

Paleoenvironmental change during the last 6500 years in Erhai Lake, Southwest China

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Rock-magnetic measurements were carried out on sediment cores from Erhai Lake, Southwest China. Sediment of before 3 ka contains coarse magnetite and a little amount of fine pyrrhotite, and that of after 3 ka contains plenty of fine magnetite. The change from anoxic to oxic conditions can explain the change of magnetic properties. Considering the high sedimentation during 3.6 to 3.3 ka reported by Hyodo et al. (1999), the climate in this area is estimated as follows: It changed at first rapidly to colder. Then it became a little warmer, but the sedimentation condition in Erhai Lake remains in oxic.