

# ***Interactive comment on “Changing climatic and anthropogenic influences on the Bermejo wetland, through archival documents – Mendoza, Argentina, 16th–20th centuries” by M. R. Prieto and F. Rojas***

## **Anonymous Referee #2**

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General comments: This work show an interesting potentiality of historical documentary sources related to study of environmental processes and their interaction with socio-economic patterns and processes. This research on documentary sources has a short number of previous references. Then, working on unexplored fields, methodological aspects must be worked carefully to optimize information collected from historical archives, evaluating results with critical attitude with the aim to help and improve future works. This work shows interesting field of research, evaluating environmental variability but also changes on human processes. Same documentary sources can

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show natural and human factors but also the result of this "dialogue". For future scenarios of global change, study of natural/human relations and results is very useful.

Specific comments: - Evolution of Bermejo wetland is analyzed from documentary sources, but data collection is made by systematic research on specific documentary sources or only by specific lecture of singular documents? A more clear description of methodology work on archive is required into the text. - A short description about characteristics of Mendoza River and its basin would be well receives for foreign readers. River regime, statistics about water discharge, characteristics about wetlands area... - Chapter 3 "Methodology and sources" must be extended. It contain any results, but this chapter must focus on documentary sources worked: type of historical archives, relation of documentary sources selected and collected, criteria applied for that, information contained on documents, information obtained, how this collection is made, treatment of information to generate data.... It's strongly asked a complete relation of documentary series detected and process to select documents for present research. This is very evident for cartographic sources. Why only four maps are showed and analyzed? It exist more sources? Where? Characteristics of sources? Difficulties and limitations to take information useful from these sources?

- Complet relation of documentary sources consulted is required at the end of text with all referencial information: archive, doc. series, codes, years, vol., pages...

Technical corrections: - p. 3777, line 19. "the archival use of maps to reconstruct changes" is a sentence with no clear significance. Please, make a clear reference to "cartographic sources", considering they are into "documentary sources" if they are manuscripts. Of course, these sources are always into historical archives with codes and references similar to other manuscript sources. Texts, maps, drawings, all are historical sources contained into archives. - p. 3779, line 25-26. "Archivo Histórico de Mendoza" writed in italic as previous references. - p. 3781, line 15. ", " by ".

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Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 7, 3775, 2011.

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