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Interactive comment on “Evaluating the effectiveness of flood damage mitigation measures by the application of Propensity Score Matching” by P. Hudson et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This is an excellently written paper that covers an important issue in making decisions on damage mitigation measures - the reliability of estimates of effectiveness. It clearly demonstrates the complexity of the calculations required to cope with the numerous variables and individual conditions of flooding events.

Although I am not qualified to inspect the veracity of the PSM calculations, the explanation is lucid enough to make a strong argument for the adoption of this technique for making future predictions about performance of DMMs. Improved accuracy in these will lead to better investment in measures and resultant greater savings in damage costs and disruption.

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However, the paper makes it clear that the complexity of conditions during floods still presents huge problems when making detailed predictions about performance of different types of DMM, based on comparative methods.

This is a subject that will require more data to be collected and calculations carried out.

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 2, 681, 2014.

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2, C541–C542, 2014

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