

Transition of NHESS into an Interactive Journal

It is our pleasure to announce the transition of the journal Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences (NHESS) from an open access journal with a traditional review process into an interactive open access journal applying the public peer-review and interactive public discussion concept.

Since its launch in 2001 NHESS followed the traditional single stage publication process. From 2013 on all new submissions will undergo a two-stage publication process with the publication of an access-reviewed discussion paper (NHESS Discussions) as the first stage and a final-revised journal article publication in NHESS as the second stage. Only papers that successfully pass the open discussion involving publicly accessible reviewer comments will finally be published in NHESS. For further information please see http://publications.copernicus.org/services/public_peer_review.html.

The concept of public peer-review was established in 2001 and is applied for 11 out of 14 EGU journals. It is designed to foster scientific discussion and to enhance the scientific quality assurance through increased transparency.

For the transition process we will have to put the NHESS review system offline on Thursday, 20 December 2012. On that day no review activities and no new submissions will be possible. We will reactivate the review system on Friday, 21 December 2012 regarding review activities. The manuscript submission, however, will remain deactivated until Wednesday, 2 January 2013.

Manuscripts that are already in review will be finished in the traditional way.