

We sincerely thank the reviewers, the topic editor, and the editorial support team for the time and effort dedicated to evaluating this extensive manuscript.

In the revised version, we have addressed all remaining points raised. Specifically, we increased the figure font sizes, corrected the typo in the MPa unit, modified the caption of Figure 4, and added further details on the handling of patches in PHOREAU.

Regarding the cube root in Equation (3), we note that this formulation originates from the original ForCEEPS presentation and validation study. The model was calibrated and validated using this approach, which does indeed penalizes trees with strong reducers more than would be the case if a $\frac{1}{4}$ power formulation were used.