn	1912-1967	55	151 (130-182)	53	306 (286-327)	55	311 (289-366)	52	157 (117-189)
91	Murusjøen	1926-2001	66	142 (121-155)	74	327 (305-354)	66	336 (311-366)	65	184 (157-223)
92	Limingen	1930-1960	27	152 (131-176)	11	348 (289-385)	30	369 (316-424)	11	200 (120-240)
93	Vekteren	1959-1986	23	157 (144-168)	46	321 (296-341)	15	339 (305-413)	20	164 (145-190)
94	Saksvatn	1960-1990	31	164 (141-180)	29	306 (279-331)	28	309 (298-334)	29	147 (174-119)
95	Lenglingen	1925-2003	76	144 (118-158)	76	329 (307-383)	77	339 (312-385)	74	187 (157-235)
96	Engeren	1911-1983	72	139 (119-157)	72	347 (299-396)	71	350 (311-386)	71	204 (156-244)
97	Femunden	1900-1995	82	148 (128-173)	83	328 (305-353)	83	343 (313-386)	79	177 (152-214)
98	Isteren	1950-1986	34	148 (113-157)	35	309 (283-335)	35	319 (291-385)	34	162 (134-206)
99	Møkeren	1911-2007	65	121 (91-141)	47	332 (261-363)	65	341 (303-446)	37	212 (128-244)
100	Søndre Øyersjøen	1960-2005	42	126 (99-138)	18	334 (305-363)	39	336 (308-367)	18	210 (179-240)
101	Varalden	1950-1983	26	123 (91-135)	22	335 (312-367)	27	350 (315-378)	19	210 (181-245)
102	Rømsjøen	1945-1995	46	119 (33-138)	44	339 (305-376)	48	359 (333-398)	43	224 (171-293)

656

657



658 **Appendix 3.**

659 Variation in average time of ice break-up, time of lake freeze-up, time when lake is completely
 660 frozen, and length of ice-free period. The full model is formulated as (see description of parameters
 661 in the main text):

662 $Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_7 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Distance}$
 663 $+ \alpha_9 \text{Area} + \alpha_{10} \text{Catch} + \alpha_{11} \text{Flow} + \varepsilon$

664 Selection of the best model was based on AIC. The full model and the three best models are
 665 presented, with the best model given in bold. AIC and ΔAIC is given.

666 **Time of ice break-up:**

No.	Model formulation (n = 101)	AIC	ΔAIC
0	Full model	695.8	5.0
1	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_7 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_{11} \text{Flow}$	690.8	0
2	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_7 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Distance} + \alpha_{11} \text{Flow}$	691.2	0.4
5	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_7 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} * \text{Lat}$	691.7	0.9

667

668 **Time of lake freeze-up:**

No.	Model formulation (n = 86)	AIC	ΔAIC
0	Full model	719.5	11.8
1	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area}$	707.7	0
2	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area}$	708.1	0.4
3	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area}$	709.6	1.9

669

670 **Time when lake is completely frozen:**

No.	Model formulation (n = 97)	AIC	ΔAIC
0	Full model	838.0	12.5
1	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area}$	825.5	0.0
2	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_8 \text{Area}$	827.6	2.1



3	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_8 \text{Area}$	828.3	2.8
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671

672 **Length of ice-free period:**

No.	Model formulation (n = 86)	AIC	ΔAIC
0	Full model	808.4	13.8
1	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area}$	794.6	0
2	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area} + \alpha_{10} \text{Flow}$	795.2	0.6
3	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area} + \alpha_9 \text{Catch}$	796.2	1.6

673



674 **Appendix 4.**

675 **Test for temporal variation in time of lake freeze-up, time when lake is completely frozen, and**
 676 **length of ice-free period for 98 lakes in Norway.** Lake identity is modelled as a random factor, and
 677 year is always included in the model as a fixed effect. The full model is formulated as (see description
 678 of parameters in the main text):

679 $Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_7 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Distance} +$
 680 $\alpha_9 \text{Area} + \alpha_{10} \text{Catch} + \alpha_{11} \text{Flow} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{13} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{14} \text{Amplitude} + \varepsilon.$

681 Selection of the best model was based on AIC. The full model and the three best models are
 682 presented, with the best model given in bold. AIC and ΔAIC is given.

683 **Time of lake freeze-up:**

No.	Model formulation	AIC	ΔAIC
0	Full model	25 776.8	63.7
1	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_8 \text{Area} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{13} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{14} \text{Amplitude}$	25 713.1	0
2	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_9 \text{Area} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{13} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{14} \text{Amplitude}$	25 713.8	0.7
3	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_9 \text{Area} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{13} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{14} \text{Amplitude}$	25 716.6	3.5

684

685 **Time when lake is completely frozen:**

No.	Model formulation	AIC	ΔAIC
0	Full model	35 781.8	67.1
1	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_9 \text{Area} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{13} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{14} \text{Amplitude}$	35 714.7	0
2	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_8 \text{Area} + \alpha_{11} \text{Year} + \alpha_{12} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{13} \text{Amplitude}$	35 715.0	0.3
3	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area} + \alpha_{11} \text{Year}$	35 716.6	1.9

686

687 **Length of ice-free period:**

No.	Model formulation	AIC	ΔAIC
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0	Full model	27 547.9	55.9
1	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_9 \text{Area} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{13} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{14} \text{Amplitude}$	27 492.0	0
2	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_8 \text{Area} + \alpha_{11} \text{Year} + \alpha_{12} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{13} \text{Amplitude}$	27 494.1	2.1
3	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Area} + \alpha_{11} \text{Year}$	27 496.7	4.7

688



689 **Appendix 5.**

690 **Test for temporal variation in time of ice break-up.** Lake identity is modelled as a random factor,
 691 and year is always included in the model as a fixed effect. NAO is included in the model as both a
 692 linear and a non-linear effect. The full model is formulated as (see description of parameters in the
 693 main text):

694
$$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_4 \text{Alt} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_7 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_8 \text{Distance} +$$

 695
$$\alpha_9 \text{Area} + \alpha_{10} \text{Catch} + \alpha_{11} \text{Flow} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{13} \text{Impounded} + \alpha_{14} \text{Amplitude} + \alpha_{15} \text{NAO} + \alpha_{16} \text{NAO}^2 + \varepsilon.$$

696 Selection of the best model was based on AIC. The full model and the three best models are
 697 presented, with the best model given in bold. AIC and ΔAIC is given.

No.	Model formulation	AIC	ΔAIC
0	Full model	33 367.0	56.0
1	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{15} \text{NAO}$	33 311.0	0
2	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_6 \text{Long} * \text{Lat} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{15} \text{NAO}$	33 311.2	0.2
3	$Y = \mu + \alpha_1 \text{Alt} + \alpha_2 \text{Lat} + \alpha_3 \text{Long} + \alpha_5 \text{Alt} * \text{Long} + \alpha_{12} \text{Year} + \alpha_{15} \text{NAO}$	33 315.5	4.5

698

699



700 **Appendix 6.**

701 **Test for non-linear temporal trends in ice phenology in 30-years periods.** Lakes with >50 years of
 702 records of both date of break-up and date of frozen lake.

Lake		Period	Break up		Freeze up		Frozen lake		Ice free period	
no	Lake		n	Median	n	Median	n	Median	n	Median
1	Mjøsa (Hamar)	1910-2001	76	111 (23-139)	74	383 (318-440)	63	392 (350-435)	63	272 (208-401)
2	Storsjø	1910-2011	66	124 (97-140)	48	361 (333-392)	76	390 (349-443)	28	239 (200-276)
3	Lomnessjøen	1919-1997	66	131 (96-147)	69	320 (281-352)	54	327 (302-379)	58	186 (152-248)
5	Olstappen	1967-2020	53	142 (129-158)			52	309 (285-329)		
6	Aursunden	1902-2020	115	152 (129-175)	58	314 (295-332)	116	324 (295-355)	57	158 (127-186)
7	Atnsjøen	1917-2020	87	145 (122-165)	95	320 (302-347)	98	328 (312-363)	84	176 (144-213)
11	Tesse	1908-2020	74	148 (121-167)			76	330 (311-363)		
12	Aursjø	1967-2020	53	169 (148-181)			53	310 (293-332)		
13	Breidalsvatn	1967-2020	53	168 (147-191)			53	323 (303-347)		
14	Raudalsvatn	1967-2020	53	157 (136-176)			53	329 (313-365)		
17	Kaldfjorden	1967-2020	53	159 (136-170)			53	309 (285-332)		
19	Vinstern	1950-2020	64	163 (147-181)			69	317 (288-339)		
21	Bygdin	1950-2020	64	170 (153-185)	15	326 (301-382)	65	370 (315-416)	14	157 (130-221)
26	Volbufjorden	1920-1974	55	137 (119-150)	54	320 (305-344)	55	324 (312-353)	54	184 (164-214)
27	Øyangen	1919-1984	65	149 (130-168)	62	318 (299-343)	62	321 (304-344)	61	170 (137-200)
31	Bergsjø	1953-2020	58	160 (146-175)	47	304 (288-343)	56	314 (294-350)	47	144 (127-170)
33	Krøderen	1900-1964	64	124 (100-161)	7	335 (315-366)	60	338 (306-372)	7	214 (189-255)
35	Tunhovdfjorden	1920-2020	73	142 (119-161)	45	329 (275-353)	77	335 (305-362)	41	186 (142-219)
39	Hjartsjå	1919-1998	74	121 (91-139)	43	328 (311-354)	70	334 (313-388)	42	207 (184-261)
44	Sandvinvatn	1908-1998	59	106 (33-131)	61	383 (224-437)	64	398 (359-453)	46	276 (225-342)
45	Vangsvatn	1898-1989	69	113 (38-138)	46	347 (316-402)	78	354 (327-420)	61	236 (197-333)
46	Vassbygdvatn	1915-1987	69	116 (56-139)	56	356 (277-401)	65	371 (330-435)	54	242 (158-305)
48	Veitastrondvatn	1918-1991	65	137 (76-152)	52	353 (311-416)	61	356 (326-428)	50	217 (171-284)
51	Nautsundvatn	1908-1983	55	106 (33-130)	75	353 (314-426)	75	353 (314-426)	54	248 (215-348)
52	Hestadfjorden	1914-1995	70	117 (17-140)	75	358 (320-423)	77	371 (323-446)	65	242 (192-382)
55	Lovatn	1899-1979	72	108 (18-132)	44	388 (347-436)	51	388 (355-440)	42	281 (227-395)
68	Namsvatn	1908-1968	57	163 (137-184)	19	319 (301-341)	58	323 (291-351)	17	164 (126-183)
71	Tustervatn	1907-1968	54	156 (137-178)	44	328 (304-366)	50	343 (308-391)	41	174 (127-216)
76	Kobbvatn	1916-1978	61	149 (128-167)	58	330 (304-386)	60	339 (310-392)	56	185 (140-245)
90	Bjørnvatn	1912-1967	55	151 (130-182)	53	306 (286-327)	55	311 (289-366)	52	157 (117-189)
91	Murusjøen	1926-2001	66	142 (121-155)	74	327 (305-354)	66	336 (311-366)	65	184 (157-223)
95	Lenglingen	1925-2003	76	144 (118-158)	76	329 (307-383)	77	339 (312-385)	74	187 (157-235)
96	Engeren	1911-1983	72	139 (119-157)	72	347 (299-396)	71	350 (311-386)	71	204 (156-244)
97	Femunden	1900-1995	82	148 (128-173)	83	328 (305-353)	83	343 (313-386)	79	177 (152-214)
99	Møkeren	1911-2007	65	121 (91-141)	47	332 (261-363)	65	341 (303-446)	37	212 (128-244)

703