

Interactive comment on “Unexpected high abyssal ophiuroid diversity in polymetallic nodule fields of the Northeast Pacific Ocean, and implications for conservation” by Magdalini Christodoulou et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 23 December 2019

This paper comprehensively show the diversity of deep-sea ophiuroids in nodule fields. The presented data will absolutely be basis in considering the conservation of benthic animals. The authors present taxonomically and ecologically important results based on morphological identification of ophiuroids with barcoding data, and properly analyzing the ophiuroid assemblages.

I have one very small comment on the word "community" in "ophiuroid community". The word might not fit for the assemblage of a particular taxon. For example, "The community table" sounds a little strange for me. Table 2 rather shows "species composition" of ophiuroids.

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