

Interactive comment on “Flooded by jargon: how the interpretation of water-related terms differs between hydrology experts and the general audience” by Gemma J. Venhuizen et al.

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It seems important to bring this paper to the readership of HESS, since the average HESS reader may rarely be exposed to a technical communication research project presented by natural scientists or geo scientists. On the other hand, such setting has a drawback as some of the tech comm expertise from the social sciences and humanities is missing.

In particular the phenomenon on intermodality, switching between modes of communication channels, should be addressed as well as the various meanings of "jargon" - the authors are advised to consult any of the available technical / science communication

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textbooks. In a paper on ambiguity of terminology, the frame addressed (here "jargon") should also be tested for ambiguity. A short look at administrative efforts globally to transpose academic language (jargon?) into "plain language" would make a fine addition. Another round of discussion with the colleagues in science communication is encouraged.

The paper is written with care: it is clearly structured according to the IMRAD pattern; the flow of text is fine, the text is copy edited meticulously- there are no typographical errors. On the other hand, some terminology should be revised such as "hydrology-induced hazards." In addition more care should be given to labeling illustrations such as Fig 3 (the comment on the meaning of the star should not stay in the bodytext ... it should go into a legend for this figure).

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.hydrol-earth-syst-sci-discuss.net/hess-2018-297/hess-2018-297-RC2-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-2018-297>, 2018.

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