## Supplemental material: Comparing modelled fire dynamics with charcoal records for the Holocene

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**Fig. S1.** Maps of climate and vegetation during the Holocene (8 ka=8 000 calyrs BP) and its differences to pre industrial climate (PI–200 calyrs BP). Shown are 100 yr averages for temperature [ $^{\circ}$  C] (a+b), precipitation [mm yr<sup>-1</sup>] (c+d), desert fraction [] (e,f), changes in forest [] (g) and grass (h) fraction [].



**Fig. S2.** Time series of hemispheric scale averaged model results over land. Shown are anomalies in burned area [Mha] (red), precipitation  $[mm yr^{-1}]$  (blue), yearly mean temperature [° C] (dark red), GPP [Gt yr^{-1}] (dark green), biomass carbon [Gt] (light green), soil carbon [Gt] (brown), total carbon [Gt] (dark brown), atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration [ppm] (gray), and eccentricity (black) for the global land area (a), northern and southern extra tropics (b+e), as well as northern and southern tropics (c+d).



Fig. S3. Same as Fig. S2, but for the regional domains North America (a), Europe (b), Asia Monsoon (c), American Tropics (d), Sub-Saharan Africa (e), and Australia (f) given in Fig. ??.



**Fig. S4.** Time series of global (a) and hemispheric scale (b-g) Z-score transformed and averaged burned area. Shown is the spread out of four ensemble members (pink) and the mean (red) plus the Z-scores out of charcoal reconstructions in black (median only).



Fig. S5. Same as Fig. S4, but for regional domains given in Fig. ??.

<b>Table S1.</b> Summary of all Spearman correlation coefficients ( $\rho$ ) and their significance level (p) for each region and time frame. Shown are the
values for correlations based on Z-scores from reconstructed charcoal influxes (Z), untransformed and Z-score transformed model output of
burned area (F,F <sup>Z</sup> ) or carbon emissions (C, $C^Z$ ). Correlation coefficients that are negative or insignificant on a 5% significance level are in
light gray. All correlations higher than 0.4 are bold and printed in <b>blue</b> ( $\rho = 0.40.7$ ), purple ( $\rho = 0.70.8$ ), or red ( $\rho > 0.8$ ).

	1.4	8ka-PI		Time frame			
Area	coefficient			8ka-4ka		4ka-PI	
		ρ	р	$\rho$	р	ho	р
Global	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.18	< 0.01	0.22	< 0.01	0.04	0.63
	$\rho(\mathbf{Z},\mathbf{F}^{Z})$	0.73	< 0.01	0.49	< 0.01	-0.02	0.79
	$\rho(\mathbf{Z},\mathbf{C}^Z)$	0.77	< 0.01	0.48	< 0.01	0.20	0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^Z,\mathbf{C}^Z)$	0.98	< 0.01	0.99	< 0.01	0.91	< 0.01
Northern extra tropics	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.05	0.32	0.06	0.46	-0.04	0.63
	$\rho(Z,F^Z)$	-0.16	0.32	-0.11	0.15	-0.45	< 0.01
	$\rho(Z,C^Z)$	-0.32	< 0.01	-0.36	< 0.01	-0.47	< 0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^{z},\mathbf{C}^{z})$	0.95	< 0.01	0.90	< 0.01	0.96	< 0.01
Northern tropics	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.13	0.01	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.14
	$\rho(Z,F^Z)$	0.42	0.01	0.15	0.04	0.19	0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{Z},\mathbf{C}^{Z})$	0.42	< 0.01	0.21	< 0.01	0.13	0.09
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^{Z},\mathbf{C}^{Z})$	0.99	< 0.01	0.96	< 0.01	0.98	< 0.01
Southern tropics	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.12	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.15	0.04
	$\rho(Z,F^Z)$	0.45	0.02	0.37	< 0.01	0.20	0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{Z},\mathbf{C}^Z)$	0.48	< 0.01	0.38	< 0.01	0.29	< 0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^Z,\mathbf{C}^Z)$	0.99	< 0.01	0.97	< 0.01	0.97	< 0.01
	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.02	0.76	-0.02	0.82	< 0.01	0.97
	$\rho(Z,F^Z)$	0.24	0.76	0.66	< 0.01	-0.26	< 0.01
Southern	$\rho(\mathbf{Z},\mathbf{C}^{Z})$	0.22	< 0.01	0.63	< 0.01	-0.32	< 0.01
extra tropics	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^Z,\mathbf{C}^Z)$	0.99	< 0.01	0.96	< 0.01	0.98	< 0.01
North America	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.14	0.01	0.08	0.28	-0.01	0.93
	$\rho(\mathbf{Z},\mathbf{F}^{Z})$	0.66	0.01	-0.11	0.14	0.22	< 0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{Z},\mathbf{C}^{Z})$	0.62	< 0.01	-0.38	< 0.01	0.29	< 0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^{Z},\mathbf{C}^{Z})$	0.98	< 0.01	0.90	< 0.01	0.99	< 0.01
Europe	$\rho(Z,F)$	-0.24	< 0.01	-0.02	0.74	-0.11	0.13
	$\rho(Z,F^2)$	-0.69	< 0.01	-0.40	< 0.01	-0.09	0.20
	$\rho(Z,C^2)$	-0.69	< 0.01	-0.40	< 0.01	-0.10	0.17
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^{z},\mathbf{C}^{z})$	1.00	< 0.01	0.99	< 0.01	0.99	< 0.01
	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.14	0.01	0.11	0.12	0.18	0.02
Central America Tropics	$\rho(Z,F^2)$	-0.09	0.01	0.51	< 0.01	-0.20	0.01
	$\rho(Z,C^2)$	-0.04	0.47	0.67	< 0.01	-0.14	0.07
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^{z},\mathbf{C}^{z})$	0.99	< 0.01	0.95	< 0.01	0.98	< 0.01
Africa	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.03	0.59	0.14	0.05	-0.08	0.30
	$\rho(Z,F^2)$	0.32	0.59	0.23	< 0.01	-0.24	< 0.01
	$\rho(Z,C^2)$	0.46	< 0.01	0.61	< 0.01	-0.46	< 0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^{\mathbb{Z}},\mathbf{C}^{\mathbb{Z}})$	0.86	< 0.01	0.84	< 0.01	0.69	< 0.01
Australian Monsoon	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.02	0.66	-0.07	0.33	-0.02	0.76
	$\rho(Z,F^Z)$	0.39	0.66	0.03	0.66	0.08	0.30
	$\rho(Z, C^2)$	0.42	< 0.01	0.16	0.03	0.11	0.15
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^{\mathbf{Z}},\mathbf{C}^{\mathbf{Z}})$	0.98	< 0.01	0.95	< 0.01	0.94	< 0.01
	$\rho(Z,F)$	0.18	< 0.01	0.09	0.23	0.08	0.31
Asia monsoon	$\rho(Z,F^2)$	0.48	< 0.01	0.09	0.22	0.23	< 0.01
	$\rho(Z, C^2)$	0.45	< 0.01	-0.07	0.35	0.21	0.01
	$\rho(\mathbf{F}^{2},\mathbf{C}^{2})$	0.99	< 0.01	0.95	< 0.01	0.97	< 0.01