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Executive Editor
Journal of Ecology

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Dear Editor,

Please consider the manuscript entitled “The fate and transit time of carbon in a tropical forest” for publication in the Journal of Ecology.

We provide here, for the first time, an estimation of the fate of carbon after fixation and the time it takes for this carbon to return to the atmosphere (transit time distribution) using a tropical forest as a model case. These are new concepts that help to 1) reconcile previous work on the residence time of carbon in forests; 2) to provide a new perspective to better understand and interpret the concept of carbon use efficiency; and 3) to infer whether increased productivity by CO₂ fertilization has consequences for climate change mitigation at relevant timescales. Therefore, we believe this manuscript may be of interest to a broad audience of ecosystem scientists and ecosystem managers interested in carbon sequestration.

We hope you find the manuscript suitable for publication in Ecology Letters.

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Sierra, PhD
On behalf of all authors

