

Biogeosciences Discuss., referee comment RC2  
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## **Comment on bg-2021-279**

Anonymous Referee #2

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Referee comment on "Sensitivity of plankton assemblages to hydroclimate variability in the Barents Sea" by Elliott L. Price et al., Biogeosciences Discuss.,  
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Manuscript number: bg-2021-279

Review of manuscript entitled "Sensitivity of plankton assemblages to hydroclimate variability in the Barents Sea" by Price et al.

### General comments

This study described plankton variability associated with satellite and modelled data in the Barents Sea during June from 2010 to 2016. I acknowledge this study include valuable information and manuscript is well written. However, new scientific findings (except new data) found by authors were ambiguous. Also, I suggest some points for improving readability as below. Therefore, I can recommend publication of this manuscript after minor revision.

### Specific comments

L21-22 I could find any information of water masses. This sentence should be removed.

L122 Show the URL of Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) Survey.

L131-132 Please add suitable references for choosing the environmental parameters. Why authors used oxygen concentration? The parameters is easily changed at surface. Also, O<sub>2</sub> and pH were not explained in this manuscript.

L134 chlorophyll *a*. "*a*" should be italic through the manuscript.

L141-151 Did authors checked day-night effect on the zooplankton data? Even the CPR can collect the zooplankton at about 10 m depth, the DVM by zooplankton could influence their abundance data. I recommend authors include the sampling time in pCCA, or no significant effect should be checked before the pCCA.

L274-275 I suggest authors could add a bit more discussion about how detrimental effect by the harmful species (e.g., reduced their escape responses, Harðardóttir et al., 2018).

L314 high SST?

L371 What "?".

Figure 6. It was so hard for me to read this figure. I recommend the each panel should be bigger.