

Interactive comment on “Horizontal distribution of Fukushima-derived radiocesium in zooplankton in the northwestern Pacific Ocean” by M. Kitamura et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This is a nice paper showing interesting new data. It is unusual well underbuilt with biological details. It is presented in a efficient way. Unfortunaly, in spite of good data it is difficult to explain some of the patterns. That means normal hard life for field studies, which are tricky to publish. The paper might be improved if there are data on vertical particulate (POM, POC) and dissolved organic matter (DOM, DOC) are available. This could give a hint on if there is a biological activity which can explain the peaks in the vertical dimension or at least feed a discussion on it. It is not clear from the methods if the water is filtered or not, ie that the measured activity is not found in POM, this needs to be clearer described in the methods section.

I don't understand fig 3 d,e,f maybe the labels are wrong on the axis. Furthermore is
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not clearly described that it refers to the density of the water. Neither in figure nor in text.

There are some typos in the text p6153 top radioceium should read radiocesium. Table 1 is missing explanation of SST. Tabel 2 also and the last two colums have some data not properly aligned.

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