### Volcanic Rocks and Microfossils Confirm a Late Miocene age for Marine Strata on Isla Tiburón, Gulf of California



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## Implications of Incipient Gulf Seaway



Oskin & Stock (2003), Arregón-Arreola & Martín-Barajas (2007), Fletcher et al. (2007)

• paleogeography

evolution biology

- models of 4D plate boundary strain evolution
- geodynamic setting of rifting

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S.L.

-3 km

-4km

-9km

<u>B</u> S.L.



## **Regional Geology**





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### (Tsmt) Tuffaceous Marine SS & Congl

### Macro:

### oyster, pectin, barnacle, gastropod







### Micro: benthic & planktonic forams, calcareous nannoplankton, ostracods (Gastil et al., 1999)

#### Planktonic species

#### Benthic species

Amphistegina gibbosa d'Orbigny

Bolivina alata effusa Cushman & Todd Globigerina sp. cf. G. apertura Cushman Bolivina pisciformis Heron-Allen & Earland Globigerina decoraperta Takayanagi & Saito Bolivina spp. Globigerina falconensis Blow Buccella sp. Globigerina quinqueloba Natland Bulimina auriculata Bailey Globigerina woodi Jenkins Cancris auricula (Fitchel & Moll) Globigerinella sp. Cassidulina cushmani R.C. and K.C. Stewart Globigerinoides bollii Blow Cassidulina delicata Cushman Globigerinoides bulloideus Crescenti Cibicides mckannai Galloway & Wissler Globigerinoides conglobatus (Brady) Cibicides sp. cf. C. reflugens Montfort Cibicides sp. Globigerinoides extremus Bolli & Bermudez Globigerinoides obliquus Bolli Elphidium crispum (Linné) Elphidium sp. Globigerinoides ruber, s.l. (d'Orbigny) Eponides antillarum (d'Orbigny) Globoquadrina venezuelana (Hedberg) Florilus basispinata (Cushman & Moyer) Globorotalia sp. cf. G. anfracta (Parker) Florilus miocenica stella (Cushman & Moyer) Globorotalia sp. aff. G. limbata (Fornasini) Florilus sp. Globorotalia menardii, s.l. (Parker, Jones, & Brady) Gaudryina sp. Pulleniatina primalis Banner & Blow Guttulina sp.

Hanzawaia americanus (Cushman) Hanzawaia (Cancris) bertheloti (d'Orbigny) Hanzawaia concentrica (Cushman) Hanzawaia nitidula (Bandy) Hanzawaia (Cancris) panamensis (Natland) Hanzawaia (Cancris) panamensis (Natland) var. A Lenticulina sp. aff. L. americanus (Cushman) Lenticulina sp. aff. L. calcar (Linné) Lenticulina limbata (Linné) Lenticulina spp Loxostomum bradvi (Asano) Marginulina papillata Coryell and Rivero Planulina ariminensis (d'Orbigny) Planulina ornata (d'Orbigny) Pullenia salisburvi R.E. and K.C. Stewart Rotorbinella turbinata (Cushman) Siphotextularia sp. aff. S. affinis (Fornasini) Textularia sp. Trifarina spp. Uvigerina excellens Todd Uvigerina proboscidea Schwager Valvulineria inflata (d'Orbigny)



#### Table 10. Calcareous Nannoplankton

#### Taxon

Braarudosphaera bigelowi Calcidiscus leptoporus Coccolithus pelagicus Dictyococcites antarcticus Dictyococcites productus Discoaster spp. Helicosphaera carteri Reticulofenestra haqii Sphenolithus abies Sphenolithus moriformis Sphenolithus neoabies Thoracosphaera sp.



### Marine Foresets & Non-marine Topsets



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Vertical burrows in dipping beds - bed inclination is depositional, not tectonic



### Marine Foresets & Non-marine Topsets



































steep,

irregular foliation

# UNIT IS DIKE-FED

discontinuous dikes to the south

continuous dikes to the nort

MARINE

CONGL.

MARINE CONGL. top of flow

Hast Pitzcal (Cerro Starship) Rhyodacite flow



### **NO DIKE CUTS FLOW**

south end of flow

4.1 Ma rhyodacite

Ma basalt flo

flow

local, basal fissure eruption deposit

NOT AN ASH-FLOW TUFF



### Summary

EARLIEST MARINE ROCKS **ON ISLA TIBURON** 

6.4 - 4.0 Ma Microfossils (Gastil et al., 1999)

Tuffs of El Canelo 6.1 ±0.5 (Nagy et al. 1999)

> air-fall tuff interbedded in basal non-marine congl. 6.87 ±0.07 (This Study)

Tuff of Ensenada Blanca (source of LS BX)

'white tuff' 6.7 ±0.8 (This Study)

• **11.4 ±2.6** (Gastil et al., 1999)

Identical BX Clast: 18.70 ±0.19 (This Study) **12.9 ±0.4** (Smith et al., 1985)



EARLIEST MARINE ROCKS **ON ISLA TIBURON** Maximum Age = ~ 6.8 Ma



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Basin inactive by ~ 4.1 Ma

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Oskin & Stock (2003)

Agrees with published models of synchronous marine incursion and plate boundary-scale strain localization ca. 6.5 - 6.0 Ma



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