

Reviewer 1:

We thank the reviewer for such strong yet encouraging comments. The main points for improvement are listed below

Limited engagement with recent changes

Our attempt has been to properly connect concepts and discoveries with original sources and authors. Such ties are often overlooked. We agree, however, that adding key references to bring storylines up to the present will add significantly to the text. and will be added in the revision.

Density of presentation

We agree that the revision must be presented in a more reader-friendly manner. We will follow the reviewer's suggestion to carefully eliminate over-use of jargon and present clear and simple explanations.

Limited use of schematic/summary figures

We are currently discussing the use of summary figures and schematic representations for some of the sections. We anticipate that this could reduce the number of data-heavy figures in the paper, and address some of the concerns regarding density of presentation.

Regional imbalance

Again, we fully agree. Here we will complete the storyline of Pacific inflows, modifications specific to the Amerasian Basin and Beaufort Gyre dynamics. Our coverage of contributions will extend from Coachman and Barnes to Proshutinsky, McLaughlin, and Timmermans.