

Fluctuations in the ocean environment within the Western Pacific Warm Pool during Late Quaternary

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Sediment cores from the western sector, the central sector and the eastern sector of the Western Pacific Warm Pool (WPWP) provided records of biogenic components and lithogenic matter accumulated during Late Pleistocene. The mean organic carbon/total nitrogen atomic ratios of 5.5 to 8.3 from the WPWP indicated that organic matter in the sediments was mainly marine in origin. The increased terrestrial inputs, including both lithogenic matter and dissolved nutrients, would have been linked with the enhanced biological activity in the western sector of the WPWP. In contrast, more intense surface mixing or upwelling driven by stronger winds might have made no difference to the low to medium productivity in the eastern sector of the WPWP.