

***Interactive comment on “Evaluation of biospheric components in Earth system models using modern and palaeo observations: the state-of-the-art” by A. M. Foley et al.***

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I thoroughly recommend this paper is published as it stands. I found it to be very readable, very interesting and extremely useful. The subject is complex and important. I am in the business of evaluating the land part of Earth System models and we struggle with the enormity of the issues involved: the data, the choice of metrics, the errors in the data, the many processes in the model to be tested and so on. This paper lays out a very clear agenda of how to tackle this, including a wonderful table of all the possible metrics. Personally, I will be returning to this paper again and again to inspire and direct me.

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