Responses to Referee 3

Your valuable comments and suggestions are greatly appreciated. We revised the manuscript accordingly and our responses are indicated below. The revised sentence and equation are in red color.

Comment 1: P 5024: I don't think that the author need to mention the numbers of the C parameters because different authors report different numbers.

<u>Response</u>: We revised the first sentence of the Introduction (Page 5024 Lines 24–25) as follows: "Forests contain much carbon (C) in vegetation and soils, and play an important role in the global C cycle (Dixon et al., 1994; Pan et al., 2011)."

Comment 2: P 5028, line 14: Fine roots : foliage ratio 0.0016 Stand age+0.0012 ($r^2 = 0.67$). The equation is not clear.

<u>Response</u>: We clarified and corrected the equation as follows: "Fine roots / Foliage = $0.0016 \times \text{Stand}$ age + 0.1012 (r² = 0.67)"

Comment 3: P 5035, L23: delete "In summary," **Response:** Unnecessary wording "In summary," was deleted.