
Prehistoric occupations on river archives

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Abstract

Fossilized and active river deposits cover major areas of the continental surface of the Planet. These deposits hold some of the most relevant keys of the human past. Since they are abundant, scaled and stratified they represent one of the richest archives of ancient human records. Despite many of the assemblages are not pristine, their position in the original geological and geomorphological context make them reliable to infer human occupation. Often, the combination of fluvial, eolian and volcanic dynamics allows the preservation of remarkable human behavior. It is possible to understand with great accuracy the formation processes of these sites. This can be achieved, namely, by integrating independent disciplines, methods, and techniques such as archaeology, geomorphology and sedimentology and absolute dates. Ultimately, it is also possible to infer with great detail the reliability and meaning of the prehistoric record. In this session, we will gather researchers working on fluvial and alluvial deposits to refine approaches, protocols, and methodologies in the scope of human and environmental past for the remaining 21st Century.

Keywords: Prehistory, Fluvial deposits, Human record, River archive

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