

Interactive comment on “Deriving a country-wide soils dataset from the Soil Landscapes of Canada (SLC) database for use in Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) Simulations” by M. R. C. Cordeiro et al.

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Authors' reply to interactive comment posted by Anonymous Referee #2 regarding the ESSD Discussion paper “Deriving a country-wide soils dataset from the Soil Landscapes of Canada (SLC) database for use in Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) Simulations” (essd-2017-66).

General Comments

Reviewer: This manuscript is proposing a great solution to many SWAT users around

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the World by following the Canadian example where a national soil database is available of from the FAO Harmonized World Soil Database elsewhere. The creation of the Canadian Soil SWAT database is very well described in much useful details for future users of this dataset, but also for those who would like to replicate the process in another country. This is a very valuable work and publication that will allow SWAT users in Canada to save valuable time and improve the calibration of their model. As a SWAT user, not a soil scientist, I find therefore this work very useful and valuable for publication of course for future Canadian users, but also for those willing to do similar work in other countries. I wish that more scientists around the world would make available such effort to save everybody a lot of time in constructing SWAT Soil database.

Authors: The authors thank the reviewer for the comments. This effort was actually motivated by past experience with SWAT in Canada and by the lack of such dataset in that country. It is our hope that the dataset presented in this manuscript will save resources and promote hydrological simulations using SWAT in Canada. The authors also expect that the description provided in the manuscript will support similar undertakings elsewhere.

Specific Comments:

Reviewer: My main specific comment were joining those from the previous referee on the discussion of usefulness beyond Canadian users. I would therefore still recommend to better review and report on similar efforts elsewhere. Otherwise, I find the paper ready for publication.

Authors: Efforts similar to this one have been discussed in the revised manuscript.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2017-66>, 2017.

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