

Interactive comment on “Dynamics and distribution of natural and human-caused coastal hypoxia” by N. N. Rabalais et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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In general the authors give a good review (and extensive references) of the processes leading to hypoxia or even anoxia in coastal areas as well as a brief overview of other hypoxic zones in the ocean such as eastern boundary upwelling areas, deep basins and OMZs. I definitely recommend publishing the manuscript.

Some general recommendations or comments:

- 1) Although most of the human-induced hypoxia occurs in the northern hemisphere (as seen in fig. 1) I would have welcomed the addition of some case studies from the southern hemisphere e.g. from the South-American east coast or Australia.
- 2) It is a lengthy review paper and thus it may be helpful to shorten it somewhat by consolidating the separate case studies for the same geographical area into one case

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study block rather than repeated looks at the same geographically situated areas under each subsection of the paper.

- 3) The number of figures could also be reduced by cutting out some of the figures and/or by combining similar data from different geographic regions into a single figure such as was done for Fig. 20. In this way the reader has a better overview and comparison of the various coastal hypoxia regions.

Minor detail:

P.9377 I.5: The Monteiro reference does not appear in the reference list. However, the authors could quote the old review paper by Chapman & Shannon (1985) or the later review report by Monteiro et al (2004) for the Benguela system.

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