

## ***Interactive comment on “Effects of vegetation change on evapotranspiration in a semiarid shrubland of the Loess Plateau, China” by T. T. Gong et al.***

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Both reviewers indicate that the conclusions of this paper appear counterintuitive, and in contradiction with common knowledge. This does not invalidate the conclusions of the study, but signifies that more analyses and discussions are needed. As reviewer 1 suggests, the authors may have not considered the full range of controls on ET, limiting themselves to a few variables. I would therefore recommend extending the analysis to consider a larger variety of factors, including monthly temperature. Moreover, as both reviewers suggest, more discussion on the processes that may have led to the results of this study are needed.

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