

***Interactive comment on “Variation of key elements in soils and plant tissues in subalpine forests of the northern Rocky Mountains, USA” by David P. Pompeani et al.***

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Thank you for considering our manuscript for publication in Biogeosciences. We have modified the manuscript to address the comments of the reviewers, and it is now greatly improved. Specifically, we modified the title and added information about the regional climate and site variables (i.e., slope and aspect) requested by one reviewer regarding the sampling sites. Additionally, we have more clearly identified the focus of the study by clarifying the major shortcomings in the literature that we address in the study. We added an additional table (i.e. Table 2) containing the principal component loadings to simplify the discussion.

C1

To assist you in following changes, we have provided a detailed account below with the original reviewer comments and our response to each comment in italics (see attached pdf). We wish to thank the reviewer for taking the time to improve our manuscript.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/bg-2018-443/bg-2018-443-AC1-supplement.pdf>

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2018-443>, 2018.

C2