

Luminescence Dating of Old Crow and Dawson Tephtras using Fading-corrected Feldspar IRSL

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Infrared stimulated luminescence technique (IRSL) has been used for dating the Late Pleistocene Dawson tephra and the Middle to Late Pleistocene Old Crow tephra. Those tephtras were respectively sampled from the Quartz Creek site in Yukon and from the Yukon-Charley River site in eastern Alaska. Whilst the age of Old Crow tephtra is already known by glass fission-track (131 ± 11 ka) and that of Dawson is cross-dated between $25,420 \pm 70$ and $25,290 \pm 80$ ^{14}C years BP using radiocarbon, luminescence dating is now tested in order to both a) validate the fading corrections applied to feldspars luminescence dating (IRSL) and b) develop a new dating tool to decipher the Late Quaternary history of volcanoes. The extraction of fine sand-sized feldspar from both tephtra is a difficult task and luminescence yielded using both thermal and optical stimulation is rather small and variable. However, in the case of the older Old Crow tephtra, most aliquots emit a 3 to 4 signal to background ratio, sufficient for the estimation of the equivalent dose, the fading g value, and hence of the absolute age. Dawson tephtra is apparently poorer in mineral content and therefore other laboratory techniques are being tested to further separate the glass shards from the feldspars.