

## ***Interactive comment on “Respiration of Mediterranean cold-water corals is not affected by ocean acidification as projected for the end of the century” by C. Maier et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

Received and published: 18 June 2013

I appreciate there are differences in experimental design between those outlined in this paper and that of Maier et al., 2013 however I agree with Reviewer 1 that combining the data of these two trials would have given a more rounded view of what is going on.

To my mind a measure of food availability in their natural habitat would be very important to base experimental feeding rates on. Having more or less food than they are used to will potentially alter their response to pCO<sub>2</sub> treatments – being ‘happy’ is not a good reflection of the real world scenario. I agree with the first reviewers comment regarding the potential masking effect of the elevated/alterd feeding regime.

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 10, 7617, 2013.

C2842