Noteworthy records of freshwater insects in Norway

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For several years the author and colleagues in the foundation Siste Sjanse (BioFokus) have collected freshwater organisms at many localities in Norway. The more interesting of these findings are presented below, focusing mainly on redlisted species and species new to specific geographical regions. Some species are also new to the Norwegian fauna.

Key words: Freshwater insects, Norway, Redlisted species

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INTRODUCTION

These days there is a huge demand for up-to-date information, with accurate geographical data, on all kinds of organisms, particularly with regard to rare and threatened species. This is necessary to better manage the biological diversity of the country or within a certain area. Red lists are due every five years in Norway, and in order to improve them between each edition, new information must be made available.

The presentation below intends to publish records of freshwater insects that meet one or both of the two following critera: the species is redlisted in at least one of the two most recent Norwegian redlists (Direktoratet for naturforvaltning 1999, Kålås et al. 2006), or it is new to the region in which it is found. Species from the former redlist are included because many of the records presented here were part of the basis when preparing the latest. In general, two publications are the basis for determining whether a species is new to a region or not: Aagaard & Dolmen (1996) and Coulianos (1998). Several later publications have been accounted for, but several have also surely been missed, and therefore some of my records may not be the first from that region. This has to some extent been avoided by consulting Rødlistebasen (www.artsdatabanken.no) and by letting several experts on different orders check the manuscript prior to submission (see Acknowledgements). The material has been collected over a series of years, but primarily from the years 2002-2007. Most of the collecting has been done as part of field work in projects ran by the foundation Siste Sjanse. The foundation has recently (autumn 2006) changed its name to BioFokus. Many of the records have already been published, but only in reports to our employers (see Table 1 and the reference list), and therefore rather inaccessible. Some of the published records have later proved to be misidentifications, and any previously published records of redlisted species or species claimed to be new to a region that is not in Table 1, must be regarded as such. Also, a few of the records in Table 1 were initially published as other species.

A large number of freshwater localities (about 750) have been visited over the years (se Figure 1), and approximately 8000 entries (i.e. combinations of species/locality/date) have been databased, some 6000 of these being insects. Of