

Figure S1. Example of flow cytometry output used for estimating the fraction of metabolically active and dormant cells in soil. The purple dots in the upper-right panel are cells that were labeled with both DAPI and CTC and therefore were counted as active cells. The blue dots in the lower-right panel were cells that were labeled with DAPI but not with CTC were therefore counted as dormant cells. Considering that CTC needs to be reduced to the fluorophore CTC-formazan to emit a signal and be detected, and that we only counted cells that had similar light scattering characteristics to the *Escherichia coli* used as positive control, we assumed that the red dots in the upper-left panel were also active cells that may have needed more time to incorporate DAPI.