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EFFECTS OF HOT POST-FLOOD GROUNDWATER FLOW FROM THE SEA FLOOR

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ABSTRACT

This abstract deals with the effects of large amounts ($\sim 700 \times 10^{24}$ Joules) of geothermal heat being slowly transferred across the seafloor for several hundred years. This is enough energy to heat the oceans by 125 °C if it was deposited instantaneously. The mechanism of how this geothermal heat is supplied to the seafloor is a separate topic that is not discussed here.

What makes this different than other “warm ocean” models is that they use a one-time ocean heating event during the Genesis flood. My model uses continuous heating for centuries, while the oceans also simultaneously cool by transferring thermal energy to the atmosphere.

I evaluate both models by doing an energy balance for the entire planet. For the one-time heating model, calculated ocean cooling rates are 21.6 to 31.4 °C per century, thus the ice age could have only lasted about 80 to 120 years.

For the multi-century geothermal heating model, the ocean temperature vs. heat loss is calculated for zero to 1,500 years after the flood. The model starts out with no (zero °C) post-flood ocean temperature increase. After about 200 years, the deep-water ocean temperature increase maximizes at about +15 °C. By 1,000 years post-flood, deep-water ocean temperatures are similar to today. I demonstrate that the geographical distribution of this seafloor heating makes little difference in the resulting climate.

Also discussed is a “maximum geothermal heat budget” that the climate can safely handle, which any proposed CPT model must comply with.

If significant amounts of geothermal heat were discharged into the deep ocean, warmed water would rise from the seafloor, disrupting the thermohaline circulation. An estimate of the flow rates and the post-flood ocean circulation pattern resulting from this scenario is provided. Additionally, this moving water can erode fine particulate matter from the ocean floor, thus sediment calculations are also provided.

Other post-flood impacts are discussed, such as the effect on the chemistry of ocean water. Hot water travelling through rocks can change (and be changed by) the physical and chemical makeup of those rocks (metamorphism). Hydrothermal vents are discussed, and also the formation of manganese nodules (secular science does not have a good answer to how these formed).

KEYWORDS

Groundwater flow, heat problem, metamorphism, ocean sediment, climate

THE AUTHOR

David Winsberg, PE has a BS in Chemical Engineering and a Masters in Civil Engineering, both from the University of Florida. His Master’s degree focused on hydrology, hydraulics, ground water flow, water quality, and environmental impacts.

He has been licensed to practice engineering in Florida (registered Professional Engineer) since 2008. Mr. Winsberg lives in North Central Florida, and has been doing engineering work since 2003. His work experience includes site planning & layout, zoning issues, and design of stormwater retention basins. He previously worked on 100 year flood calculations for FEMA’s flood insurance maps.