Referee #1

Comment 1: "*I thank the authors for carefully addressing all my comments. I have an additional few minor comments that can be addressed without further review:***"**

Author Response: We are pleased that the referee is positive to our responses. Thank you for the constructive criticism.

Comment 2: "*The taxon x samples tables added to the counts folder are all relative abundance - I would prefer to have these as counts, since some statistical models expect count data and the total counts, and it's easy to go from counts to relab but not vice versa unless read depths are provided. I would also be happy with just a file of read depths that I could multiply by to reverse the process.***"**

Author Response: In the new Figshare version, we have replaced relative abundance tables we added before with count tables in wide format at different taxonomic levels (ASV, genus, family, order, class, phylum) and describe these tables in the manuscript (Lines 184-185).

Comment 3: "*The figshare.com counts folder says "old version"? You may want to get rid of that note.***"**

Author Response: Thanks for pointing this out. We have updated our datasets to the latest version and we removed the folder "old version".

Comment 4: "*line 159 typo "Fishare" should be Figshare***"**

Author Response: We have corrected the typo (Line 170).