



EVALUATION OF METEOROLOGICAL ALERT CHAIN IN CASTILLA Y LEÓN (SPAIN): How can the meteorological risk managers help researchers?

Laura López (1), Ángel Manuel Guerrero-Higuera (1), José Luis Sánchez (1), Pedro Matía (2), José Pablo Ortiz de Galisteo (3), Vicente Rodríguez (4), José Manuel Lorente (2), Andrés Merino (1), Lucía Hermida (1), Eduardo García-Ortega (1), and Oscar Fernández-Manso (5)

(1) Grupo de Física de la Atmósfera. Instituto de Medio Ambiente. Universidad de León. E-mail: laura.lopez@unileon.es, (2) SAIHDuero. Confederación Hidrográfica del Duero., (3) AEMET. Delegación Territorial de Castilla y León., (4) Servicio de Defensa del Medio Natural. Dirección General del Medio Natural. Consejería de Fomento y Medio Ambiente. Junta de Castilla y León., (5) Agencia de Protección Civil de Castilla y León.

Evaluating the meteorological alert chain, or, how information is transmitted from the meteorological forecasters to the final users, passing through risk managers, is a useful tool that benefits all the links of the chain, especially the meteorology researchers and forecasters. In fact, the risk managers can help significantly to improve meteorological forecasts in different ways. Firstly, by pointing out the most appropriate type of meteorological format, and its characteristics when representing the meteorological information, consequently improving the interpretation of the already-existing forecasts. Secondly, by pointing out the specific predictive needs in their workplaces related to the type of significant meteorological parameters, temporal or spatial range necessary, meteorological products “custom-made” for each type of risk manager, etc.

In order to carry out an evaluation of the alert chain in Castilla y León, we opted for the creation of a Panel of Experts made up of personnel specialized in risk management (Responsible for Protection Civil, Responsible for Alert Services and Hydrological Planning of Hydrographical Confederations, Responsible for highway maintenance, and management of fires, fundamentally). In creating this panel, a total of twenty online questions were evaluated, and the majority of the questions were multiple choice or open-ended.

Some of the results show how the risk managers think that it would be interesting, or very interesting, to carry out environmental educational campaigns about the meteorological risks in Castilla y León. Another result is the elevated importance that the risk managers provide to the observation data in real-time (real-time of wind, lightning, relative humidity, combined indices of risk of avalanches, snowslides, index of fires due to convective activity, etc.)

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the Junta de Castilla y León for its financial support through the project LE220A11-2.