

## **TERMINAL PROTEROZOIC PALEONTOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY OF RUSSIA**

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Key fossiliferous sections of the Vendian (Terminal Proterozoic System) in Russia are that in the White Sea region (siliciclastic epiplatform basin), Middle Urals (siliciclastic basin of the platform passive margin) and Olenek Uplift (carbonate epiplatform basin). In spite of the sedimentary and paleogeographic difference these sections contain similar faunal elements that make possible a stratigraphic correlation between these sections and globally. Each of these sections may serve as a model for an evolution of a particular type of the basin and biota in the Vendian. White Sea sequence contains the most complete fossil record of the metazoans: faunal elements known separately from the Terminal Proterozoic of Newfoundland, Namibia, South Australia, and other regions are discovered here in a succession. Beside, endemic species that may be older than any other fossil assemblages of the post-Varanger Vendian are discovered as well. At least six faunal assemblages named after the dominating fossil are identified in a sequence: Calyptrina-Beltanelloides, Ventogyrus, Inaria, Pteridinium, Charnia, Dickinsonia costata, D.lissa-Kimberella. Globally correlatable biostratigraphic units (biozones and stages) can be established. Priority tasks are the systematics of the fauna on the species level and radiometric dating of the guide species' time ranges.