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Interactive comment on "Climate-related changes in peatland carbon accumulation during the last millennium" by D. J. Charman et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 28 November 2012

A well-written and informative article. Paper describes an important aspect of carbon cycling in peatlands, viz. the interaction with climate, and comes up with the important conclusion that future climate may actually lead to greater, rather than lesser, carbon sequestration within existing peatlands. This is critical to the way in which we approach the management of peatlands as well as impacting upon models of future soil-climate interactions.

Specific comments

P14333 L25 (Fig 1) It could be argued that the detailed (high resolution) dataset is low on values from the drier/cooler areas while the less detailed (low resolution) set is over-represented by a large collection of Western Siberia data points. Any comment on likely impact of these biases?

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P14377 L5 It is difficult to be 100% clear on the exact procedure taken here; it really has to be taken on trust that this is appropriate.

P14377 L27 Unclear as to what "step 4" is.

P14338 L27 Perhaps being fussy but better to say that Total C still relates to GDD0, rather than the other way round.

P14359 L17 Siberian (capitalised?)

P14359 L20 Germany

P14353 L10 Canada

P14356 Walton Moss appears to be in the North Sea according to the Long/Lat! (Haven't checked all these locations)

Figures: Some text is difficult (Figure 2) or impossible (Figure 4) to read.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 9, 14327, 2012.