Interactive comment on “Scaling net ecosystem production and net biome production over a heterogeneous region in the western United States” by D. P. Turner et al.

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Response to Reviewers

Reviewer 1. No response needed.

Reviewer 2. It is a good point that the strength of other anthropogenically generated greenhouse gases such as N2O can be significant relative to CO2. However, these gases are not treated in our simulations, so were not included here.

Reichstein et al. (2007) found that interannual variation in NEP at flux towers was more related to interannual variation in GPP and water availability that to interannual variation in ecosystem respiration. Our simulation results focus on NPP rather than GPP, but
showed a similar pattern. This point will be added to our discussion of interannual variation. We do not discuss GPP separately because we have very limited validation data for GPP. Reichstein et al. (2007) also make the point that we must continue to challenge, and ultimately improve, ecosystem models with observations like eddy covariance flux measurements. This supports the point we made at the end of the second paragraph in the Interannual variation section (3.2), and the reference will now be cited there.

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