Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 9, 03392, 2007 SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU2007-A-03392

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Preliminary results of continuous oxygen measurement above a Posidonia oceanica seagrass bed in the Bay of Calvi (Corsica)

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In the vicinity of the oceanographic STARESO station (Bay of Calvi, Corsica), three oxygen sensors were deployed in August 2006 on a mooring above a Posidonia oceanica meadow at depths of 9, 7 and 4 meters. The oxygen saturation level and temperature were measured every half hour at each depth. The aim of this research is to determine with a high temporal resolution the ecosystem metabolic performance (gross primary production and community respiration) based on the oxygen mass balance approach (Odum, 1956, Limnology and Oceanography 1:102-117). Here we present preliminary results, and discuss %O2 variability from daily to seasonal time scales.