

We sincerely thank the editorial team for their diligence in handling our paper. We now labelled the preprint as requested by the editor and uploaded the individual paper files. The editor comment is in black and our response is in blue below.

### **Editor comment**

Thank the authors for addressing the referees and my remaining comments. Your manuscript is accepted in principle, but please address one formatting issue from the system notifications: "Your reference list includes works "in review". Such works can be cited upon submission if being available to the reviewers. They should not be cited in the final, accepted manuscript, unless published, accepted for publication, or available as preprint with a DOI."

The following reference is a preprint with a DOI, which should be labelled as "preprint" instead of "in review". Please see the example in the GMD author guide for how to cite preprints:

<https://www.geoscientific-model-development.net/submission.html#references>

(Jung, M., Koirala, S., Weber, U., Ichii, K., Gans, F., Gustau-Camps-Valls, Papale, D., Schwalm, C., Tramontana, G., and Reichstein, M.: The FLUXCOM ensemble of global land-atmosphere energy fluxes, arXiv [preprint], arXiv:1812.04951, 11 December 2018.)

Busschaert, L., Bechtold, M., Modanesi, S., Massari, C., Raes, D., Kumar, S., and De Lannoy, G.: On the gap between crop and land surface models: comparing irrigation and other land surface estimates from AquaCrop and Noah-MP over the Po Valley, HESS, <https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-2025-2550>, in review, 2025b.

### **Author answer**

The reference has been updated accordingly to:

[Busschaert, L., Bechtold, M., Modanesi, S., Massari, C., Raes, D., Kumar, S. V., and De Lannoy, G. J. M.: On the gap between crop and land surface models: comparing irrigation and other land surface estimates from AquaCrop and Noah-MP over the Po Valley, EGU sphere \[preprint\], https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-2025-2550, 2025b.](https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-2025-2550)