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Table S1. Mean (\pm standard error) and coefficient of variation (CV) values of environmental variables in the study sites. Means followed by a different letter indicate significant differences. The abbreviations are: T = temperature; S = salinity; DO = dissolved oxygen; *Chl-a* = chlorophyll a; TDS = total dissolved solids.

Statistic and site	Variable					
	T ($^{\circ}$ C)	S (ppt)	DO (mg L^{-1})*	pH	<i>Chl-a</i> (mg m^{-3})	TDS (mg L^{-1})
Mean						
Celestun	29.64 ± 0.33^a	15.23 ± 1.78^a	4.55 ± 0.26^a	8.10 ± 0.07^a	3.23 ± 0.17^a	$16,101 \pm 1,509^a$
Rio Lagartos	31.02 ± 0.36^b	35.02 ± 0.50^b	5.04 ± 0.26^a	8.34 ± 0.05^b	6.85 ± 0.62^b	$34,838 \pm 407^b$
<i>P</i>	0.007	0.001	0.417	0.046	0.017	< 0.001
CV						
Celestun	0.35 ^a	37.07 ^a	17.76 ^a	2.61 ^a	10.64 ^a	29.64 ^a
Rio Lagartos	0.40 ^a	4.69 ^b	17.36 ^a	1.8 ^a	25.72 ^b	3.87 ^b
<i>P</i>	0.6985	< 0.0001	0.9375	0.2628	0.0164	0.0001

* Non-parametric Mann-Whitney tests were used.

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Table S2. Coefficients of variation of environmental variables in the Celestun and Rio Lagartos lagoons, Mexico. Different letters indicate significant differences. The variables are ordered from the least to the most stable in relative terms. The abbreviations are: T = temperature; S = salinity; DO = dissolved oxygen; *Chl-a* = chlorophyll a; TDS = total dissolved solids.

Celestun	Rio Lagartos
(S) 37.07 ^a	(<i>Chl-a</i>) 25.72 ^a
(TDS) 29.64 ^a	(DO) 17.36 ^a
(DO) 17.76 ^{ab}	(S) 4.69 ^b
(<i>Chl-a</i>) 10.64 ^b	(TDS) 3.87 ^b
(pH) 2.61 ^c	(pH) 1.8 ^c
(T) 0.35 ^d	(T) 0.40 ^d