

Reviewer's suggestions:

One reviewer (Univ. Liverpool) has added a file with all the improvements on grammar. The complete list has been used to improve the text.

Two reviewers have asked to include more sources. This has been done through the system of (S1), (S2). Most of the vital correspondence on strategic flooding had been added in a separate section at the end.

At the end of the 'Discussion' and the end of the Conclusion an extra short paragraph has been added with a link to the present situation of flooding in the SW Netherlands.

Finally two graphs have been added giving an overview of the two flood type events. Both graphs are a deepening of tables 1 and 2. Since the study area is so dynamic and has so often changed shape and size it is no use quantifying damage in absolute figures or %. It would take an extra paper to discuss the possible number casualties of each flood. Such information is scarce and using secondary sources such as chronicles would be again falling in the trap of over exaggeration.