

General comment by the authors

We are pleased that the thorough revision process has improved the paper and that it has now been accepted. We have implemented exactly as recommended the two remaining technical suggestions from Reviewer#2, as detailed below.

Upon revisiting the manuscript, we also specified the funding statement regarding the MER project (specifically, "Actions B32-B35 of", line 359) and corrected a very few typos.

Below is the reviewer's comment in black, followed by our response in blue.

Reviewer#2's comment

I appreciate the work the authors have done and am satisfied with the current manuscript. I also would like to apologize for not being aware of the restrictions of contributions to Ocean State Report, to which the authors were bound.

I have 2 remaining semantic suggestions

Line 50: "(e.g. excessive biomass accumulation, oxygen depletion)", as these do not have to occur together and I would put excessive biomass first as this is can be the precursor to O2 deficiency issues

Line 164 should read "which are discussed"

We sincerely thank the reviewer for the careful evaluation and positive feedback, and are pleased that the revised manuscript is now satisfactory, having benefited from a few selected and well-focused additional analyses in the Appendix.

We fully agree with the reviewer's technical suggestions and have implemented them in the text exactly as recommended.