

ES03: Steep landscapes from source to sink

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Session Description

Landscapes are seldom static: from mountain divides to coastlines, features are shaped continuously by an interrelated set of “natural” and anthropogenic processes. In mountain environments, equilibrium is rarely, if ever achieved, and many earth surface forms and processes remain challenging to characterize or predict. Activities such as logging, mining, and agriculture, and disturbances such as climate change, fire, insect outbreak, and extreme events continue to modify steep terrain and alter processes in ways which challenge our present understanding of them. As pressure upon steepland regions increases through growing populations and elevated rates of resource extraction, new research and insight is needed to advance our understanding of how mountain landscapes are shaped, maintained, and impacted, at a wide range of spatial and temporal scales. The broad objective of this session is to combine interdisciplinary perspectives and expertise from those studying how steep landscape surfaces change over time and space, and how we are influencing that change. Submissions related to geomorphology, glaciology, hydrology, oceanography, and limnology are encouraged.

Primary Affiliation: Earth Surface Processes