

Editor's Comment:

It would be necessary to add the minor changes suggested by reviewers and also to solve certain analytical issues in the manuscript.

Cyanide analysis methods attempt to measure groups of compounds with similar chemical characteristics and report them as a single value.

Free cyanide refers to the sum of hydrogen cyanide (HCN) and cyanide ion (CN⁻) in a sample.

Free cyanide is bioavailable and toxic to aquatic organisms and humans

Analytically, free cyanide is referred to as the amount of HCN liberated from solution at pH 6.0.

In the method used in the analysis of HCN and results section it is necessary to clarify what type of Cyanide was analysed: Free, available or Total. Moreover, what measures were taken into consideration to eliminate the interference of other compounds in the analysis (e.g. vitamin C, sulphur, etc.).

Author's Reply:

We thank you for the good observation and positive interest to our study. We have added analytical procedures used for analysis of total cyanide as indicated in the main text of this reversed version.