

## ***Interactive comment on “Expanding understanding of optical variability in Lake Superior with a four-year dataset” by Colleen B. Mouw et al.***

**Colleen B. Mouw et al.**

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Thank you for your comments. As pointed out, this is a dataset description manuscript and is meant to provide a consolidated summary of the data and an overview of the optical variability found in Lake Superior. As a table of all variables for each of the 106 stations is nearing the level of detail provided in the data files (available on SeaBASS), we felt that a summary table of the parameters for both profiles and discrete observations at the depth horizons highlighted in the paper would be more valuable. As such, we have added Table 2.

The specific example that the reviewer questions can be corroborated with the inspec-

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tion of Figures 1 and 2. One can identify the date and exact location of the example stations in figure 5, and connect them to the exact profile in figure 2 by identifying the station color from figure 1. For greater clarity, we have altered this sentence (now found on lines 473-474) to read: “The  $bbp(\lambda)$  at the Ontonagon outflow at 25 m was higher and had a greater slope (Figure 7 K, L), due to a greater abundance of phytoplankton (Figures 1 and 2) and also a different community composition.”

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