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Hydrology and Earth System Sciences Discussions

Interactive comment on "Reframing hydrology education to solve coupled human and environmental problems" *by* E. G. King et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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This is a nice and well-written manuscript about the need to connect hydrology to societal needs in the education process. It follows nicely on other calls in the hydrological community to enhance the presence of the societal needs in hydrological investigation and education (e.g. Wagener et al., 2010, Sivapalan et al., 2012). The paper makes a very relevant point and presents some interesting examples. I have a few suggestions for improvement:

[1] It would be nice to connect to the wider discussion of this issue that is already happening in the hydrological sciences. The above mentioned references are just two examples that pick up on the same issue.

[2] It would be nice if the (positive) examples used in the manuscript would be a bit more

concrete in their representation (e.g. photographs) so that their value in enhancing hydrology education would become easier to grasp.

[3] It would be good if the reviewers put their work in the context of other contributions of this special issue, which make similar arguments for better connection of human and environmental systems in hydrology education.

[4] The manuscript presents a nice range of case study type examples. It would be nice if the authors could also think a bit more about the human aspect could be more present in hydrology education in general, e.g. in the textbooks we use or in the in-class activities where the opportunities are not as great as in a field course in Africa. How to motivate students in the middle of the US to get excited about issues of which only few will matter to their (often local) career?

References

Sivapalan, M., Savenije, H.H.G. and Bloeschl, G. 2012. Socio-hydrology: A new science of people and water. Hydrological Processes, 26(8), 1270–1276.

Wagener, T., Sivapalan, M., Troch, P. A., McGlynn, B. L., Harman, C. J., Gupta, H. V., Kumar, P., Rao, P. S. C., Basu, N. B. and Wilson, J. S.: The future of hydrology: An evolving science for a changing world. Water Resources Research, 46, W05301, doi:10.1029/2009WR008906, 2010.

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