

## Major Comments

A separate discussion section is now included in the manuscript. However, the authors have unnecessarily complicated the section by adding subsections and being lengthy. I will try to summarize this section since most of the text has been repeated throughout the manuscript. For example, the text on Line 719-720 should be in the results sections since it describes what is being seeing in Figure 8. I assume this happen when the authors just move the exact same text from the results sections, instead of creating a new discussion section from they findings interpretation. Furthermore, the discussion section should not present any new figures like Figure 10, as this is done in the results section. Similarly, I will make the limitation subsection its own section (instead of a subsection within the discussion) since it has enough length and has been drafted properly. Thus, I urge the authors to review and rewrite the discussion section to be efficient.

While the author improves the introduction section, there are still some portions that read choppy, mainly because the authors have small paragraphs (2-3 sentences) with their own topic but failed to connect them properly (L92-112). Thus, I ask the authors to revise the later part of the introduction.

Overall, most of my comments/questions from the revised version were answer by referencing Slater's 2015 workflow. Thus, meaning that my question could be answer in that publication. This represents that the authors need to include more information about Slater's work in this manuscript so the reader does not have to be back and forward between this manuscript and Slater.

## Minor Comments

- L43: combine that small paragraph (two sentences) with the previous one at L36.
- L776: The section index should be 4.2 and not 4.3.
- L855-860: If you are focusing in the amount of stream gauges within the east and west region of CONUS do not starting comparing with Alaska and Hawaii since they are not part of CONUS. If you do, then you need to talk about Puerto Rico and American Samoa (both US territories).
- Figure 1: Please add a description of the arrow and red circle on the figure caption.