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Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci., 10, 2229-2234, 2010

www.nat-hazards-earth-syst-sci.net/10/2229/2010/

doi: 10.5194/nhess-10-2229-2010

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Increased risk of flooding on the coast of Alicante (Region of Valencia, Spain)

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Abstract. In the past two decades, episodes of flooding on the coast of Alicante (Spain) have led to substantial losses in human life in economic terms. With increased exposure to these phenomena comes also increased vulnerability. Given the various effects of flooding in areas of similar exposure, differences in vulnerability across regions at risk need to be analysed also in terms of the socioeconomic factors of the groups of society that may be affected, and of their perception of risk. This paper studies the increased risk of flooding in three locations on the Alicante coast as a result of urban occupation of areas subject to this hazard. The consequences of the most recent episodes in this area are analysed and a risk assessment, using survey-based research in the affected areas, is performed.

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Citation: Olcina Cantos, J., Hernández Hernández, M., Rico Amorós, A. M., and Martínez Ibarra, E.: Increased risk of flooding on the coast of Alicante (Region of Valencia, Spain), Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci., 10, 2229-2234, doi: 10.5194/nhess-10-2229-2010, 2010. ▣ [Bibtex](#) ▣ [EndNote](#) ▣ [Reference Manager](#) ▣ [XML](#)



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