

## ***Interactive comment on “Response of water use efficiency to summer drought in boreal Scots pine forests in Finland” by Yao Gao et al.***

**Yao Gao et al.**

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General comments:

This paper deals with an important issue relating the water and carbon cycles on the ecosystem level. The authors used two long-term datasets and derived interesting results about water use efficiency.

The introduction is good, explaining well the problem and citing many recent references. The methodology describes well the sites characteristics and the methods used.

Finally, the text is well written and the quality of figures is good.

Specific comments:

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Abstract Lines 16-17: It would be better to have a sentence or two explaining how EWUE and IWUE were defined, since different definitions might be used such as NEE/ET for EWUE.

Authors response (AR): The explanations of how EWUE and IWUE were defined have been added.

Line 74: IWUE is mentioned but not defined. It is defined later in the text, but it helps the reader to understand of is being described at this point.

AR: The definition of IWUE has been given at this point in the text.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/bg-2016-198/bg-2016-198-AC1-supplement.pdf>

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., doi:10.5194/bg-2016-198, 2016.

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