

Interactive comment on “Future fisheries yield in shelf waters: a model study into effects of a warmer and more acidic marine environment” by S. M. van Leeuwen et al.

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I would just like to make a quick comment on the terminology used in the title and content of this article. The definition of “acidic” in the Oxford English dictionary is “*having the properties of an acid; having a pH of less than 7*”. Despite the process of ocean acidification (the acidity of seawater has increased by about 20% since preindustrial time), the oceans are alkaline (pH higher than 7) and will not become acidic in the foreseeable future. Hence, while it is accurate to refer to an “increase in acidity” or to “ocean acidification”, I suggest that the terms “acid” or “acidic” should not be used when referring to seawater. Note that there are few exceptions, seawater can be acidic in the

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immediate vicinity of CO₂ vents or in purposeful perturbation experiments.

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