

Interactive comment on “Estimation of nutrient contributions from the ocean across a river basin using stable isotope analysis” by K. Nakayama et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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Nakayama and coworkers present the estimation of nutrient contribution from ocean to terrestrial ecosystem with stable isotopic analysis in two Japanese river basins. Although this topic is in the scope of “Biogeosciences” and I appreciate their effort to collect samples, however, it was very hard for me to understand what the authors wanted to convey because of their English. This was already suggested by anonymous reviewer 1.

Also, the methods section is not sufficiently described in several points (e.g. Sampling site description; How did the authors categorized surface soil type and land use type? etc.). In calculation of contribution of marine derived nutrient to terrestrial ecosystem,

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several assumptions seem not appropriate (e.g. Definition of SSL, L14-17, pp 18192 etc.). Abbreviation of nitrogen (N) is sometimes mixed up with that of nutrient (N). And the authors used the terms “d15N” and “nitrogen content” without detail information in many places, these ill-defined terms made me hard to understand their discussion.

I recommend the authors to revise the MS with more recent references on isotopic analyses and ask a copy-editor first.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 12, 18185, 2015.

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