Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

Room 2E78 Agricultural Building

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Editor in-Chief

Wetlands Ecology and Management

October 2, 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am happy to submit an original research article titled “Valuing Ecosystem Services for Agricultural Wetlands: A systematic review and meta-analysis” for publication in the Wetlands Ecology and Management Journal. The authors of this manuscript, Asare Eric, Mantyka-Pringle Chrystal, Anderson Eric, Belcher Kenneth and Clark Robert, have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission for publication.

Our manuscript evaluates, using a meta-analysis, a suite of biophysical and socioeconomic factors that potentially influence the value of ecosystem services provided by wetlands (provisioning and regulating) on agricultural landscapes. The results of this analysis suggested that per capita income, peer-reviewed journal publications, agricultural total factor productivity and population density had significant effect on provisioning values from wetlands, while agricultural total factor productivity, income level and wetland area had significant effects on regulating wetland ecosystem values. Also, we showed that meta-regression transfers errors were significantly lower than mean-value transfer errors from our estimated models.

The world has lost more than 50 percent of its original wetland area at a greater rate than many of the ecosystems in the world. The international wetland research community and policy makers need to understand the drivers of wetland values, on agricultural landscapes in different regions. Also, policy makers could use our estimated wetland regression value functions to inform approaches to estimate wetland values on agricultural landscapes, which could provide the foundation for benefit cost analyses of land use policies and other initiatives to conserve wetlands and wetland function.

We confirm that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not under consideration by another journal. We have no conflict of interest to disclose. If you feel that the manuscript is appropriate for your journal, we suggest the following reviewers:

* 1. Spence Chris, email: chris.spence@canada.ca
  2. Minnes Sarah, email: sam880@mail.usask.ca

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Eric Asare, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow,

University of Saskatchewan.