



## **Reconstructing Critical Zone process-interactions using fallout radionuclides and coupled geomorphological-biogeochemical models**

T.A. Quine (1), A.P. Nicholas (1), L. Boddy (1), and K Van Oost (2)

(1) University of Exeter, Geography, Exeter, United Kingdom (t.a.quine@exeter.ac.uk, +44 (0)1392 263342), (2) Universite catholique de Louvain, Belgium

Long-term records provide vital evidence for change in the Critical Zone, however, their temporal richness is often associated with spatial limitations either because the record is based on monitoring of a small area or because it provides the spatially integrated record of a whole catchment. Studies using fallout radionuclides can provide complimentary spatially-rich data. However, reconstruction of a temporal record from these data requires care. Here we explore the use of fallout radionuclides in conjunction with coupled geomorphological-biogeochemical models to undertake a retrospective analysis of carbon cycle perturbations resulting from hillslope erosion and deposition and floodplain deposition and reworking. We highlight areas where a full critical zone analysis is required if the process interactions are to be understood in detail. We identify a strategy to accomplish this.