

Manuscript ID: essd-2025-475

Title: 1 km annual forest cover and plant functional type dataset for China from 1981 to 2023

Dear Editor:

On behalf of my co-authors, we sincerely thank you for accepting our manuscript entitled “1 km annual forest cover and plant functional type dataset for China from 1981 to 2023” (essd-2025-475) for publication in *Earth System Science Data*. We greatly appreciate the time and effort you and the reviewers have dedicated to refining our study.

In accordance with the journal’s production guidelines, we have uploaded the final version of the manuscript. We herewith certify that the scientific content remains consistent with the version accepted by you.

However, to ensure full compliance with the publisher’s policies and to improve the final presentation, we have made the following adjustments in this final version:

1. Regarding figure S8: Google Maps/Earth/Street View images should always be exported with the copyright statement visible as embedded in the snippet. The rules are don’t modify the attribution, don’t separate the attribution, and don’t give us all the credit. If you adapted from Google Maps, the copyright of the underlying map material must still be provided and visible in the map. Furthermore, Google allows to give the attribution (copyright) close to the map, if it was not possible to keep the embedded copyright statement within the map. Then, you need to ensure that the caption uses the identical copyright statement, here "Imagery © 2025 NASA, Map data © 2025 Google".

Response: We have updated the captions for Figure S8 and Figure S9 to strictly comply with the map provider's policy. The specific attribution (Imagery © 2025 NASA, Map data © 2025 Google) has been added to the captions.

2. Figures S4, S5, S6, S9, S10, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 may contain a territory that is disputed according to the United Nations. If and when the manuscript is accepted for final revised publication, you will be asked to choose one of the following options: (a) you could remove the disputed territory from

the maps and submit new figures files, or (b) we could add a statement that some figures contain disputed territories.

Response: Regarding the maps that may contain disputed territories according to United Nations standards, we select Option (b).

In addition to the requested changes, we have made the following adjustments:

3. Dataset DOI Update: We have updated the dataset documentation (README) in the Zenodo repository to ensure it aligns with the final manuscript. Consequently, a new DOI has been assigned: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18448036> (Liu et al., 2026). This updated DOI has been incorporated into the Abstract, Data availability section, and Reference list.
4. Visual Optimization (Figures 3 & 4): We adjusted the layout of numeric labels and percentages in the pie charts (Figure 3 and Figure 4) to improve readability and avoid text overlap. Please note that no underlying data values were altered; this was strictly a visual adjustment.
5. Standardization of Units (Figures 7–9): We revised the unit formatting in Figures 7–9 to strictly adhere to the ESSD submission guidelines. All units have been converted to the negative exponent format (e.g., changing kg C/m^2 to kg C m^{-2}).

We look forward to the production process.

Best regards,

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