

# Review of: "Ancient Trails of the Surigao Gold District: A Preliminary Baseline Predictive Model"

Courba Said

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## ***Idea 1: Lack of a Clearly Defined Problem Statement***

The article lacks a well-defined problem statement regarding the Jabonga-Kitcharao and Placer up to Balangay sites. The absence of a specific research question makes it challenging for readers to grasp the purpose and context of the study.

Development: A well-defined problem statement is crucial to guide research. It should explain why these specific sites were chosen and what the study aims to uncover. This would help readers contextualize the presented information.

## ***Idea 2: Unsatisfactory Image Quality***

The images used in the article are of poor quality, resulting in inconclusive results.

The images have not undergone proper processing, neither radiometric nor atmospheric correction.

The presence of clouds in several images figure's (5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12) indicates a lack of processing.

Development: It is critical to use high-quality images, such as those from satellites like Landsat Oli-8, ASTER, or Sentinel, to ensure data reliability. Furthermore, proper processing, including radiometric and atmospheric correction, is necessary to eliminate artifacts and inaccuracies.

## ***Idea 3: Inappropriate Scale and Lack of Details***

The scale used in the article does not provide sufficient detail about the sites and the path leading to the gold-bearing sites.

A more appropriate scale and more detailed maps would greatly enhance the reader's understanding.

Development: The scale at which geographic data is presented plays a crucial role in conveying information effectively. In this case, a more suitable scale and more detailed maps should have been employed to offer a clearer picture of the sites and their surroundings. Providing additional context through maps and visuals would have been highly beneficial for readers.

## ***Idea 4: Difficulty in Categorization***

As a reviewer, there is difficulty in determining the precise disciplinary category in which this work should be classified, whether it's in geology, geography, or environmental sciences.

Clarification of the research focus and objectives is essential for proper categorization.

Development: To ensure that the work can be appropriately categorized within a specific discipline, the author should provide a clearer and more explicit statement of the research focus and objectives. This will assist both reviewers and readers in understanding the context and relevance of the study within a particular field.

#### ***Idea 5: The Relevance of the Title***

The title, "Ancient Trails of the Surigao Gold District: A Preliminary Baseline Predictive Model," is fitting for this type of exploratory work.

However, the content of the article needs to align with the ambitious title.

Development: While the title sets a promising tone, it's crucial that the content of the article lives up to this ambition. The article should provide a foundation for the predictive model and establish a clear link between the historical trails and the predictive modeling approach.

In summary, these ideas highlight the key issues in the article, including the lack of a well-defined problem statement, the subpar quality of images, the need for an appropriate scale and more details, the importance of aligning the content with the title's ambition, and the challenge of categorization. Addressing these concerns will greatly enhance the quality and relevance of the work in the chosen field, whether it's geology, geography, or environmental sciences.

In conclusion, I want to express my sincere intention to provide constructive feedback to enhance the quality of your paper. My comments were aimed at refining your work and creating content that would captivate and engage readers effectively. Your research has the potential to offer valuable insights, and my input was meant to help you realize that potential to the fullest extent. Thank you for your understanding and dedication to producing a compelling and informative piece of work.