

Interactive comment on “Framework to prioritize watersheds for diffuse pollution management in Korea: application of multicriteria analysis using the Delphi method” by G. Lee et al.

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Dear Sirs, “The paper subject is interesting, as for important actual watersheds water pollution management situations for all South Korea, and corresponds to the NHES journal. As evident local errors I felt that in page 9 “3 Conclusion” must be “4 Conclusion”. Also in page 8 the equation (9), “ $\delta\dot{I}\dot{S}\dot{D}2 = (\delta\dot{I}\dot{S}\dot{C}2/\delta\dot{I}\dot{S}\dot{C}1) \cdot (\delta\dot{I}\dot{R}\dot{t}2/\delta\dot{I}\dot{R}\dot{t}1) \cdot \delta\dot{I}\dot{S}\dot{D}2$ ”, is incoherent by including twice the $\delta\dot{I}\dot{S}\dot{D}2$, probably by error.

The paper is about selecting diffuse pollution watersheds that have effects on water of rivers, and the questions are indicated with an extensive bibliography, and that is intended to aid the programs of Ministry of Environment for 2009-2020 years to reduce

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diffuse pollutants effects. The paper presents shortly the risk based approach and as referee I can follow it only imprecisely. In 2.1 the procedure is envisaged as indicated in Figure 1, indicating that a modified Delphi method was used. In 2.3 the TOPSIS technique is indicated with its formulae, saying it could be used to assess potential risks. The use of Delphi survey in a special way is indicated in 3.2 with Figure 2. With indication for data in 3.3, in 3.4 it is indicated that general results were obtained, with two examples; from the block of results general trends were indicated in Figures 3 and 4, as maps for all South Korea, that include some 814 watersheds as indicated. In 4 Conclusion, page 9, the study of the paper is considered, indicating global results. They do not get “the current diffuse management policy” that could be attained for a further study. The consideration of the general problem in a resumed text, the extensive and long bibliography, and the very short indication of results seems adequate to indicate somehow the main lines to evaluate policies for improving the quality of water in rivers of Korea. The indicated methods and results could have been more intensively shown, to afford they use. But the paper does not inform on the water qualities considered, on the experts consulted using Delphi method, and on what was done with TOPSIS technique, and it does not precise the results of the studies and their possible use. Some more information on these achieved operations could be a sensible improvement.”

Best regards, J. Antón

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