

***Interactive comment on “Top-down analysis of  
collated streamflow data from heterogeneous  
catchments leads to underestimation of land  
cover influence” by A. I. J. M. van Dijk et al.***

**R. Merz (Editor)**

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Dear authors, there are three interesting reviews of your paper. Each review raises different points and the reviews vary significantly in their assessment of the quality, from minor revisions to rejection. I see some potential for publication but I also clearly see the objections of the reviewers. I expect a sound point by point response to the review comments particular focusing on what you can show (or better prove) with your model and data. You should clearly argue in which way you deal with ecohydrology, e.g. by proving that it is of minor importance in your catchments (scale) or by including

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an ecohydrological model, as proposed by reviewer 3. At least two reviewers stated that the authors do not reconcile the land cover paradox. Hence you should carefully rethink which results can be supported by your data and maybe tone your land cover paradox down. Best regards Ralf Merz

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