

Additional file 6. Reasons for article exclusions

In some cases, more than one reason for exclusion was recorded for a single article.

Screening on abstract (of 1,946 articles)	no. of studies
Excluded on subject (not a study of a lake or reservoir larger than 1 hectare)	182
Model or simulation study	83
Not eutrophic conditions	68
Not temperate climate	59
Excluded on intervention (not a study of removal of planktivorous/benthivorous fish or stocking of piscivorous fish)	810
Unintentional biomanipulation (e.g. commercial fishery or fish kills due to hypoxia)	31
Excluded on outcomes (no relevant data on how water quality has responded to biomanipulation)	761
Included	419
Screening on full text (of 551 articles)	
Excluded on subject (not a study of a lake or reservoir larger than 1 hectare)	19
Small-scale experimental study (not a whole-lake intervention)	35
Model or simulation study	14
Not eutrophic conditions	41
Saline water	2
Not temperate climate	4
Excluded on intervention (not a study of removal of planktivorous/benthivorous fish or stocking of piscivorous fish)	49
Unintentional biomanipulation (e.g. commercial fishery or fish kills due to hypoxia)	13
Excluded on outcomes (no relevant data on how water quality has responded to biomanipulation)	32
No primary data	36
No relevant primary data but potentially useful as a review	68
Excluded on redundancy (primary data also published elsewhere)	17
Excluded on language (full text not in English, Danish, Dutch, German, Norwegian or Swedish)	12
Full text not found	22
Included	231