

Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., referee comment RC1
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Comment on nhess-2022-211

Anonymous Referee #1

Referee comment on "Impact of topography on in situ soil wetness measurements for regional landslide early warning – a case study from the Swiss Alpine Foreland" by Adrian Wicki et al., Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss.,
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The manuscript deals with an interesting case study about the effect of topography on soil wetness measurements collected in situ for early-warning porpoises. The paper is well structured. The obtained results are sufficiently discussed. Even if dealing with a potentially very interesting topic and its general good writing, in the opinion of this reviewer I recommend minor revision. There are only general comments/questions to the authors:

- The introduction part needs to be refined, by adding other specific references in a broader context of the international literature.
- The final conclusion to reflect the essential results of the paper is too thin. Please, try to expand this part to give a wide idea of what you learned from the paper, limitations and recommendations of this research should be highlighted.
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Authors should discuss also the geographic uncertainty of precipitation data, as both sites receive roughly the same precipitation amounts (but not exactly the same) even at different elevations.

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Regarding the flat monitoring site powered by a solar panel, are there any problems related to low temperatures and exposition?

- The data was transmitted via the mobile phone network every hour. My question regards the reception of the data. Did you use a specific internet channel for both sites?
- Try to add a sketch of the installed sensor instruments and a schematic representation of the monitoring stations.
- Do you think adding different piezometers regarding the rising of the groundwater table for both sites can add the same information in a landslide early warning?

