

Wikimpacts 1.0: A new global climate impact database based on automated information extraction from Wikipedia

Response to reviewers

April 10, 2026

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1 Minor revisions

We would like to thank Dr. Christos Giannaros and the two reviewers for their dedicated time in reviewing the revised manuscript and response letters. According to the comments and suggestions below, we propose the following changes in the database and manuscript (notably, all line numbers refer to the newly revised manuscript):

1. Add explanations for event boundaries and classifications.

Additionally, we find that seven of the updated 2,733 events lack mandatory information. We therefore update the database's summary statistics as follows: 2,726 L1 events, 17,912 L2 entries, and 32,343 L3 entries. Furthermore, we revise the manuscript to reflect the newly updated numbers. Finally, we update some text in the manuscript and supplementary materials to enhance clarity.

Comment 1

One remaining point concerns how event boundaries are defined when a single Wikipedia article describes multiple related episodes or systems. The manuscript explains how this is handled in the context of tropical cyclones, but it would be helpful to briefly clarify how similar situations are treated for other hazard types (e.g. floods or storms), where an article may also contain references to multiple events or linked systems. A short clarification would help readers understand how such cases are represented in the database.

Response Thanks to the reviewer for pointing out this important issue regarding the definition of event boundaries when a single Wikipedia article describes multiple related episodes or systems. To address this, we add the following text to L213: [Notably, for hazard types beyond tropical cyclones, our event unit follows the Wikipedia single-event article. When a single-event article describes multiple related episodes \(e.g., impacts in several countries, or multiple phases within the same system\), we represent the content as one aggregated event record rather than attempting to delineate event boundaries. For example, the "2021 European floods" are stored as one event, with impacts accessible separately for each affected country via L2.](#)

Comment 2

In the discussion of event classification (e.g. the example of the 2011 European floods classified as an extratropical cyclone), it may be helpful to briefly indicate whether such cases occur only occasionally or represent a more common outcome of the chosen driver-based classification scheme. This would help readers understand the practical implications of this categorisation.

Response We thank the reviewer for their suggestions, and we address this concern L486: [We identify 26 similar cases in our database, for which the main event type is extratropical storm/cyclone and the hazard column lists "flood", yet the article title contains "flood". We also find one article, the "1999 Blayais Nuclear Power Plant flood" \(Wikipedia contributors, 2025\) for which the hazard is "NULL". We additionally find 26 cases in which the article](#)

title contains “flood”, but the Main Event category is tropical storm/cyclone. Finally, we find 15 cases in which the article title suggests a cold wave, but the Main Event category is extratropical storm/cyclone rather than extreme temperature. For all these events, we keep the Main Event category as detected by the LLM. This type of classification affects around 2.5% of the main events in our database.

References

Wikipedia contributors: 1999 Blayais Nuclear Power Plant flood — Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=1999_Blayais_Nuclear_Power_Plant_flood&oldid=1309899681, [Online; accessed 26-January-2026], 2025.