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Interactive comment on “Biogeochemistry and ecosystems of continental margins in the western North Pacific Ocean and their interactions and responses to external forcing – an overview and synthesis” by K.-K. Liu et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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Review of “Biogeochemistry and ecosystems of continental margins in the western North Pacific Ocean and under their interactions and responses to external forcing-an overview and synthesis” authored by Liu and others.

This paper is an overview and synthesis of the papers to be published in a special volume in Biogeosciences. The authors seem to have done a good job in summarizing the findings of the papers. One suggestion to the authors is to beef up the introduction section a bit more to stress the importance of the studied region in the global context. Also, it will be good if the authors can find a better way to present Figure 4. The figure

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summarizes the essential findings of many papers in the special issue yet it seems to lack the necessary conceptual detail. In addition, careful perusal paying attention to minor editorial details will improve the quality of the paper.

Followings are some suggested editorial comments. P11296: be consistent in presenting values. For example, both million km² (line 9 and 26) and 10⁶ km² (P11297, Line 9) are used. Figure 1: the map as is is too small. Some texts are almost illegible. All geographic names need to be indicated clearly in the map (for example, the Sulu Sea is not indicated). In the text, also “Fig. 1a” can be found at a few places although there is only one map in Figure 1. P11296 Line 29: Tsushima/Korean Strait -> Tsushima/Korea Strait P11297 Line 22: Secondary -> Second P11299 Line 2: define KBC here, and use KBC in Line 7 P11302 Line 19: lower values -> lower Omega a values P11305 Line 2: Sheng et al -> Shang et al. (?) P11306 Line 22: are connecting -> connect P11311 Line 5: please pay attention to the number of significant figures. 307.3 should be presented with few number of significant figures (for example 3.1x10² or 307) depending on the uncertainty of the estimate. P11312 Line 4: He et al. (2013) are -> He et al. (2013) is (or be consistent in treating et al., as singular or plural) P11314 Line 5: bottom water of the -> bottom water P11315 Line 28: observations reveals -> observations reveal P11315 Line 26-P11316 Line 7: The introduction of the CARIACO study may be removed from this section Figure 4 caption (6th line from bottom): supply from mar ine -> supply from marine P11325 Table 1: BS (Bohai Sea?) is missing

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