

Interactive comment on “Short-term changes of the mesozooplankton community and copepod gut pigment in the Chukchi Sea in autumn” by K. Matsuno et al.

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We are grateful to your comments and useful suggestions that improved our manuscript greatly. As described below, we have revised our manuscript.

Specific comments. Abstract L 11. ‘ranged 23 610–56 809 ind.m⁻²’ replace by ‘ranged from 23 610 to 56 809 ind.m⁻²’

Answer: We changed to “ranged from 23 610 to 56 809 ind. m⁻²” (p3880 L11).

Results L 21 ‘ranged 23 610–56 809 ind.m⁻²’ replace by ‘ranged from 23 610 to 56 809 ind.m⁻²’

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Answer: We changed to “ranged from 23 610 to 56 809 ind. m⁻²” (p3885 L21).

Methods In general, methods are good described. Therefore I suggest to mention that NORPAC nets (mouth diameter 45 cm, mesh size 335 μm) are rather coarse to quantitatively catch smaller zooplankton forms (e.g. Pseudocalanus spp. C1-4, Cyclopoida, the youngest stages of other copepods) and there may be some underestimations of these zooplankton taxa.

Answer: We added short note on the underestimation of small copepods in the Materials and Methods (p3882 L20).

Results I recommend calculating the Shannon diversity index and the Pielou evenness of the zooplankton communities. These indices may give interesting information on the shortterm dynamics of zooplankton structure in the Chukchi Sea. Estimated zooplankton biodiversity should be described in the Results in detail, and therefore compared (if possible) with previous studies in the Discussion section.

Answer: We calculated both Shannon species diversity index and Pielou evenness and compared with the reported values in this region (p3884 L22, p3886 L1, p3888 L4).

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