

Interactive comment on “Adult life strategy affects distribution patterns in abyssal isopods – implications for conservation in Pacific nodule areas” by Saskia Brix et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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Review for bg-2019-358

This paper represents an extremely important dataset and evaluation given our lack of understanding on abyssal macrofauna, deep-sea isopods, and future impacts of deep-sea mining. Concepts and methods aren't exactly new, but the data are and genetic vs. morphological comparisons are extremely important. The approach and methods are valid, and there are many good comparisons to other studies. However, the quality of presentation is lacking. The focus of different sections don't align with the title of the paper. There is a lot of unnecessary information, and not a clear structure. I suggest major revisions to the paper, reorganizing the introduction, results, and dis-

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cussion to tell a clear story of isopod lifestyle and taxonomic ranges. The discussion and conclusion needs special attention as it is extremely difficult to read through.

Attached is a supplement with more specific comments for each section.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/bg-2019-358/bg-2019-358-RC2-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-358, 2019>.

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