

Interactive comment on “Numerical simulations of the impact of climate variability and change on semiarid watershed response in central New Mexico” by E. R. Vivoni et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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The paper by Vivoni et al is an excellent contribution to the literature on hydrological modeling of climate change. While I agree that the mean annual rainfall is underestimated by using just rainfall data from the lower elevations, I think the authors should also consider adding another cause of underestimation. It is widely known that unshielded raingages are affected by wind-induced catch deficit. In this area of New Mexico, the average catch deficit is about 10 percent when the average wind speed of about 8 mph is considered. This further increases the underestimation of the total basin rainfall and should be considered in the hydrological modeling. I think the manuscript should be accepted subject to the authors considering this additional cause of precipitation data inaccuracy.

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