

Interactive comment on “Mammal faunal response to the Paleogene hyperthermals ETM2 and H2” by A. E. Chew

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Given that the PETM (and presumably other hyperthermals) represented warming of about 5C over and above a global mean temperature of at least 10C warmer than today, it is unlikely that it will ever be replicated.

That does not mean that widespread heat stress that impacts mammals will never happen again. Indeed, if it was affecting Wyoming in the PETM and other hyperthermals, it was probably affecting the subtropics in the mid-Miocene. So to my mind, the biotic change in a mid-to-high latitude region in the PETM/hyperthermals is a good analogy for those at a lower latitude site during a cooler period (since it's really temperature thresholds we're talking about).

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Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 11, 1371, 2015.

C525