Review of: "Assessment of soil erosion in the Cesar watershed, an initial step toward the restoration of the Cesar River"

Jorge Mongil-Manso[1]

1 Universidad Católica de Ávila

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper aims to determine soil erosion in a watershed using a modified RUSLE model. I find the work interesting and useful, and may be of interest to scientists and technicians working on this subject, especially for researchers working on erosion processes in basins. The paper falls within the scope of the Qeios journal. It has a sufficient impact and it represents an advance in the subject matter.

I think that the content of the manuscript is scientifically correct, with a good bibliographic review, an adequate methodology, good results and discussion, and conclusions based on the results and that respond to the stated aims.

In more detail I would like to make the following comments:

1) The abstract lacks information on the main findings and conclusions of the study. Please improve the abstract.

2) Keywords should not appear in the title of the paper, in order to facilitate the functioning of search engines. Therefore, authors should replace "erosion" with another keyword.

3) You may wish to consider a recent publication on the use of RUSLE and GIS in combination:

Aytaş, I.; Öztürk, A.; Özcan, A.U.; Tuttu, G.; Gülçin, D.; Mongil-Manso, J.; Rincón, V.; Velázquez, J.; 2023. Simulating with a combination of RUSLE GIS and sediment delivery ratio for soil restoration. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, 195: 719. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10661-023-11321-7

4) The last paragraphs of the Introduction section (The Magdalena River is a larger…/ This study presents…) should not be placed in this section but should be included in Material and Methods.

5) At the end of the Introduction, the objective of the paper is not clearly presented.

6) In the Study Area section no information is given on the climates and soils of the study area. Please add detailed information on these topics, as they have an important influence on the hydrological and erosive processes.

7) Table I: Please change “Rusles” to “Rusle”

8) Most of the equations are poorly written. Please check them.