

Review of the revised version of the paper: “Southern Europe and Western Asia Marine Heat Waves (SEWA-MHWs): a dataset based on macro events”, by Bonino et al.

Reviewer 1 found the paper clear, concise, and well written, and the dataset produced easy to download and inspect. He/her also appreciated the methodological part, based on the clustering of macro events, but had a major concern about the significance of the dataset, considering it limited by the geographic restrictions, and by the fact that the dataset is linked to a specific SST and misses recent years. I think that the authors have clearly and convincingly dissipated this concern, both in the answer to the referee and introducing appropriate changes in the text, to further highlight the significance of the new dataset. In my opinion, even if the dataset was restricted to the Mediterranean region only, it would nonetheless be significant for a wide, multidisciplinary scientific community, which is involved in the study of this climatic hotspot and in the protection of the basins’ rich and delicate ecosystems.

The authors have also taken into consideration the other points raised by Reviewer 1 and have carefully addressed all the thoughtful and helpful comments by Reviewer 2, Dr. Peter Minnett, introducing changes that have improved the paper, and the dataset itself.

I therefore recommend that the revised manuscript be accepted for publication in ESSD.