

Interactive comment on “Neogene Caribbean elasmobranchs: Diversity, paleoecology and paleoenvironmental significance of the Cocinetas Basin assemblage (Guajira Peninsula, Colombia)” by Jorge Domingo Carrillo-Briceño et al.

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I have fully reviewed this manuscript and believe that it could be publishable after major revisions. My major concern is with the writing, sentence structure and use of punctuation. I have made substantial comments and suggested revisions in order to refine the manuscript, however there is much work to be done. I would strongly suggest asking Austin Hendy to fully review and comment on the manuscript, as he is a co-author and a colleague. In general, the science behind the manuscript is sound, however the writing does muddle the results, a problem that can be remedied. I think

the manuscript can be shortened somewhat, again by having the language tightened up. With regards to the identifications of the specimens, I mostly agree. I question the *Alopias exigua* identification, as it has only been recorded from Europe and there are taxa that have previously been reported from the Americas during this time period. I think some discussion (albeit short) on *C. megalodon* vs. *C. chubutensis* is needed to inform readers how the authors discern one species from another. Especially in light of their comments regarding FADs for *C. megalodon*. With regards to the geological interpretations, the use of transgressive/regressive cycles would clarify the authors' interpretations. There are a few places where references to what is known of the habits of *C. leucas* and *N. brevirostris* would strengthen the authors' assertions. I would be happy to clarify my comments to the authors or editor and believe with substantial work on the language and writing, this manuscript could be publishable in *Bioeosciences*.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/bg-2018-271/bg-2018-271-RC2-supplement.pdf>

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Discussion paper

