Topical editor comments to manuscript essd-2020-149 by Gupta et al. (Version of 14th/15th January 2021)

Comments are referring to the manuscript version containing the tracked changes

P5L14-P6L1: Thank you for explaining the location accuracy now. However, please put the method with which accuracy classes were assigned to the data. If the classes always translate directly to the method, like 100-500 m from jpg-digitised maps, you could simply have a table with the seven classes. If not, then it should be attached to the data somewhere.

P6L13: Number of outliers is still "about 700". Can you please be precise here?

Tables 2a and 2b. Please make clear which data table you are referring to with list of column headers. For example you can't find the Ksat method in this table (because it belongs to a different one that's only on Zenodo) which is confusing. You could also add the Zenodo Readme to the paper as an appendix as well to be complete.

P9 Table 4: Surely the Ksat methods that go beyond the classification by Rahmati et al. can be grouped somehow, by extending the classification with the appropriate overarching measurement principles and sort the additional methods accordingly? Please revise Table 4.

P11L24: Please spell the methods correctly.

ANOVA post-hoc test: please correct the spelling of Tukey's HSD in all occurrences in the manuscript.

Remarks to the database on Zenodo:

Please revise the presentation of the database on Zenodo. It is still not very intuitive and it would be a shame if that hinders wide use of the data.

- Data files: We noticed quite some redundancy in the data files, especially regarding site_key, coordinates, source_db. It's not really clear why the redundancy is there when you would have the common ID to link the tables. Some tables could even be combined.
- Readme:
    a. Please make the readme as intuitive as possible. For example if I would want to find information about the various data files it is best if I find the list of the files on Zenodo at the beginning, explaining what I can expect to find in them.
    b. Please also make the headers of the individual tables more descriptive of the content, not only the "Description and units of the variables listed in the database" and then the file name that the user needs to look up below first.
    c. Table 4: Remove the confidence degree from the database if it is not used anymore.
    d. References: Why are the references to the dataset not on the Zenodo References list?
    e. 3.2 files "mentioned" in Zenodo? You should have a list with descriptions of **all** the files that you put on Zenodo as part of the data base. Also please move the complete list further up (see a)).
    f. 3.2: what are associated list of files?? Please rephrase to be more descriptive.
- There are at least two data files on Zenodo that are neither mentioned in the Readme nor the paper. Please remove them or explain what they contain and why they are there.

In general, please spend some more time making the Zenodo data publication as clear and understandable as possible. This will most likely influence how much the data base will be used later on and it would be a shame if it couldn't reach its potential because the presentation is confusing.