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Interactive comment on “Factors influencing CO₂ and CH₄ emissions from coastal wetlands in the Liaohe Delta, Northeast China” by L. Olsson et al.

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Thank you for the constructive comments. The effects of reed harvesting per se on CH₄ emission are unknown. However, if the harvesting would be associated with a lowering of the water table in order to be able to use heavy machinery during the harvesting process, this would result in a reduction in the CH₄ emission. Harvesting and removal of biomass may also affect the amount of organic carbon (plant litter) that will be available for the methanogens, and the physical disturbance and damage of the root-rhizome system by the harvesting process can also affect the biogeochemical processes in the soil. I think it will be beyond the scope of this paper, and too speculative, to discuss these potential effects. We conclude in the paper that “the CH₄ emission from coastal wetlands can be reduced by creating fluctuating water tables, including water tables

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below the soil surface, as well as by occasional flooding by high-salinity water”.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 12, 3469, 2015.

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