



SFB 1070 RessourcenKulturen



SFB 1070 · RessourcenKulturen. Soziokulturelle Dynamiken im Umgang mit Ressourcen

Vortrag ForschungskolloquiuM WS 14/15

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Was there over-exploitation of the landscape and resources in the Late Neolithic Trypillia mega-sites of Ukraine?

The Late Neolithic mega-sites of the Trypillia group represent the largest settlements in Europe in the 4th millennium BC and, as such, constitute a major consumer of 'resources'. After an introduction to Trypillia group research over the last century, we turn to what has been termed 'the 2nd Trypillia Methodological Revolution' (Chapman et al. EJA 2014) and discuss the complete geophysical plan of the Nebelivka mega-site. As the basis for the consideration of resource utilization, we consider the likelihood of a mobile, or seasonal, component in this example of what we take to be an early example of low-density urbanism. We use Nebelivka as an exemplar of the kinds of resources produced and consumed at a mega-site. There are basic resources which its occupants would require on a daily, seasonal, annual or perennial basis: water, food, firewood, materials for house-building (timber, clay, water, reeds, thatch), materials for pottery-making (clays, pigments), stone for tools, weapons and ornaments and other 'exotic' materials (metals, marine shells). We discuss the spatial component of these resources and the kinds of 'châines opératoires' used in their use. In the last section, we discuss the kinds of stresses that resource shortages, depletion, or even exhaustion would have introduced into daily life on a mega-site.

