

## ***Interactive comment on “Dataset of Georeferenced Dams in South America (DDSA)” by Bolivar Eduardo Paredes-Beltran et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

Received and published: 23 September 2020

This manuscript entitled “Dataset of Georeferenced Dams in South America (DDSA)” clearly explains the importance of a database of georeferenced dams in South America, along with other variables that describe each local dam scenario. Thus, the purpose of the proposed work is clear and important in order to establish a base line of information for other studies related to dams and reservoirs. I think the idea and work are in concordance with the journal’s and I encourage the authors to modify the text and also include guidelines for future database modifications (i.e. updates). I recommend this article for publication upon the following major revisions:

The relevance of the proposed database for future studies will be directly linked with latest update. Thus, a mechanism for complementing the information should be provided. ¿What should other researchers do in order to update the data on a given

C1

region?

The Data description section is divided in three subsections: 2.1. Study Area. 2.2. Data Sources, and 2.3. Data Processing. Subsections 2.2 and 2.3 repeat a significant portion of the information. I would suggest to the authors to fusion these two into a single subsection “Data sources and assessments methods” maintaining the 7 groups originally indicated in subsection 2.2 and including within each of them the methods used for the respective data assessment.

Line 25. Mentions that dams are, in many cases, controversial due to “some associated negative impacts. . .” and the following sentence indicates that “these structures cause major impacts and changes wherever these are implemented”- this is ambiguous. Please refer to the impacts complementing line 40 in which a list of them is considered and complement it with other topics such as, morphology, water quality and habitat. Please classify them as acute and chronic impacts (time related impacts) since it will add value to the continuous monitoring efforts.

Line 65. Please explain which “fields” the authors are referring to.

Line 70 and 75 mention the Amazon, Parana-Rio de la Plata, and the Orinoco rivers as the largest systems in the region. Please revise to consider mentioning these fluvial systems only once when describing the study area.

Line 85 refers to “El Niño” however there is no mention to “La Niña” that also brings changes to the precipitation patterns and it should be considered.

Line 100 cites Table 1 regarding the government’s available information. Please include the respective links to the information. This is important in order to replicate efforts in the future.

---

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2020-188, 2020.

C2