

Interactive comment on “Vegetation composition and soil microbial community structural changes along a wetland hydrological gradient” by W. K. Balasooriya et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 10 December 2007

General comments

The paper covers a very interesting topic, which allows for a better understanding of the links between vegetation composition, wetland hydrology and microbial community structure/activity in wetland soils; thus, it falls within the scope of HESSD.

The work is well organized and it shows the importance of better investigating wetland microbiology by considering the research attention that such a topic induces and by introducing on the matter a new combined chemical approach.

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

The Methods are clearly outlined and the Results are effectively described, well supporting the interpretations and conclusions.

The article deserves publication.

Specific comments

Abstract

The abstract is well constructed and it concisely describes all the parts of the article.

Introduction

This paragraph provides a good overview of the argument and it refers to a wide scientific bibliography.

Methods

The article presents a new combined approach, which points out the link between the wetland microbial community and the biogeochemical processes.

The methods are carefully explained giving the possibility to reproduce the procedure.

Results and discussion

The results are described in a satisfactory manner, point out the positive and negative links with the existing literature on the matter and well support the conclusions.

References

The references provide a good overview of the argument.

Technical corrections

Error typing

At page 3890, row 15 realtive instead of relative

Figure 5, legend last row Apri instead of April

S1687

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 4, 3869, 2007.

HESSD

4, S1686–S1688, 2007

Interactive
Comment

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

S1688

EGU