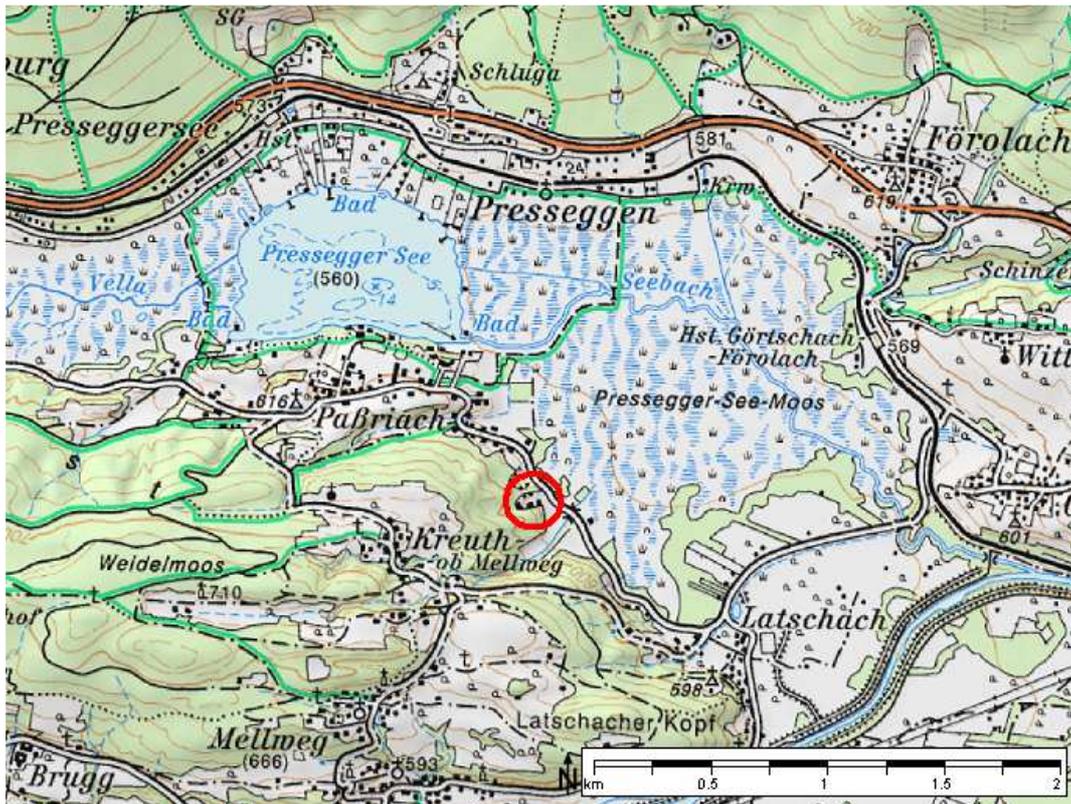


Geotope 32: Paßriach Pit – Sand in Motion



Red circle: location of the geotope; green tracks: hiking trails; ©BEV: Federal Office for Calibration and Measurement, 2005.

Access:

The Geotope is located between the small villages of Paßriach and Latschach on the southern side of Lake Preseggen. It is touristically not well developed.

Description of the Geotope



The abandoned sand pit of Paßriach.

The sandpit south of Lake Pressegggen belongs to a bigger damming body which was deposited at the margin of the melting Gail glacier during the end of the Würm glaciation (approx. 120,000 to 10.000 years BP). According to the delta-like strongly inclined sand and gravel layers a small adjacent lake

was filled by different glacial sediment. Interestingly are the Graben-like displacement structures in the compacted sand and gravel layers suggesting movements and sagging after deposition. Escape of water might be another reason for these structures.



Another explanation for the sagging might be the presence of a dead ice body located here for some time which started melting and may have caused the sagging in the cover sequence.

The nearby Lake Pressegggen was likely formed from a depression scoured by the Gailtal glacier.