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Jonathan L. Payne¹, Daniel Lehrmann², Jaiyong Wei³, Andrew H. Knoll¹ (1) Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
(2) University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI (3) Guizhou Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, Guiyang, China

Early Triassic Recovery from the End-Permian Extinction on the Great Bank of Guizhou, Guizhou Province, China

The Great Bank of Guizhou, an isolated Late Permian to Late Triassic carbonate platform in the Nanpanjiang Basin, southern China, contains an essentially complete stratigraphic record of the Permo-Triassic boundary, end-Permian extinction and the recovery interval of the Early and Middle Triassic. The pattern of biotic recovery was examined in biostratigraphically and geochronologically controlled sections in the platform interior and the basin margin. Diversity was measured at the class level in standard thin sections, and abundance of biotic groups was determined by point counting. Diversity on the basin margin increased through the Early Triassic, with recovery accelerating in the Spathian and into the Anisian. The abundance of skeletal debris closely parallels diversity. The skeletal component of the rock is dominated by crinoids in the Spathian and by *Tubiphytes* in the Anisian, with minor contributions from foraminifera, cephalopods, echinoids, brachiopods, bivalves, and gastropods. In the platform interior, the greatest diversity and abundance of biotic debris occurs within the basal fifteen meters of the Triassic, associated with a calcimicrobial horizon. After this interval, skeletal debris consists entirely of bivalves, gastropods, brachiopods, and annelid tubes. Abundance and diversity of biotic debris were correlated throughout the Early Triassic of the platform interior. The skeletal component rarely exceeded 5% by volume. Triassic recovery from the mass extinction proceeded slowly in the Early Triassic, as evidenced by the low diversity, limited abundance, and small size of Early Triassic and early Anisian fossils. Only with accelerated Middle Triassic evolution did recovery approach completion.