

Interactive comment on “Historic maps as a data source for socio-hydrology: a case study of the Lake Balaton wetland system, Hungary” by A. Zlinszky and G. Timár

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General comments The paper is very well structured and gives an overview of the topic of using historical information in hydrological analysis. This overview comes together with a very pertinent case study that is both illustrative of the concepts, and presenting interesting geographic research results. I strongly support its publication in HESS in its present form with some minor corrections.

Specific comments Although strongly supportive of the approach of the authors, I am a bit skeptical about the proposal of new “disciplines” and the identification of “history”

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in itself as a discipline. The latter is rather a mode of investigation within a discipline (e.g. the collection of historical information is still geographic/hydrological research), while I tend to think of “History” as a discipline when tackling research questions on the cause-effect relationships of human and other events. “Socio-hydrology” is merely a useful wording in order to focus attention on the interconnectedness of human and natural systems, and the consequent need to “broaden the toolbox”. The authors may want to add a line of comment on this in the introduction.

Technical corrections I would clearly distinguish between palaeo-hydrology and historical hydrology throughout the paper. Sometimes the two, initially distinguished domains are mixed, which may be confusing.

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