

Review of MS BG-2021-126

By Russell Anderson

Specific comments

1. The amended title is now ambiguous. It could be read as being about separating soil CO₂ effluxes (both autotrophic and heterotrophic) from net soil carbon balance. Even though that would not make much sense, you should remove the ambiguity, perhaps by rewording it as 'Net soil carbon balance in afforested peatlands and separating autotrophic and heterotrophic soil CO₂ effluxes'.
2. Lines 438-439. You state 'In the UK forest plantations on deep peat usually end in clear felling of the site and restoration of the peat.' In fact it is still more common for UK forests on deep peat to be restocked for a further forestry rotation than for the sites to be restored to open peatland. This could be corrected simply by changing 'usually' to 'sometimes'.