Comment on essd-2021-277
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Community comment on "Improving intelligent dasymetric mapping population density estimates at 30-meter resolution for the conterminous United States by excluding uninhabited areas" by Jeremy Baynes et al., Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2021-277-CC1, 2022

The paper describes 30m resolution population density maps for the US. The resultant map is a product of disaggregating 2010 US Census block-level data using an NLCD and additional geospatial layers to identify uninhabited areas. The paper describes only EPA EnviroAtlas Dasymetric Population maps and does not mention other high-resolution population maps available for the entire conterminous US. For example, a 30m resolution population density maps for the conterminous US has been already created and it is available via the SocScape project (http://socscape.edu.pl, see paper for further information https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0198971516301983). The 2010 map available via the SocScape project is a product of disaggregating block-level population data using NLCD2011 and land use map for further identification of uninhabited areas (Theobald 2014) and uses a similar approach to dasymetric modeling (Mennis and Hultgren, 2006).

Authors should describe other high-resolution maps available for the US and discuss how their product advances the map that already exists (available via the SocScape project).