

*Supplementary Materials*

## Ecological Conditions of the Lower Dniester and Some Indicators for Assessment of the Hydropower Impact

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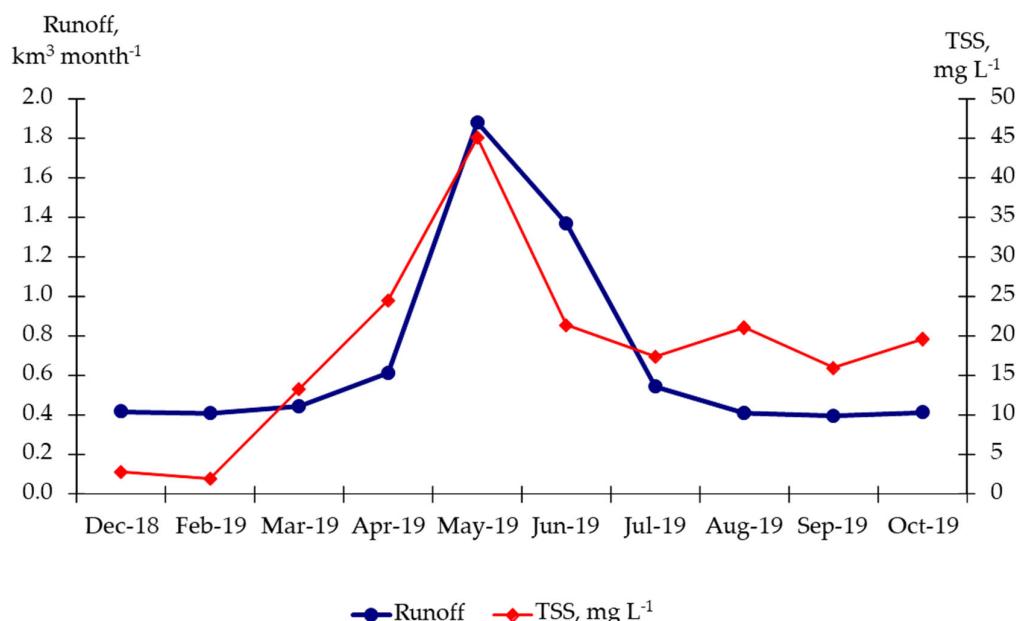
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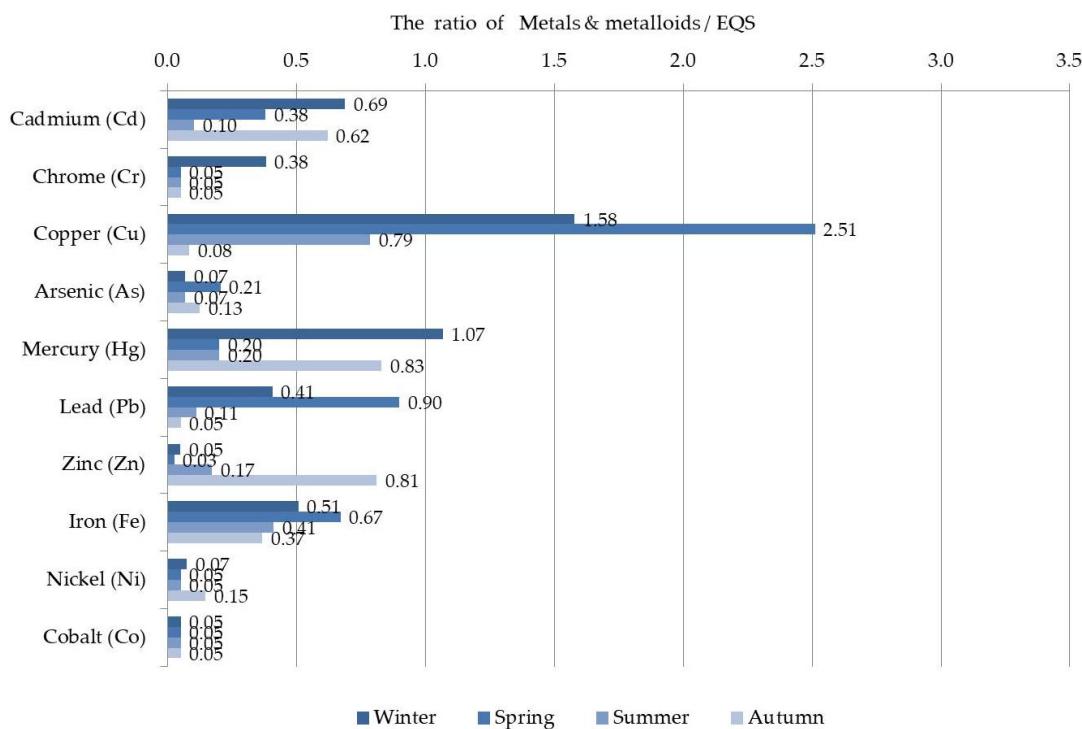
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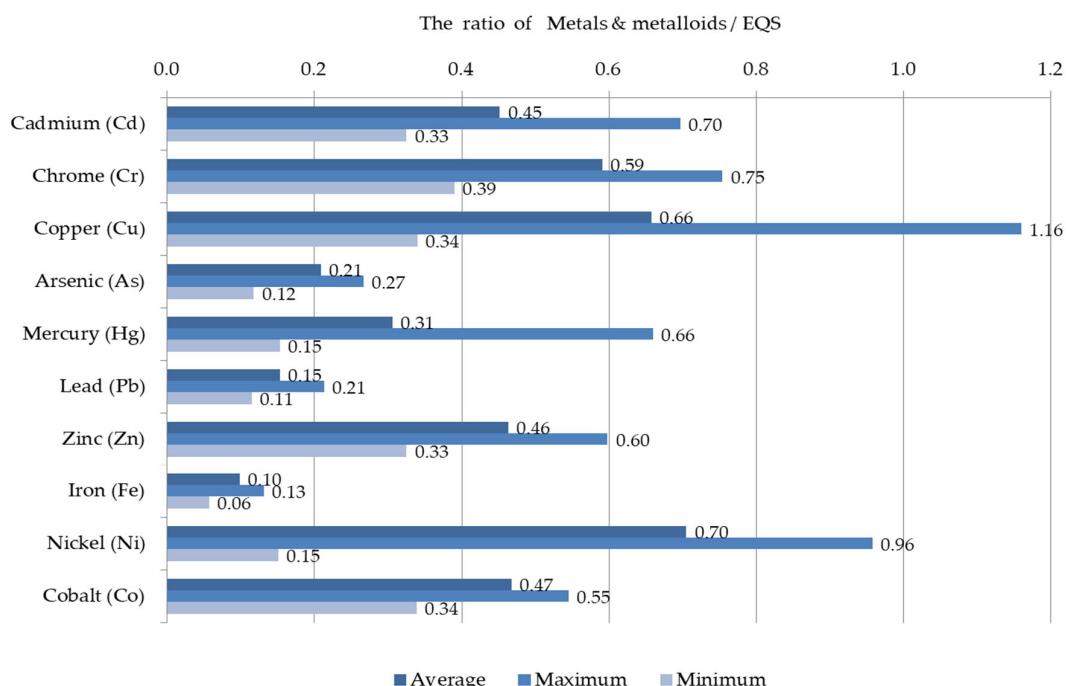
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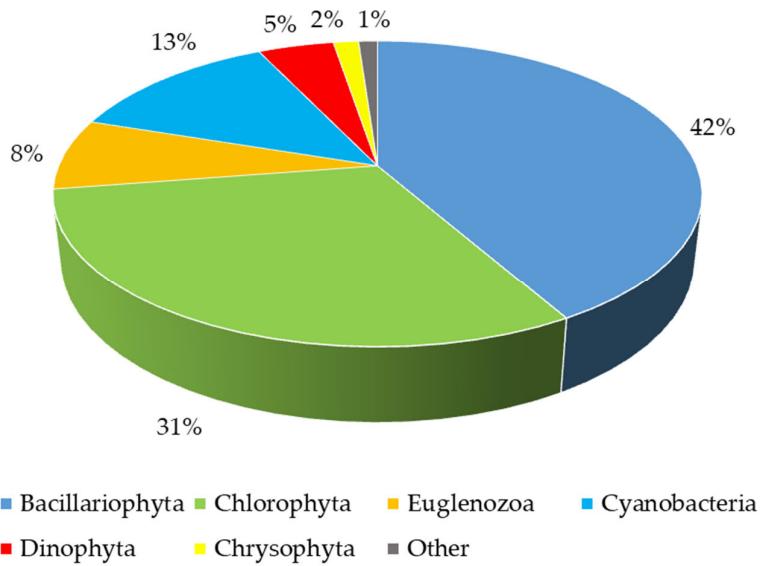
**Figure S1.** Dynamics of monthly runoff values and amount of total suspended solids.



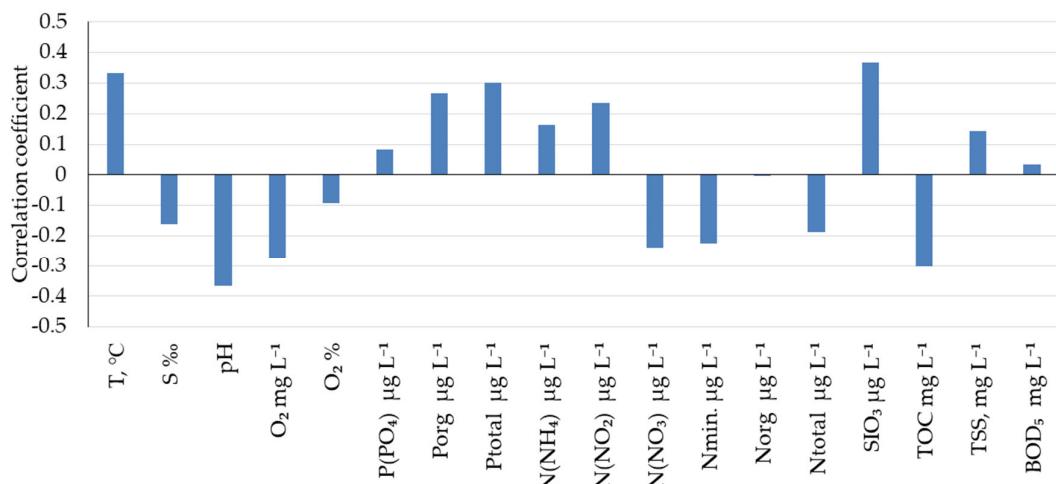
**Figure S2.** The ratio of the average seasonal concentrations of heavy metals and metalloids to their environmental quality standards (EQS) in the waters of the Lower Dniester near the village of Maiaky.



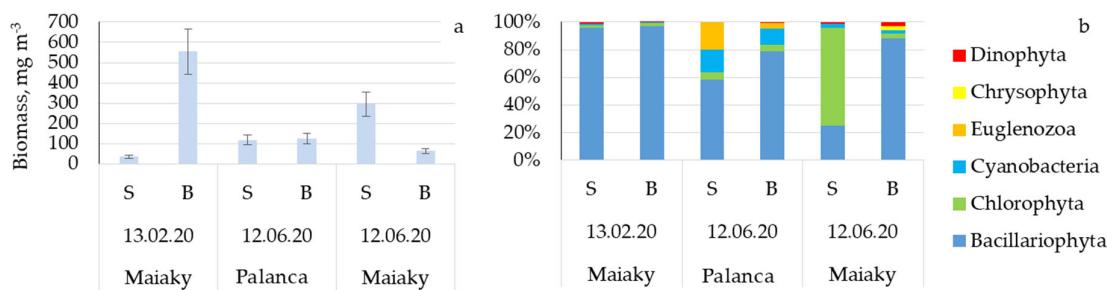
**Figure S3.** The ratio of average and extreme concentrations of heavy metals and metalloids to their environmental quality standards (EQS) in bottom sediments of the Lower Dniester.



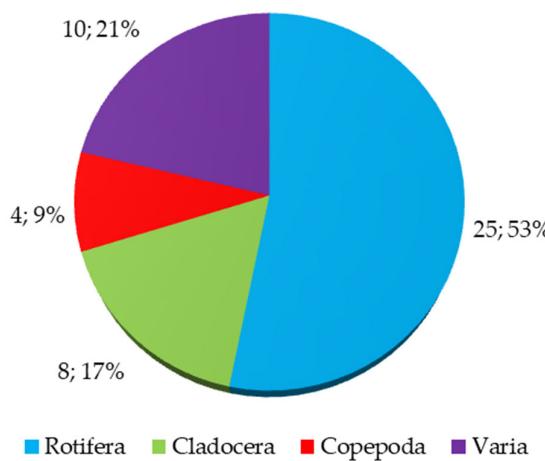
**Figure S4.** Taxonomic structure of phytoplankton of the Lower Dniester (2018–2020).



**Figure S5.** Correlations between phytoplankton biomass and hydrochemical indicators (2018–2020).



**Figure S6.** Changes of (a) total phytoplankton biomass and (b) the contribution of different classes in the surface (S) and bottom (B) layer of Lower Dniester (2020).

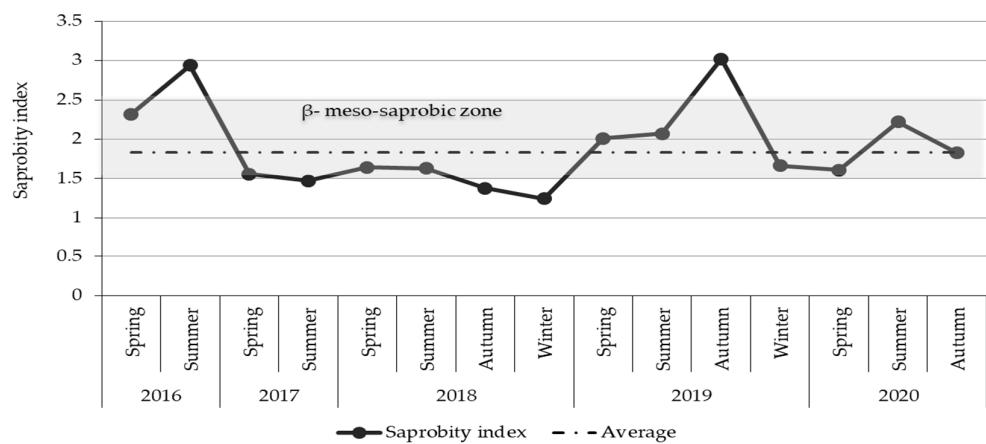


**Figure S7.** Taxonomic diversity of zooplankton in the Lower Dniester during 2016–2020.

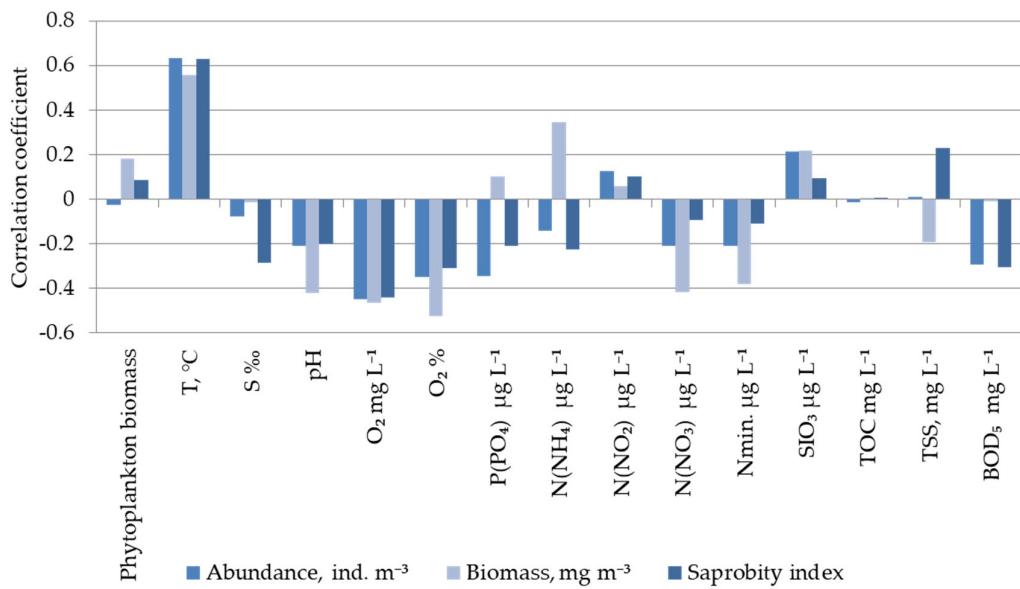
**Table S1.** Inter-annual variation of zooplankton abundance and biomass (Average  $\pm$  SE) in the Lower Dniester in 2016–2020.

Year	Characteristic	Rotifera	Copepoda	Cladocera	Varia	Total*
2016	Abundance, ind $m^{-3}$	2697 $\pm$ 1084	38464 $\pm$ 31376	3526 $\pm$ 1766	331 $\pm$ 157	45019 $\pm$ 34066
	Biomass, mg $m^{-3}$	6.9 $\pm$ 2.5	864.2 $\pm$ 783.9	192.6 $\pm$ 80	2.6 $\pm$ 1.5	1066.3 $\pm$ 855.5
2017	Abundance, ind $m^{-3}$	17073 $\pm$ 11740	5383 $\pm$ 1297	3173 $\pm$ 2153	1050 $\pm$ 230	26678 $\pm$ 11571
	Biomass, mg $m^{-3}$	32.5 $\pm$ 22.8	64.1 $\pm$ 28.4	259.7 $\pm$ 217.9	20.8 $\pm$ 9.9	377.1 $\pm$ 230.1
2018	Abundance, ind $m^{-3}$	3692 $\pm$ 1240	1969 $\pm$ 846	1521 $\pm$ 1027	1224 $\pm$ 426	8405 $\pm$ 2492
	Biomass, mg $m^{-3}$	13.5 $\pm$ 5.8	30.1 $\pm$ 14.9	143.9 $\pm$ 101.1	4.4 $\pm$ 1.3	191.8 $\pm$ 112.9
2019	Abundance, ind $m^{-3}$	293 $\pm$ 74	341 $\pm$ 104	49 $\pm$ 15	727 $\pm$ 476	1409 $\pm$ 497
	Biomass, mg $m^{-3}$	0.8 $\pm$ 0.2	2.3 $\pm$ 0.8	2.1 $\pm$ 1.3	2.2 $\pm$ 1.4	7.3 $\pm$ 2.6
2020	Abundance, ind $m^{-3}$	195 $\pm$ 41	277 $\pm$ 131	35 $\pm$ 14	82 $\pm$ 43	589 $\pm$ 194
	Biomass, mg $m^{-3}$	1.4 $\pm$ 0.4	2.6 $\pm$ 1.1	1.4 $\pm$ 0.6	0.2 $\pm$ 0.1	5.7 $\pm$ 1.8

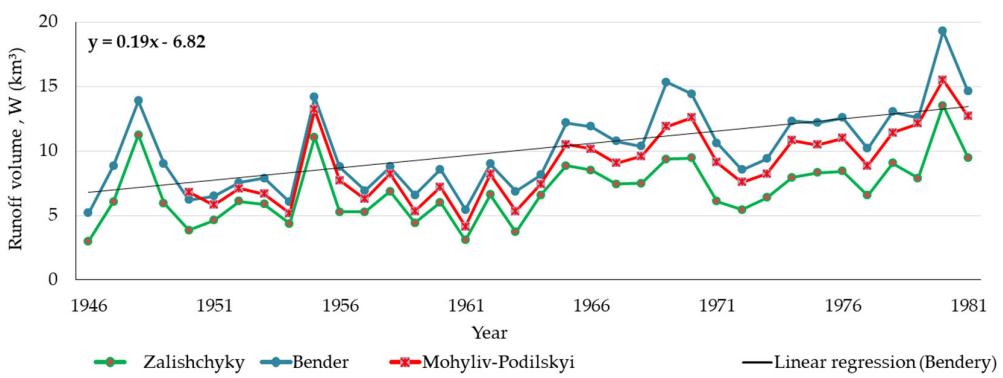
\*Total Abundance Total N: KW-H(3;54) = 20.5502; p = 0.0004; Total biomass KW-H(4;54) = 22.9079; p = 0.0001.



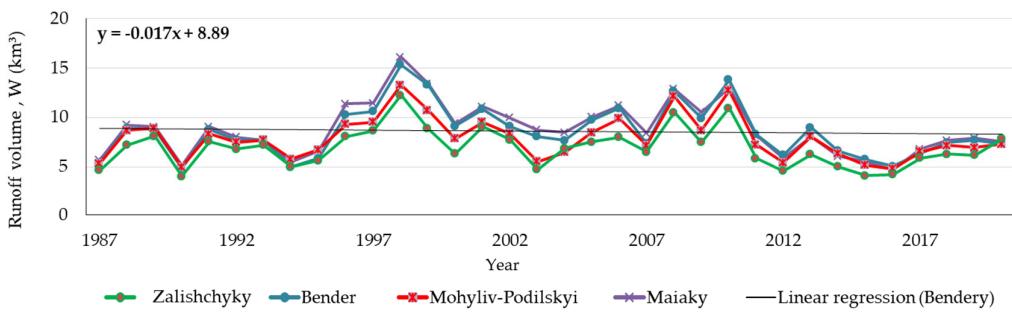
**Figure S8.** Saprobity level for zooplankton in the Lower Dniester during 2016–2020 according to [4,5] and project data.



**Figure S9.** Correlations between zooplankton statistics and hydrochemical indicators.



**Figure S10.** Combined hydrograph of the annual runoff volumes for the 1946–1981 period within selected HGS.

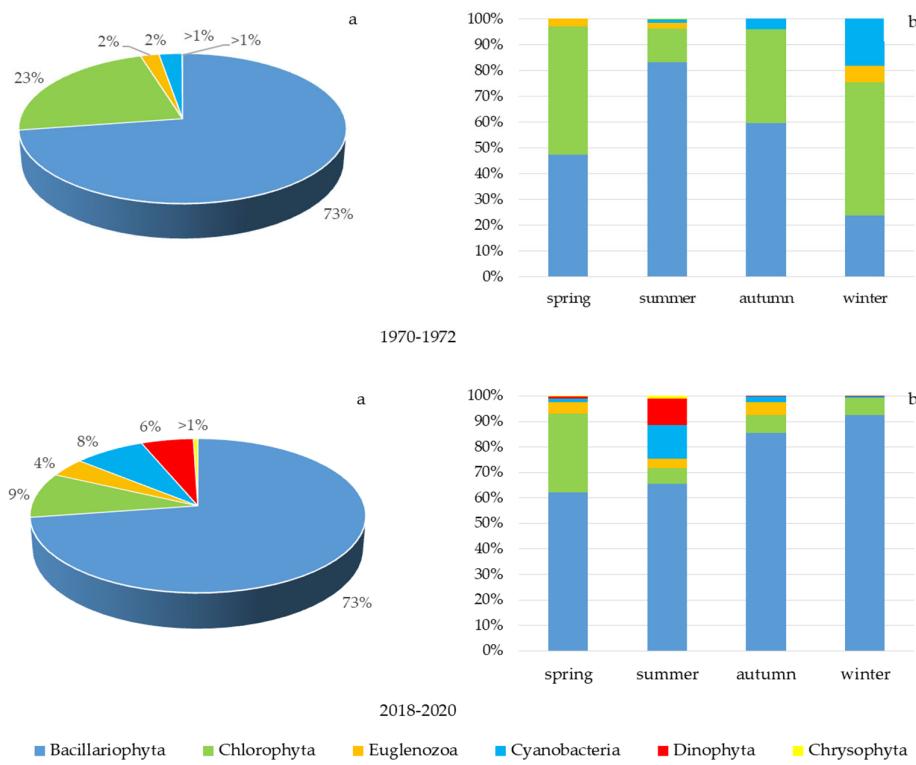


**Figure S11.** Combined hydrograph of the annual runoff volumes for the 1987–2020 period within selected HGS.

**Table S2.** Long-term variations of nutrients in the Lower Dniester (above the line—average values; below the line—range of variation).

Years	Nitrogen species					Phosphorus species			Silicate	
	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> mgN L <sup>-1</sup>	DIN	DON	TDN	DIP	DOP mgP L <sup>-1</sup>	TDP	mgSi L <sup>-1</sup>
1952–1954	<u>0.188</u> 0–1.09	<u>0.035</u> 0–0.044	<u>0.57</u> 0.010–1.00	<u>0.80</u> –	–	–	<u>0.057</u> 0.013–0.100	–	–	<u>5.22</u> 1.38–10.0
1977–1978	–	<u>0.080</u> –	<u>1.29</u> –	–	<u>1.38</u> –	<u>2.75</u> –	<u>0.091</u> –	<u>0.028</u> –	<u>0.119</u> –	<u>4.00</u> –
1985–1988	<u>0.554</u> 0.010–1.51	<u>0.191</u> 0.001–0.91	<u>1.30</u> 0.050–2.54	<u>2.11</u> –	<u>0.51</u> 0.07–1.04	<u>2.62</u> –	<u>0.090</u> 0.010–0.260	<u>0.041</u> 0.040–1.200	<u>0.131</u> –	<u>4.41</u> 1.90–7.30
2003–2004	<u>0.073</u> 0.001–0.25	<u>0.031</u> 0.001–0.16	<u>0.86</u> 0.058–1.57	<u>0.96</u> 0.08–1.67	<u>1.67</u> 0.08–6.44	<u>2.63</u> 0.85–6.86	<u>0.074</u> 0.010–0.138	<u>0.029</u> 0.003–0.091	<u>0.103</u> 0.023–0.166	<u>2.46</u> 0.85–3.35
2018–2020	<u>0.067</u> 0.014–0.18	<u>0.034</u> 0.008–0.061	<u>1.18</u> 0.090–2.76	<u>1.34</u> 0.16–2.94	<u>1.10</u> 0.35–2.0	<u>2.38</u> 0.63–3.89	<u>0.075</u> 0.022–0.137	<u>0.028</u> 0.003–0.102	<u>0.103</u> 0.063–0.184	<u>2.89</u> 1.63–5.33

Abbreviations: DO - Dissolved Oxygen, TOC - Total Organic Carbon, BOD<sub>5</sub> - Biological Oxygen Demand, TSS - Total Suspended Solids, TDN -Total Dissolved Nitrogen, TON - Total Organic Nitrogen as a difference between TDN and DIN, DIP - Dissolved Inorganic Phosphorus, TDP - Total Dissolved Phosphorus, DOP - Dissolved Organic Phosphorus.



**Figure S12.** The contribution of different phyla of microalgae in the total phytoplankton biomass (a) total biomass per year; (b) seasonal changes of biomass; 1970–1972 according to [15], 2018–2020—our data.

## References

1. [4] Nabokin, M.V. Zooplankton Del'ty Dnistra [Zooplankton of the Dniester Delta] [in Ukrainian]. In Proceedings of the Suchasna Hidroekolohiya: Mistse Naukovykh Doslidzhen' u Vyrisheni Aktual'nykh Problem: Zbirnyk Materialiv III Naukovo-Praktychnoyi Konferentsiyi Dlya Molodykh Vchenykh [Modern hydroecology: The place of scientific research in solving current problems III]; Kyiv, Ukraine, 6–7 October 2016; pp. 42–43.
2. [5] Nabokin, M.V. Rezul'taty Hidrobiolohichnykh Sposterezhen' ta Saprobiolohichna Otsinka del'ty Dnistra [Results of Hydrobiological Observations and Saprobiological Assessment of the Dniester Delta] [in Ukrainian]. In Proceedings of the Ekolohiya—Filosofiya Isnuvannya Lyudstva: Zb. Nauk. Prats' Uchaspnykiv IV Mizhnarodnoyi Naukovo-Praktychnoyi Konferentsiyi [Ecology—Philosophy of Human Existence: Collection. Science. Proceedings of the IV International Scientific and Practical Conference], Kharkiv, Ukraine, 10–13 October 2017; LLC 'Color Print': Melitopol, Ukraine, 2017; pp. 132–135.
3. [15] Ivanov, A.I. *Fitoplankton Ust'yevykh Oblastey Rek Severo-Zapadnogo Prichernomor'ya* [Phytoplankton of Estuarine Areas of Rivers in the North-Western Black Sea Region] [in Russian]; Naukova Dumka: Kyiv, Ukraine, 1982.