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: