

Interactive comment on “Forecasters priorities for improving probabilistic flood forecasts” by F. Wetterhall et al.

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1) Should I help focus attention on infeasible tasks?

All tasks (voted and suggested) have been feasible well within current research activities. Demanding increased skill beyond day 3 in a medium range flood forecasting system is fairly reasonable (nobody mentioned 3 decades or centuries) - so the issue did simply not arise. I still believe that it is imperative that the users, financiers and stakeholders of a system have an important voice (and choice!!) in determining the research agenda and other priorities.

IF they would have suggested infeasible tasks (in particular in this setting), then we would have to ask ourselves a number of questions such as: what is the motivation and

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need behind this demand? How can we address this need and motivation? Above all, we need to understand, where did our communication fail in adequately communicating our limitations.

2) Do I understand it well that there is no problem if a voted priority would not materialize?

Answered above

3) Should I be happy about current funding mechanisms and research agendas?

I don't know.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 10, 2215, 2013.

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