

Review of: "New Method to Identify Potential Illegal Water Use Location by Using Remote Sensing and Neural Networks in Laguna de Aculeo, Chile"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I would like to congratulate the authors for their great work! The power of this article is that it applies classical remote sensing approaches to a current, real-life problem. Meanwhile, the lack is the practical application of the information in maintaining or improving the well-being of the local population.

I recommend considering the following aspects:

- using novel classification techniques and comparing the outputs of different classifications (U-Net, RF, SVM....). Nowadays, these clustering algorithms are already freely available in ArcGIS Pro.
- Getting to a deeper level in the practical application, even in a governmental framework. Here, the authors should consider how these RS-based pieces of information can improve more complex hydrological models and integrated water management.
- Another approach that is worth consideration and may improve the article is to consider how to use RS information to distribute water in order to maximize yields. I recommend checking the so-called ecological triage approach.
- https://www.researchgate.net/publication/362682780_The_Dammed_and_the_Saved_a_Conservation_Triage_Framework_for_Wetlands_under_Climate_Change_in_the_Murray-Darling_Basin_Australia?_tp=eyJjb250ZXh0Ijp7ImZpcnN0UGFnZSI6Il9kaXJlY3QiLCJwYWdlIjoieX2RpcmVjdCJ9fQ

Anyway, the topic of the research is very important in the aridifying process over the Earth and contains valuable insights and high potential in various ways to continue!

I wish you good luck with this topic!

Z.