

Respond to editor's final review:

Thank you again for your submission of this interesting manuscript to Ocean Science. I am glad that, after a somewhat lengthy reviewing process that was caused partly by the difficulty finding reviewers who were willing to review this manuscript, I can accept your manuscript; pending a few minor technical suggestions.

1. I find the abbreviation ML quite confusing; because it is more typically used for Machine Learning. I can imagine that readers new to the field could mistake the abbreviation. In general, I don't see the advantage of using an abbreviation for a term like 'Marine Litter'; why not spell it out? Sure, the manuscript will become (slightly) longer; but it will also become much more readable.

2. Line 119 in the track-changed manuscript: K is written in normal font and as a capital here; is that correct?

3. Line 234 in the track-changed manuscript: use 'days' instead of dates?

Could you respond to these three points? After that, I will accept the manuscript for publication

Dear editor, following your suggestions we have spell out the ML (marine litter) abbreviation along the text, and corrected the lines 119 and 234. We hope that in after these corrections the article is ready for publication.

Best regards,

Javier Soto-Navarro and Gabriel Jordà.