Response to Associate Editor

Manuscript Title: Biogeography and community structure of abyssal scavenging Amphipoda (Crustacea) in the Pacific Ocean.

Ref: bg-2018-347

Journal: BioGeosciences

Dear Professor Vanreusel

Many thanks for taking the time to point out the textual errors remaining in the manuscript. I have addressed your remaining concerns. Details can be found below and within the manuscript, changes are highlighted in green.

Yours Sincerely

Tasnim Patel.

1. in your abstract you mention 60000 amphipods while it were only 6000

   - There were approximately 60,000 amphipods collected, but due to many of these being juveniles, we have analysed the longer than 15 mm adults only. Line 241 now reads: *"Of the 60,000 specimens, those with a size of less than 15 mm length were excluded from the analysis because these were mostly juveniles and their morphological differences were not sufficiently pronounced to allow an accurate identification to the species or even genus level."*

2. line 140: change to deep-sea risk assessment

   - Done.

3. remove headers from Fig 2, Fig 3 and Fig 6

   - Done.

4. Line 247 remove 'was' to become '...basins using...'

   - Line 250 now reads:

   "*To test this hypothesis, we firstly calculated the alpha biodiversity of the two basins using the Simpson Index (D)"*

5. Line 338-339: change to 'there is no statistically significant correlation.'

   - Line 342 changed.

6. Line 339 ANOSIM is NOT used for correlations. How calculated?

   -Line 342. The *P* value was calculated using the regression function in R, "ANOSIM" has been removed. The line stating that the correlation is negative and moderate, is superfluous to the direction of the discussion and has been removed.

7. Line 576: avoid the word clustering since not supported by SIMPROF

   -Line 582. Changed to "plotted closest to".

8. Line 585: avoid the word connectivity. Rephrase as: 'It is likely that some of the 8 shared species between the two basins are cryptic species, which will be tested by ongoing molecular research'

- Line 591. Changed as suggested.