

Dear Editor,

thank you for your positive decision from today. We are happy that this manuscript approaches final publication, and respond to your suggestions as follows:

Abstract

- 'However, specific ecosystem responses to warming are understudied'. maybe better: specific soil responses to warming under different ecosystems are understudied

Answer: Changed accordingly.

- 'We used a natural geothermal soil warming gradient in an Icelandic spruce forest (0-17.5 °C warming intensity)' should be: We used a natural geothermal soil warming gradient (0-17.5 °C warming intensity) in an Icelandic spruce forest on Andosol

Answer: Changed accordingly.

Conclusion:

- 'Using a strong geothermal warming gradient, we highlighted the critical role of SOC for soil structure.' Should be: Using a strong geothermal warming gradient we investigated soil structural changes and their effect on different SOC pools.

Answer: We have reformulated this sentence in a rather different way and hope that you can agree to that as well: "...we found a clear link between SOC losses and soil structural changes".

- 'changes in the soil abiotic environment' - may be better: changes in the microbial habitat and possibly abiotic soil properties

Answer: Changed accordingly.

Sincerely Yours,

Christopher