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Comment on gc-2022-10

Jazmin Scarlett (Referee)

Referee comment on "The potential for using video games to teach geoscience: learning about the geology and geomorphology of Hokkaido (Japan) from playing *Pokémon Legends: Arceus*" by Edward G. McGowan and Lewis J. Alcott, Geosci. Commun. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/gc-2022-10-RC2>, 2022

General comments

An enjoyable and well-structured paper that is good case study to follow on from previous work on the similar topic of utilizing popular videogames for geoscience education in the fields of paleontology and volcanology.

I recommend the following suggestions, some of which have already been covered by Jamie Pringle, therefore I shall not duplicate them here.

Abstract

Less on the background of the videogame, leave this to the main body of the paper. More on the outline of the paper e.g. background, aims, objectives, results and conclusion.

Results

As not everyone would have played *Pokémon Legends: Arceus*, provide a map and highlight where each of the regions are for each section (section 3.1-3.7). Perhaps pinpoint exactly where each key feature is (similar to a GPS reference point), so people can find it if they play the game.

References

Line 549-550: The Nintendo link in the PDF does not redirect to the website correctly. Similarly, is the Pokemon Legends reference link the same? If so, remove the Nintendo reference and use the Pokemon Legends one.

Suggested edits

- Section 1.2, lines 111-114: Make the aims and objectives clearer.
- Section 2, line 128: mention what physical and geological characteristics were identified. Jamie's suggestion is good here.
- Section 3.2.2, line 200-201: add numerical age range for the audience who may be less familiar with geological time.
- Section 3.5, line 249: if possible have a side by side comparison of Lake Kussharo and Lake Valor.
- Section 4.1, line 310: I would expand with examples how the game can teach about volcanology, hazard mitigation and economic geology and mention hazard mitigation and economic geology in relevant result sections.