Response to Reviewer Comments on "Seasonal Predictability of Vapor Pressure Deficit in the western United States"

8/22/25

Co-editor decision: Publish subject to minor revisions (review by editor)

by Dariusz Baranowski

Public justification (visible to the public if the article is accepted and published):

The two reviewer's reports are in and both agree that the authors well revised the manuscript and addressed all comments and concerns raised by them.

The manuscript can be accepted, subject to a minor revision, following the report from the reviewers. Specifically, address one comment and one suggestion:

1. L440. Replace 'western US wildfires' with 'autumn western US wildfires' for greater accuracy.

We have added 'autumn' in the suggested location.

2. I think some readers may be curious about the dynamic mechanisms in Figures 13 and 14 that could explain the difference between Figure 13d and Figure 14d. While this is beyond the scope of the paper, it would be beneficial if the authors could briefly highlight it as a direction for future work in the discussion. For example, how do different SST patterns influence VPD in the western United States?

We have added this promising avenue of future work to the discussion and conclusions section.

That's it.

Thank you, we greatly appreciate the time taken to review our manuscript!