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Abstract Title:

GIS Analysis of the Spatial and Temporal Distribution of Cretaceous Mollusks in the Hell Creek Formation of Montana

is part of the Poster Session:

Biogeography I

scheduled on Wednesday, 3/8/06 at 8:00 AM.

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Abstract:

The spatial and temporal distribution of uppermost Cretaceous freshwater mollusks occurring in the Hell Creek Formation in northern Garfield County, Montana, was mapped and analyzed using GIS on a geologic base map. The fossils are approximately 67 million years old and belong to a diverse assemblage of unionoid mussels and fewer snails that inhabit different fluvial and lacustrine environmental settings across a broad delta plain. This type of GIS analysis has not previously been performed on nonmarine mollusks in deep time in the Western Interior of North America. With such knowledge, we hope to better model the distribution of molluscan associations in space and time and their associated original and depositional environments. The maps produced to date show the spatial patterns of selected molluscan distributions in a lithostratigraphic context.

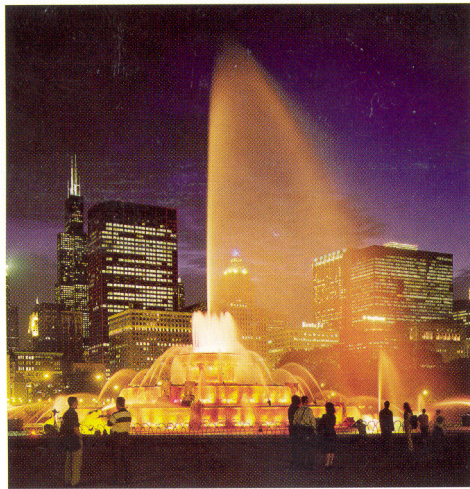
Keywords:

GIS, visualization, Cretaceous mollusks

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