Interactive comment on “Central Europe, 1531–1540 CE: The driest summer decade of the past five centuries?” by Rudolf Brázdil et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This is an exemplary paper that uses a very large amount of documentary and other proxy evidence for a ‘deep dive’ into one particular decade in the sixteenth century. There is clearly a huge amount of work that has gone into compiling these records, not to mention the work that went into putting them together in the first place.

I therefore only have two very minor suggestions:

I would like to know a bit more about the discrepancy with the Luterbacher et al. (2002) NAO reconstruction. This study uses loads of data, so does this suggest a limitation in the Luterbacher et al. paper?

Can you say which decades are drier in the OWDA record, and give some suggestion of why there is a discrepancy? This is particularly important given the conclusion that the decade was the driest, (rather than saying that it may have been the driest). If you’re going to be that confident you need to say why you’re effectively discounting the OWDA record.

Otherwise great, thanks for compiling these records!