

Example ABSTRACT (with apologies to J.R.R. Tolkien)

**A RECORD OF CLIMATE CHANGE FROM A SEVERAL THOUSAND-YEAR SEQUENCE
IN THE DEAD MARSHES OF EMYN MUIL**

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An expedition to carry out a major palaeoclimatic reconstruction at the Cracks of Doom in the Land of Mordor has been documented in many recent publications. This expedition included a transit across the Dead Marshes east of the Emyn Muil, and the opportunity was taken to sample peat records from the Marshes at several positions en route. Sampling was not without problems, chief of which was sporadic contamination caused by downdrafts from the wings of the Nazgûl's vile beasts as they passed along the flight corridor over the Marshes. A minor complication was the near drowning of the first author in a particularly noxious pool, but disaster was averted by the timely intervention of the third author. Despite these setbacks, several excellent samples were obtained. Subsequent multiproxy analyses of the peat sampled demonstrated that the peat was generally of ancient anaerobically rotting vegetation and was ideal for detecting highly variable past conditions in a climatically sensitive area. A distinct signature, however, of animal origin was detected. This is believed to originate from the remains of numerous cadavers dating back to the Battle of Dagorlad in the year 3434 of the Second Age. The first author's inadvertent encounter with the spectre of one of these unfortunates during his immersion adds qualitative support to this proposition. We consider that our approach may prove to be of great benefit in palaeoclimatic reconstructions and understanding potential societal responses to past changes, particularly in the field of Second Age studies.