Author interactive comment on "A database of net zooplankton of the Far East seas and adjacent Pacific Ocean waters" by Igor V. Volvenko

Dear Editors,

I would like to thank the Anonymous Referee for the high appraisal of the work I have done. He writes, "The presented data are a consequent dataset about zooplankton communities. To my knowledge, there is no such dataset in this area". That is why I undertook this work in the hope of making such a unique dataset available to the world community.

The Referee proposes to supplement the manuscript with a discussion of the relevance of Juday net choice in comparison to other nets currently used elsewhere in the world. I believe that this would unnecessarily increase the size of the article for two reasons:
1) Neither I nor my colleagues-planktonologists chose this particular net. We were confronted with a fait accompli – for more than 40 years in TINRO plankton samples have been taken according to a single method using the Juday net.
2) Comparison of the catchability of different plankton nets has been described in an extensive literature (see some references at the end of the comment). This is a separate topic, not directly related to the dataset described in the article. Moreover, the data described in the manuscript have already been recalculated per unit volume – cubic meter – and the differential catchability rates used for the recalculation are shown in the tables.

Now about the main question raised by the author of the review. This is the format for presenting data.

At link https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4448646 the tables summarizing all information are available in the generally accepted CSV format, which allows them to be imported into any database. Each CSV file contains data for one marine area in accordance with links to one of five reference books: Ber.csv – Bering Sea data (how some of the information from this file looks like in printed form – in the guide to the Bering Sea – can be found in a Supplement to the manuscript), Okh.csv – the Sea of Okhotsk data, Jap.csv – the Sea of Japan data, PGB.csv – Peter the Great Bay data, Pac.csv – Pacific Ocean data. The same data is combined in the Excel book Data.xlsx, where a separate sheet corresponds to each reservoir. Shapefiles with polygons of the standard regions by which data is summarized are available at the same link. The polygons accompanied with information about surface areas and water volumes in each. Standard shapefiles are easily imported into any modern GIS. Those who want to receive initial information in the MS Access format should contact the VNIRO or TINRO directorate, since they are copyright holders (and I am only the author of the database and co-author of reference books, which I noticed at the end of my manuscript).

Once again, I thank the Referee for the time and work in reviewing my manuscript, and I enclose the promised list of references, which, if necessary, can easily be increased many times over. It is up to the editors to decide whether they should be added to the manuscript. I understand that this is an important topic. Perhaps it requires a literature review. However, then it should be a separate review article and probably in a more specialized planktonology journal.

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Best regards,

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