

Interactive comment on “GLOFs in the WOS: bibliometrics, geographies and global trends of research of glacial lake outburst floods (Web of Science, 1979–2016)” by Adam Emmer

Anonymous Referee #1

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nhess-2017-413 GLOFs in the WOS: bibliometrics, geographies and global trends of research of glacial lake outburst floods (Web of Science, 1979-2016) Adam Emmer

General Comments: The paper analyzes 892 GLOF research items published in the Web of Science database during the period 1979-2016. A change in the publishing paradigm over time is proposed and global geographies of research on GLOFs were studied.

The paper is a good analysis of the publication database related to GLOFs and might make a good technical note or editorial in NHES or in a journal devoted to academic publication trends in the geosciences. It is beyond my expertise to say if this paper

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deserves publication as a research paper in NHES. I do not find information in the paper that enhances my research on GLOFs.

In the instructions to reviewers, we are asked to address some specific questions, specific ones that I find relevant to this paper are:

1. Does the paper address relevant scientific and/or technical questions within the scope of NHES? 2. Does the paper present new data and/or novel concepts, ideas, tools, methods or results?

I cannot respond positively to these questions regarding this paper. In particular, scientific or technical questions related to GLOFs are not presented or discussed. Certainly, Web of Science data related to publications in various journals is presented, but this is not related to the scientific/technical questions of the field.

Specific Comments:

P2-L1: Actually glacial lake outburst flood is in the title of Jackson's 1979 paper: Jackson, L. E.: Catastrophic glacial lake outburst flood (jokulhlaup) mechanism for debris flow generation at the spiral tunnels, Kicking horse River basin

P2-L2: "Clarke and Mathews (1981)" reference missing

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