

***Interactive comment on “Putting the rise of the Inca Empire within a climatic and land management context” by A. J. Chepstow-Lusty et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

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This study holds the potential to apply paleoclimate data to one of the most intensively studied archaeological regions in South America. My comments (attached) focus on how the data on human settlement in the Cusco region—and anthropological interpretations of human interactions with fluctuating environments—can be taken into account more actively. The result may be a more cautious interpretation of the environmental evidence, but one that will hold more relevance over the long term.

Please also note the Supplement to this comment.

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Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 5, 771, 2009.