

## Response to file upload

Regarding your figure 1: please note that in accordance with our standards, material that originated from Google Earth requires the copyright symbol “©”. Please add it to the caption of Figure 1 with the next revision. For instance, © Google Earth Engine

*We have added the copyright symbol in the caption of figure 1.*

**Figure 1: (a): Aerial images of the Blackwater marshes (black: water, light grey: marsh) with sampling locations (Copernicus – Sentinel data [2025]). Retrieved from © Google Earth Engine, processed by ESA). The marsh loss (i.e. proportion of shallow open water ponds to total marsh area) is quantified for each site based on Schepers et al. (2017). (b) Inset map showing the location of the Blackwater marshes in the Chesapeake Bay. The green box is the extent of panel c. (c): pond locations (white) sampled at site 4. Values in the legend of (c) refer to the average pond diameter in each category. The arrow on the bottom is a North arrow.**