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Geoscientific Instrumentation Methods and Data Systems Discussions

Interactive comment on "Re-establishing glacier monitoring in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, Central Asia" *by* Martin Hoelzle et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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General comments. In this paper the authors describe attempts to reestablish long-term mass balance monitoring programs at Central Asian glaciers. They also review and analyses the former data from glaciers in the region and summarize the results. The paper is well written, the structure is fine and the language is clear. This is a very useful paper both as a review of former data and as for the methodologies to restart the series. The discussion and conclusions are sound. They present data from a region that is lacking data and thus it is important that these old data is taken care of and likewise that new monitoring programs are initiated.

Some more detailed comments. The referencing is appropriate and since a large part of the paper is a review of older data, probably the large number of references is needed, but more than seven pages with more than one hundred references is a lot

for a fairly short paper. Section 7 Conclusions contains arguments for why it is important to maintain these series rather than a summary of the results from the scientific data. These results are given in section 5. However, I think this structure is fine in a paper like this where the main aim is towards justifying the reestablishment of the long time-series. In the title of the paper they say glacier monitoring in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. However, in the text they do not say which glacier are in which country and in Fig. 1 Uzbekistan does not appear but all the five glaciers they discuss are given on the map. The map in Fig.1 could be improved. The boarders between the countries seem to be the green line, but this line is not continuous. In section 2.2 the heading is Pamir-Alay, but this name does not appear in the map. Uzbekistan does appear in fig. 11. In Fig. 6 it is impossible in my print-out to distinguish between filled and non-filled dots. I can see it if I enlarge the pdf so maybe this is not a problem in open-access. The same is the case for the maps in Figs. 5, 8, 9 and 10. It is very hard to read any numbers in a print-out but enlarged to 200% on the screen it is OK.

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