

Response to Editor

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

Thank you for thoughtfully considering my previous questions. The reorganization of the manuscript makes the narrative much easier to follow and I think this will improve the impact of the work. I have few an additional few points that need to be addressed before the manuscript can be published. Line numbers refer to the track changes version of the manuscript.

Please check equation 3 for correctness. It appears to be missing variables that are defined after it.

We sincerely thank the editor for point this out and we have corrected in the manuscript (L225).

Line 243: A word is missing after “stable.”

We sincerely thank the editor for the suggestion, adapted as suggested (L243).

Line 245: Delete the word “Consistently” since within year standard deviations are not related to median differences between years.

Thanks, corrected as suggested (L245).

Figure 5 and associated text: I am still confused about the precipitation. What is the quantity being shown in the annual and the monthly values? The annual values are nearly the same as the value within an individual month which is not possible.

Thank you for this observation, we agree that our previously wording of precipitation could be misleading because the annual values were not clearly distinguished from annual accumulated precipitation. In the revised manuscript we clarified that the reported annual medians correspond to the median of the twelve-monthly values. The monthly climatology represents the distribution of precipitation for each calendar month for the study period. Therefore, we have modified the methods (L195-L196), the result section (L331-L338), and figure caption (L350-L354).

Figure 6: The caption “Annual distribution of monthly fire counts” confuses me. It appears that what is being plotted is the distribution of fire location colored by FRP. Please clarify what is being shown.

Thank you for point this out, we agree that the previous caption was ambiguous because it did not clearly distinguish between the spatial fire detection and the boxplot statistic. In the revised manuscript we edit the text for the caption in Fig. 6 containing two complementary components, the maps that show active fire detection represented by coloured according to FRP (MW), while the boxplots show the distribution of monthly fire counts within each year. The same for the text

for the caption in Fig. 7 for maps and boxplot for each calendar month across all years (L415-L417), (L434-L437).