

Dear Dr. Cristina Linares,

We appreciate the thoughtful review and professional handling of our manuscript. We have taken into consideration all the suggested changes and included them in our manuscript, as outlined below. Whenever relevant, we have pointed out the location of the changes in the marked-up version of the manuscript.

Abstract

- Abstract Change “ while reserves may protect populations within its bounded regions,” by “ while reserves may protect populations within their boundaries,”

Methods

- Line 222 Delete Leslie et al and leave only the reference number 47

Discussion

- Line 301 Delete Micheli et al and leave only the reference number 15
(*Line 300 in the marked-up document*)
- Line 333, SES analyses or SES analysis? If plural change suggests by suggest
(*Line 332 in the marked-up document*)
- Line 357 “developed by :::: Green:: et :: al:[58] for marine reserves in the Caribbean state” change by “developed for marine reserves in the Caribbean state :[58]”
(*Line 353 in the marked-up document*)
- Lines 377-378 “Furthermore, [9] have shown that TURFs alone can have greater biomass and richness than areas operating under open access” change by “Furthermore, TURFs alone can have greater biomass and richness than areas operating under open access[9]”.
(*Line 373 in the marked-up document*)