

Interactive comment on “The CARINA data synthesis project: introduction and overview” by R. M. Key et al.

R. M. Key et al.

key@princeton.edu

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The authors gratefully acknowledge the careful reading of our manuscript and the comments provided by the two anonymous reviewers. We also thank the reviewers for their kind words of encouragement.

Throughout the CARINA project the participants debated what we should call the Arctic region waters. In the end we went with the advice of those who routinely work in that area. That there is no uniform definition in the literature, however, in all the various CARINA papers we use the name Arctic Mediterranean Sea(s) or AMS to refer to the main Arctic basin - generally north of Canada and Russia, as well as the adjoining seas. On the Atlantic side our usage includes the Greenland and Norwegian Seas and on the Pacific side it includes the Bering Sea down to the Aleutians. Stated alternately,

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by our definition AMS includes all open ocean waters north of approximately 60N. We will add sufficient text to the manuscript to clarify this issue.

The typos listed by reviewer 2 plus a few more we have found will be corrected.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., 2, 579, 2009.

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