

Interactive comment on “Low-resolution Australasian palaeoclimate records of the last 2000 years” by Bronwyn C. Dixon et al.

Bronwyn C. Dixon et al.

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Dear authors, Considering the relative paucity of records in the Western and Northern parts of Australia, I would like bring to your attention the following recently published low resolution records for these regions, with respective references, for addition to Figure 1 & Figure 2.

Black Springs Lake Wetland McGowan et al., 2012 King River LakeWetland Proske et al., 2014 Fortescue Marsh LakeWetland Rouillard et al., 2016a, b

Response: The authors of “Low-resolution Australasian palaeoclimate records of the last 2000 years” thank you for bringing additional publications to our attention. As you say, there is a paucity of records in western/northern Australia. For this reason, it

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is important to include all available records in our reference list. The references you suggested will be added to the reference list, and the record sites within these papers will be added to our results. Unfortunately, none of the record meet all of the criteria necessary for inclusion in the PAGES Aus2k dataset. The reason(s) for exclusion are listed after each reference. Again, we thank you for your assistance to ensuring all records are available for future consideration by the palaeoclimate community.

McGowan, H. et al. (2012) Evidence of ENSO mega-drought triggered collapse of prehistory Aboriginal society in northwest Australia. *Geophysical Research Letters* 39, L22702, 1–5

Response: This record is excluded from the ‘high quality’ record list because of an insufficient number of dates within the past 2000 years, as well as too low resolution. The PAGES selection criteria require at least three dates within the past 2000 years if the record is longer than 1000 years.

Proske, U. et al. (2014) A Holocene record of coastal landscape dynamics in the eastern Kimberley region, Australia. *Journal of Quaternary Science* 29, 163–174

Response: This record is excluded from the ‘high quality’ record list because of an insufficient number of dates within the past 2000 years.

Rouillard, A. et al. (2016a) Evidence for extreme floods in arid subtropical northwest Australia during the Little Ice Age chronozone (CE 1400–1850). *Quaternary Science Reviews* 144, 107 – 122

Response: This record is excluded from the ‘high quality’ record list because of uncertainty in the age model, possible discontinuity in the sedimentary sequence, and an uncertain climatic control on the measured proxies. The record is suitable for qualitative comparison of climate regimes within Australasia, but does not meet the needs of the PAGES Aus2k initiative.

Rouillard, A. et al. (2016b) Interpreting vegetation change in tropical arid ecosys-

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tems from sediment molecular fossils and their stable isotope compositions: A baseline study from the Pilbara region of northwest Australia. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 459, 495–507

Response: This record is excluded from the 'high quality' record list because of uncertainty in the age model, and possible discontinuity in the sedimentary sequence. The record is suitable for qualitative comparison of climate regimes within Australasia, but does not meet the needs of the PAGES Aus2k initiative.

Kind Regards, Alexandra Rouillard, PhD

Interactive comment on *Clim. Past Discuss.*, <https://doi.org/10.5194/cp-2017-31>, 2017.