

Interactive comment on “Continuing ¹³⁷Cs release to the sea from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant through 2012” by J. Kanda

Anonymous Referee #4

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This paper discussed the estimation of ¹³⁷Cs release to the coastal sea area from the Fukushima Daiichi NPP. This information is available to understand migration of radio-caesium and its accumulation to biota in marine environment. Therefore, I recommend the paper to publish in Biogeoscience after the revision of following comments.

P4, line 1-28 and Figure 2. I can't recognize accurate positions of each sampling date in Figure 2. I recommend the author to explain the variation pattern of ¹³⁷Cs radioactivity quantitatively. Do the grid lines indicate some meanings in Figure 2-4? The author should explain it.

The author pointed out periodical elevations of ¹³⁷Cs radioactivity at monitoring point 3I. It appears to be fluctuation of the radioactivity at monitoring site 2I, though the variation range is lower than that of 3I. Is it true or not?

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The author discussed the validity of estimation of ¹³⁷Cs release from the Fukushima Daiichi NPP. The estimation of k, rate constant is very important part of this study so that the author should discuss the uncertainty of the curve fitting, that is relative error from the line.

Figure 4 How does the author think about the meanings of the sample collected on April 6, 2011, scattered from the regression lines in Figure 4b. Is this considered to be due to time lag of movement of water mass from the port to the monitoring points T1 and T2?

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