

Interactive comment on “Pleistocene climate characteristics in the most continental part of the northern hemisphere: insights from cryolithological features of the Batagay mega thaw slump in the Siberian Yana Highlands” by Kseniia Ashastina et al.

Kseniia Ashastina et al.

k.ashastina@gmail.com

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Dear Professor Froese,

we thank you for your time and efforts to review our manuscript and also for your recommendation to accept it after minor revision for *Climate of the Past*. Your helpful comments, suggestions, and examples from your extensive experience give us confidence to improve the manuscript.

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We appreciate your suggestion to reflect the reconnaissance character of the manuscript in the title and the text.

The methods and aims of the project as well as the equipment available in the expedition were not supposed to conduct water isotope analyses. We agree that this would be of a high value in reconstructing the evolution of the sequence, and we will definitely heed this advice for future expeditions. But so far, some of the questions stated in the review cannot be answered with our data (especially addressed to Units IV and V).

We understand your concerns on the chronology provided by the radiocarbon dating results. Indeed, we sampled all the available material from the Arctic ground squirrel midden and double dated it. Unfortunately, the funding of our project doesn't allow for more detailed radiocarbon dating. We will contact the Poznan Radiocarbon Laboratory in order to specify the useful additional information you kindly mentioned that could help us with improving the paper.

Thank you for your questions on the Unit III, they will guide us on the way to significantly improve the manuscript. There are more general pictures from Unit III and we will include them in the documentation of Unit III. But, as it was mentioned in the text, it was possible to approach and sample this unit only at one site; we will check the field notes and photo documentation once more to make sure that all observed details are given in the text. We also sampled the casts for the macrofossils and will publish the palaeobotanical data of the profile in another paper.

We appreciate your comments and will implement them and our own ideas on enlarge the paleoenvironmental significance and for revision our manuscript.

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., doi:10.5194/cp-2016-84, 2016.