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Interactive comment on "The MEDESS-GIB database: tracking the Atlantic water inflow" *by* M. G. Sotillo et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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The described dataset, derived from an extensive surface drifter deployment in the area of the strait of Gibraltar/Alboran Sea, represents a very good coverage of the area and provides a faithful assesment of the Atlantic water inflowing through the strait. I appreciate the reading and found the paper well written and the data set and background well presented.

I add some suggestions and comments below:

- Pag. 866 - line 20, I suggest to add a just published TOSCA Project paper: "Toward an integrated HF radar network in the Mediterranean Sea to improve search and rescue and oil spill response: the TOSCA project experience, Bellomo et al, 2015", http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1755876X.2015.1087184

- Pag. 876 - line 6, at the end of the line the sentence "deflected to the northwest" should probably be changed in "deflected to the northEAST", given that you referred below to "intrusion of modify Atlantic water into the north-western basins".

- Figure 1 – In both panels a) and b) the size of the labels used to indicate different types of drifters and the number of each one, require to be increased enough to allow the comprehension of the text.

- Figure 2 – "The in-situ drifter buoy platform" add an S to platform(s).

- Figure 3 – Caption & text inside the paper: you didn't say anything here about the temperature evolution along streamlines represented by colours: since the T-scale appears in the lower part of the figure, you should mention the temperature or delete the T-scale

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., 8, 863, 2015.