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Stratigraphy, geochronology, and paleoenvironments of Miocene - Pliocene boundary of San Fernando, Belén (Catamarca, northwest of Argentina)

Ricardo A. Bonini, Sergio M. Georgieff, Adriana M. Candela



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STRATIGRAPHY, GEOCHRONOLOGY, AND PALEOENVIRONMENTS OF
MIOCENE - PLIOCENE BOUNDARY OF SAN FERNANDO, BELÉN
(CATAMARCA, NORTHWEST OF ARGENTINA)

Ricardo A. Bonini^{1*}, Sergio M. Georgieff², Adriana M. Candela³

¹INCUAPA CONICET, Universidad Nacional del Centro de la provincia de Buenos Aires, Del
Valle 5737, B7400JWI, Olavarría, Argentina.

²IESGLO, Facultad de Ciencias Naturales e Instituto Miguel Lillo, Universidad Nacional de
Tucumán. CONICET.

³División Paleontología de Vertebrados, Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Museo, Paseo del
Bosque s/n, B1900FWA. La Plata, Argentina

* Corresponding author: rbonini@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar

ABSTRACT

The Santa María-Hualfín Basin was proposed as a regional synchronous lithostratigraphic
depocenter in the geological province of Northwestern Pampean Ranges, Northwestern
Argentina. However, new ⁴⁰Ar–³⁹Ar dating indicates that deposits toward the east, in Santa María
Valley (Santa María Department), are younger than the western depocenter in San Fernando
(Belén Department). Therefore, it would be more appropriate to study these valleys as separate

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