

Interactive comment on “Change in coccolith morphology by responding to temperature and salinity in coccolithophore *Emiliana huxleyi* (Haptophyta) isolated from the Bering and Chukchi Seas” by K. Saruwatari et al.

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The paper is timely and very important. For many years speculation has been rife regarding ocean salinity, temperature and the resulting effects on calcium-using organisms. This report describes well the overall trend towards smaller size and changing species as temperature and salinity change. The importance of this work, and what will surely be further work by other groups around the world in the coming years, cannot be underestimated.

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Figure 8 demonstrates well that this is a complex and relatively slowly evolving process. Assuming ocean temperatures continue to rise and assuming salinity continues to change well into the future then we can now start to see what will happen to coccolithophores.

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