Dear Raffaella Casotti

Thanks for the comment. The analysis of autotrophic prokaryotes, the Cyanobacteria, was performed in conjunction with the phytoplankton counting using the classic Utermöhl sedimentation technique. We recognize that a significant fraction of benthic cyanobacteria and some other parameters were not measured, as they would require different methods and expertise. Thank you for taking the time to read our manuscript.

Sincerely yours,