

Interactive comment on “Climate suitability estimates offer insight into fundamental revegetation challenges among post-mining rehabilitated landscapes in eastern Australia” by P. Audet et al.

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This article provides an important contribution to rehabilitation planning by highlighting the role of climate (various rainfall parameters specifically) as it relates to site suitability for revegetation. Although the results of this study are rather predictable, as pointed out by the authors, it none-the-less develops an aggregated site suitability index as well as pointing out the most relevant rainfall parameters related to vegetation density which will be useful tools in the planning of future revegetation schemes. As the authors only considered rainfall parameters in their climate assessment, it would be interesting to

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see the effect of temperature addressed in future publications, as together with rainfall, these two variable are the most important determinants of vegetation trends. It would also be interesting to examine the more long term effects of climatic variation on vegetation boundaries, as the single year examined around the extreme El Nino and La Nina events may not encompass the delayed variation in these limits. This would also be more relevant to the potential effects of climate change eluded to by the authors. I look forward to reading more from these authors.

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