

Interactive comment on “An integrated data compilation for the development of a marine protected area in the Weddell Sea” by Katharina Teschke et al.

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Received and published: 25 November 2019

Anonymous Referee #1 - <https://doi.org/105194/essd-2019-86-RC1>

Specific comments

1. "At first reading of title and abstract I was under the impression that a huge data compilation is provided with this paper, while in fact a systematic overview of all the sources to the MPA planning process is given. This should be made more clear right from the begin, so the reader knows what to expect."

a. We agree with the referee's statement that we have to clarify right from the beginning

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of the paper that a systematic overview of all the data sources - instead of a huge data compilation - used in the MPA planning process is given. We will change the whole text (incl. title) accordingly.

2. "Usability of data: The authors should elaborate if and how the provided data and information might be used, and/or to which future work they might contribute. Can the provided data layer products directly be used by readers in some way? Is the interested reader invited to build up his own data compilation by using the provided sources?" From general comments: "How or if the provided data layer products might be used, without access to the underlying data compilation, is not discussed."

a. We have mentioned in section "2.2 Data availability" (lines 15-16) that our data layer products can be used for geo-statistical analyses within the framework of MPA planning, among other things. Nevertheless, we will add some more details on data usability in the text in the appropriate sections (e.g., "2.2 Data availability", "3 Outlook").

3. "Methods: . . . , but they don't give as much detail on the methods they used to process the data and create the respective data layers. A brief description of the provided data layers is missing in the paper, e.g. in 2.4.1 (Zooplankton) it is not mentioned that via the persistent identifiers the maps with interpolated abundances of the two krill species can be accessed, but also a map with habitat suitability. Another example is chapter 2.4.2 (Zoobenthos), here species level data sources for asteroids, ophiuroids, and holothurians are listed, but the provided map layer shows one polygon only (special echinoderm assemblage). It should be made clear in each section what data products the user can access via the links, and how they are created."

a. We will follow the referee's suggestion by indicating in each subsection under "2.3 Environmental data" and "2.4 Ecological data" which data layer products can be accessed via the PANGAEA links and by adding as supplementary material the method by which the data were processed and the respective data layer was developed.

4. "In my opinion the paragraphs on data sources could be shortened, as every source

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is listed also in table 1 and 2. Instead I would prefer to read more about the methods (e.g. models used)."

a. We agree with this statement, that we could shorten the sections "2.3 Environmental data" and "2.4 Ecological data" by avoiding duplication of information in the text about e.g., references to publications and cruise reports, explicitly listed in the tables, too. We will change the text accordingly.

b. We have already commented on this remark earlier in this reply (see #3a.). We will provide the information about the analytical methods (e.g. models) in the revised version.

Technical corrections

5. "Here it is spoken of five persistent identifiers, provided are six (also in 2.2). Suggest to sort the links according to the structure in the paper (from abiotic to seals)."

a. We change the text accordingly.

b. We follow the referee's suggestion by sorting the PANGAEA links according to the structure of section "2.3 Environmental data" and "2.4 Ecological data".

6. "p 5 line 11 f > a) b) c) in italics"

a. We change the writing style to "normal".

7. "p 5 line 32 Possible to provide more detailed contact than institute webpage?"

a. We will add more information about the data warehouse of the Thuenen Institute of Sea Fisheries where data on krill are stored.

8. "References in text but missing in Reference section: Barthel & Gutt 1992, Timmermann 2013, Seitner et al. 2014 a, b, c (2004?)

a. We include Barthel and Gutt (1992) in the "Reference" section because they are missing there. However, we do not include Timmermann (2013) in the "Reference"

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section, because the correct reference is Haid and Timmermann (2013), referred to in section "2.3.3 FESOM data" and listed in "References". We change "Seiter et al. 2014a, b, c" in the text and Table 1 to "Seiter et al. 2004a, b, c".

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2019-86>, 2019.

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