

Interactive comment on “Northern Hemisphere control of deglacial vegetation changes in the Rufiji uplands (Tanzania)” by I. Bouimetarhan et al.

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Received and published: 4 December 2014

General Comments: The manuscript of Bouimetarhan et al is an interesting look at vegetation changes in a data poor area of the tropics which has important implications for better understanding long term ecosystem dynamics as well as tropical vegetation-climate interactions. Pollen records in the tropics are rare but essential for understanding both tropical climate change and landscape evolution outside of the modern. Furthermore, very little work has been conducted over that time scale from the marine realm and particularly in evaluating changes in sensitive salt marsh and mangrove communities. Thus I feel that utilizing this record is a clever way of looking at an understudied system in the past.

Although the main findings of this study of great interest, I find that there are a few
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problems that should be addressed throughout the paper. In particular, I thought the most novel findings in this paper are the implications for coastal processes and ecosystems, rather than the broader regional paleoclimate synthesis. I don't think the paleoclimatic implications should be removed; however, I suggest a few changes to focus more strongly on these important and rare ecological insights.

For specific comments and technical comments, please see the attached document.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.clim-past-discuss.net/10/C2028/2014/cpd-10-C2028-2014-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 10, 3931, 2014.