Review of: "A Review of the Drawdown Zone in African Reservoirs: Current Knowledge, Understudied Areas and Recommendations for Future Research"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

As a reviewer, here are four detailed suggestions to enhance the text on drawdown zones in African reservoirs:

1. Clarify Research Methodology:
- Provide a more detailed description of the search strategy used to identify relevant studies on drawdown zones in African reservoirs. Specify the keywords, databases, and inclusion/exclusion criteria employed to ensure a comprehensive and systematic literature review.
- Consider conducting a systematic review or meta-analysis to synthesize existing knowledge on drawdown zones, providing a more robust and evidence-based analysis of the topic.

2. Enhance Data Presentation:
- Include more visual aids such as maps, diagrams, or tables to illustrate the spatial distribution of drawdown zones in African reservoirs. Visual representations can enhance the understanding of complex ecological concepts and facilitate data interpretation for readers.
- Utilize GIS (Geographic Information System) tools to map drawdown zones and their ecological characteristics, offering a spatial perspective on the distribution and variability of these important habitats.

3. Expand Discussion on Ecological Impacts:
- Elaborate on the ecological impacts of drawdown zones on biodiversity, habitat connectivity, and ecosystem services in African reservoirs. Discuss how changes in water levels influence species composition, nutrient cycling, and food web dynamics within drawdown zones.
- Consider integrating case studies or empirical data to support the discussion on the ecological significance of drawdown zones, highlighting specific examples of how these areas contribute to the overall resilience and functioning of freshwater ecosystems.

4. Address Knowledge Gaps and Future Directions:
- Identify key knowledge gaps or unanswered questions related to drawdown zones in African reservoirs and propose specific research directions to address these gaps. Suggest potential research methodologies, experimental approaches, or interdisciplinary collaborations to advance understanding in this field.
- Emphasize the importance of long-term monitoring programs or interdisciplinary studies to assess the cumulative

effects of human activities, climate change, and land use on drawdown zones and their associated biodiversity.

By incorporating these suggestions, the text on drawdown zones in African reservoirs can be strengthened in terms of research methodology, data presentation, ecological discussions, and future research directions.