

## ***Interactive comment on “Effects of rodent-induced land degradation on ecosystem carbon fluxes in alpine meadow in the Qinghai–Tibet Plateau, China” by F. Peng et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

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This paper analyze the effects of rodent-induced land degradation on ecosystem carbon fluxes in alpine meadow. This manuscript need to be improved before to be published. The discussion are poor and the statements are not Always supported by data.

The first part of the introduction is boring to read, there are in my opinion too many %. The second goal of the work is not clear. Page 3005, line 17 There are two ,, Page 3006 line 14 Delete the coma after E Page 3006 line 24 Add a reference regard soil taxonomy. Page 3007 line 10 change plan with plant Page 3007 change C fluxes with CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes Page 3008 use SOC instead of soil organic C Page 3007 I suggest to reduce the paragraph 2.2.2 using the literature of the main analysis and avoiding to describe the analysis again. Page 3008 “The average soil temperature was  $10.02 \pm 1.70$ ,  
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$9.64 \pm 2.81$ ,  $12.33 \pm 4.02$ ,  $11.0 \pm 2.78$ ,  $12.40 \pm 3.95$  °C from D1 to D6” This information is not necessary.

Paragraph 3.2 . Use always SOC instead of Soil organic carbon In the discussion, In my opinion you don't have only support with your data previous findings of other researches, (lines 6 and 21 “support the above findings”) but explain in the discussion the novelty of your results. Discussion : The first paragraph is not clear. Paragraph 4.2 In order to discuss in detail the soil respiration you have to consider the microbial activity. Page 3013 , change Soil organic carbon with SOC Check all correlation equations. In the text there is written “Root biomass only positively correlated with ER (Fig. 3d)” In this case the R<sup>2</sup> is only 0.13 The conclusion are not in line with goals of the work.

English should be improved.

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Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 6, 3003, 2014.