

Biogeosciences Discuss., referee comment RC2
<https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2021-263-RC2>, 2022
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Comment on bg-2021-263

Anonymous Referee #2

Referee comment on "Changing sub-Arctic tundra vegetation upon permafrost degradation: impact on foliar mineral element cycling" by Elisabeth Mauclet et al.,
Biogeosciences Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2021-263-RC2>, 2022

The article presents a succinct look at mineral element fluctuations for vegetation and soil litter in two contrasting permafrost-affected sites. One site was a shrub-dominated permafrost warming site and the other a natural thermokarst site actively experiencing permafrost degradation. The article presents clear findings that have significant importance for tracking landscape scale changes to vegetation as a result of controlled warming simulations.

Line items:

Sesction 1.3: State the background concentrations of the plastic cap used to affix the powder samples to. Was 1 cm chosen because of the x-ray penetration depth for the sample matrix?

Figure 2: It would be helpful in the caption to state how many samples these results stem from (n =....)

Conclusions: Suggest reformulating the last paragraph to talk about future work first and then establish the link between this current work and how it fits into broader research.