



What does drought look like?

Benjamin Lloyd-Hughes

University of Reading, Walker Institute, Meteorology, Reading, United Kingdom (b.lloydhughes@reading.ac.uk)

Drought is commonly portrayed using images of cracked earth, dry dams and empty river beds. However, these 2-dimensional representations illustrate the impact of drought rather than drought itself and ignore the rich 4-dimensional spatio-temporal variability which characterises drought as a natural hazard. Improved visualisations of drought are needed to increase public understanding and assist the research community in understanding its drivers. WebGL is explored as a medium for constructing interactive drought graphics that go beyond displaying drought impacts and address the multi-dimensionality of the problem.