

Interactive comment on “The “Prediflood” database of historical floods in Catalonia (NE Iberian Peninsula) AD 1035–2013, and its potential applications in flood analysis” by M. Barriendos et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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General comments

- Historical data bases are a very important field to environmental studies. This is a great proposition and project for the scientific community. - But this document is more a technical paper showing first stages of a tool than a scientific text with specific questions.

Specific comments

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7941 - Link between 2d and 3th sections. Can we enlight the Prediflood context origin. Why the context is specially different from previous situations ? Does it show a new attitude from environmental public actors ?

7942/5-19 – Examples should be useful for each statement to explain the distinction with historian work, and specially the link between hydrology/hydraulic and "environmental history" new problematics.

7942/20-25 => 7943 / 1-8 – The presentation of data base structure (data plan, data tables) should be greatful to show computer answers to historian questions data processing.

7943/18-21 – We don't understand clarely the 3 groups distinction in relation with their nature, medium or contents. How data base documents are referenced ?

7944/6-11 - Example should be useful.

7944/19-26 => 7945/1-5 – The uncertainty (from space, from time) should be more taking in account. How the data base manage this (important) point ?

7945/12-13 – A flood event definition should be proposed in relation with spatial and time criteria crossing with phenomenological event types.

7946 – Concerning the 5 event classes, methodological choices should be take in account the stakes exposed and their evolution during the period. Thus, the same hydrometeorological event, at the same place, should be, for example, class in C2 in 1750 and C4 in 1900 because of increase of buildings, houses, roads, dikes, etc. How can we compared class of events without measure this aspect too ? Authors underline themself this methodological question without clarely methodological answer (7948/25 => 7949/2). It's a main point.

7947/1-5 – Same remarks about stakes. Their development contibute for a large part of risk increase.

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7947/14-15 – This affirmation should be strengthened in relation with space and time flood event definition (main point).

7949/3 . . . - Same remarks about stakes and their evolution. Socio-economical contexts and evolutions explain a large part of space and time documentary sources numbers and types.

7951/15-25 => 7952/1-9 – The rank should be more founded. Mains three criterias overlap.

7952/14-18 – Does the process applies for all the space scales ?

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 11, 7935, 2014.

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