

Interactive comment on “Ice flow velocity as a sensitive indicator of glacier state” by Martin Stocker-Waldhuber et al.

G. Catania (Editor)

gcatania@ig.utexas.edu

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Based on the comments from both reviewers and my view as associate editor, I am rejecting this manuscript. In large part this is because the reviewer comments are quite extensive and critical indicating that the manuscript does not deliver on the proposed topic. I also anticipate that any revised manuscript will depart significantly from the original submission in several fundamental ways. Thus, I recommend that the manuscript is rejected in its current state.

The reviewers have provided numerous helpful suggestions that will aid preparation of a future resubmission of a different manuscript. Importantly, the manuscript would benefit from a re-focus away from an explicit exploration of ice flow velocity as an

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indicator of mass balance (as the title indicates) because it is not feasible when velocity changes lag mass balance changes by a few years (as M. Pelto suggests). Instead, the reviewers both commended the value of long-term observations of glacier velocity and suggest going into more details on these data with comparison to other studies for which velocity variations have been reported. Both reviewers provide numerous suggested publications to explore for this work and both are enthusiastic about the value of long-term velocity observations. Thus, I anticipate a revised manuscript that takes into account these extensive reviewer comments will be a welcome submission to TC in the future.

Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/tc-2018-37>, 2018.

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