

After reviewing the revised manuscript, I feel the authors have sufficiently addressed the issues I raised in the initial review. I applaud the thoroughness of the revision that the authors conducted in response to both reviewers' responses.

Minor issues:

Page 1, Line 2: Recently, lichens and bryophytes have also been shown

Page 1, Line 14: I am unsure of what you mean by "online flux measurements"

Page 2, line 7: In addition to photosynthetic carbon uptake,

Page 14, line 13: Your explanation claiming that cyanobacteria and algae contribute small amounts to overall global carbon uptake needs a citation. Possibly refer to *Darrouzet-Nardi, A., Reed, S.C., Grote, E.E., Belnap, J. (2015) Observations of net soil exchange of CO₂ in a dryland show experimental warming increases carbon losses in biocrust soils. Biogeochemistry. 126:363-378*