Review of OS-2021-96

The manuscript has been improved, and I am satisfied with the way how the authors address the reviewers' comments. I only have these following questions/comments:

- Sensitivity experiments: when comparing Case 2 and Case 3, actually it is unfair to compare their impacts; Case 2 increases surface heat gain locally by 10% from May to July, which lasts for 3-months; while Case 3 increases surface heat gain in Hayasui Strait by the same percent, but only for one month - July. And the two cases' impacts are measured and compared for July. It is reasonable to think, the less temperature change in July for Case 3 than that for Case 2 is because the heat-flux-increase's lasting time period is shorter. To avoid this problem, Case 3 or a new case should be modified or added: increase surface heat gain in Hayasui Strait by 10% from May to July.
- 2. Lines 470-471. "This is an inverse pathway to the heat transport and is expected to be large in some BCWMs." What does this sentence mean? Why nutrient transport is an inverse pathway to heat transport?

Minor:

- 1. Line 58: "... a schematic diagram in Fig. 5" -> Fig. 6 ?
- 2. Lines 90-91: "However, water temperature at Hayasui Strait is almost <u>vertically</u> homogeneous throughout a year"
- 3. Line 105: "The red line of the 18 °C isotherm in (a)" -> (g)
- 4. Line 106: "The red and black bars in (b) " \rightarrow (m)
- 5. Line 129: analysis -> analyze
- 6. Lines 173 and 299: "Fig. 2c" -> Fig. 2g
- 7. Line 178: "Supplementary Table $\underline{1}$ " -> 2
- 8. Supplemental Figure 4 caption: July -> August
- Figure 5 caption: significant <u>difference</u> level? -> significant confidence level; as well as in Line 249
- 10. Line 233: Fig. 5a -> Fig. 5e; Figs. 5b-d -> Figs. 5f-h
- 11. Line 236: Fig. 5d -> Fig. 5h