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Cover photo. Mt. Taranaki viewed from the Pouakai Tarns, North Island, New Zealand. The perfectly cone-shaped and estic stratovolcano Mt. Taranaki (Mt. Egmont) has been frequently active over the past \sim 130 ka, distributing ash across the surrounding landscape. Lake and peat-bog environments are often the most reliable sources for continuous tephra preservation and hence provide detailed insights into the time-varying magmatic, volcanic and environmental dynamics operating on this type of highly explosive and hazardous volcano. Photo: Magret Damaschke (See article by Damaschke et al., page 1-23, in this issue).

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