

## **Response to the comments of Anonymous Referee #1**

We would like to thank the reviewer once again for their time and for providing renewed feedback. We greatly appreciate the suggested changes and have implemented them as requested. We hope that the revised manuscript now meets the standards for publication in SOIL. The specific changes are detailed below.

1) L15-16: To me, it's redundant to include the negative before the number since you're saying "losses of", but others may have different opinions.

Thank you for this comment, we removed the negative on these lines.

2) L17: awkward wording "decomposition of harder decomposable SOM"

We changed the wording to "decomposition of more complex SOM".

3) L64: remove "thus as follows"

Removed as requested.

4) L277: reword to "enabling the assessment of"

We reworded this accordingly.

5) L304: reword to "phenol concentrations also"

We changed the word order as requested.

6) L305: "indicating" instead of "pointing to"

Changed as requested.

7) L355: "declined more" instead of "declined stronger"

Changed the wording as requested.