

***Interactive comment on “Designing a network of critical zone observatories to explore the living skin of the terrestrial Earth” by Susan L. Brantley et al.***

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At a recent Gordon Conference that gathered over a hundred members of the catchment science community, it was striking to see how the important the work done at CZO's has become to catchment science and the issues addressed about the sustainability of water resources and aquatic ecosystems. This importance is even more striking when thinking how many of the contributions from outside the US were from study areas that could fit in well with some further expansion of the CZO concept. Thus this paper, with a look to the future of networking CZO's is a very timely contribution.

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