IN SITU AND METEORIC ¹⁰BE CONCENTRATIONS OF FLUVIAL SEDIMENT COLLECTED FROM THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN

A Thesis Presented

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Abstract

This thesis reports and interprets in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations of sediment collected from the Potomac River Basin, a major source of sediment for the Chesapeake Bay. It includes data for 62 fluvial sediment samples with measurements of both in situ produced and meteoric ¹⁰Be along with an additional eight samples for which only meteoric ¹⁰Be was measured. I sampled three sites on the main-stem Potomac River, and one site on the Shenandoah River (basin areas of 29796, 24851, 2254, and 4136 km²). Ten Potomac River samples, including the four above, came from USGS gaging station sites at which suspended sediment was or is monitored (basin area 23 to 29796 km²). Sixty samples, including the eight with only meteoric ¹⁰Be analyses, came from tributaries of the Potomac River (5 km² to 64 km²).

Basin-scale erosion rates, based on interpretation of in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations, range from 3 to 39 m My⁻¹ with a mean and median erosion rate of 12 m My⁻¹. Basins in the Coastal Plain (n=8) have the lowest erosion rates, 4 to 39 m My⁻¹ with a mean of 10 m My⁻¹ and a median of 6 m My⁻¹. Basins in the Appalachian Plateau and Blue Ridge (n=6, n=8; mean erosion rates of 13 and 12 m My⁻¹) range from 9 to 18 m My⁻¹ and have a median of 13 m My⁻¹. Twenty samples from the Piedmont have erosion rates that range from 3 to 21 m My⁻¹ and a mean and median of 12 m My⁻¹. Seventeen samples from the Valley and Ridge have a range from 3 to 29 m My⁻¹, a mean of 11 m My⁻¹ and median of 9 m My⁻¹. Past studies using in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates have found similar erosion rates measured in and near the Appalachian Mountains (3–70 m My⁻¹).

Erosion rates show no correlation with slope (R^2 =0.06, p>0.05) and only a weak correlation with elevation (R^2 =0.09, p=0.01). The range of erosion rates change little with basin area (R^2 =0.02, p=0.23). Using ANOVA testing, erosion rates in the Piedmont, Blue Ridge, Valley and Ridge and Appalachian Plateau physiographic provinces are not statistically separable (p=0.25), but the Coastal Plain has much lower rates than the other provinces with a median half that of almost all of the other provinces (p<0.01) when an outlier is removed from the Coastal Plain.

A comparison of meteoric and in situ ¹⁰Be in 62 basins shows less meteoric ¹⁰Be in the sediments than expected given the in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The lower meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations most likely reflect lack of knowledge of where meteoric ¹⁰Be resides in many of my basins.

United States Geologic Survey sediment yield data (n=10) suggest that rates of sediment export are similar to rates of sediment generation in the Potomac Basin. Brown et al. (1988) calculated erosion indexes that compare the amount of meteoric ¹⁰Be entering the basin and the amount of meteoric ¹⁰Be leaving the basin. Brown et al.'s (1988) erosion indexes from the Chesapeake Bay Watershed show two thirds, 29 of 45, of their basins had more meteoric ¹⁰Be entering the basin than leaving. Their average erosion index was 0.87. Of the ten gauged basins I analyzed, eight had more meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations used for the erosion index calculations were updated with modern standards and delivery rates.

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Chapter 1 - Introduction

"The Potomac River has long been viewed as the Nation's River because of its pivotal role in the development of the United States and as the seat of my national government (EPA, US, 2001)."

Today, the Potomac Watershed (37995 km²) contributes a significant amount, over 1.93×10^{12} g y⁻¹, of sediment to the Chesapeake Bay, a valuable natural resource (Stanton, 1993). The United States spends a large amount of money, time and energy protecting the Chesapeake Bay (EPA, US, 2001). Responsible management requires good estimates, not only of current rates of sediment delivery to the bay, but also background (pre-disturbance) rates of sediment generation from major river basins feeding the Chesapeake Bay. Because background rates of sediment generation are not well understood, it is difficult to determine how much sediment was transported to the Chesapeake Bay before humans started affecting the system.

Two main rivers, the Potomac River and the Susquehanna River, feed the Chesapeake Bay (Figure 1.1). The Susquehanna River and the Potomac River have current sediment yield data (Gellis, et al., 2004). Today, the Potomac River contributes 44% of the riverine sediment entering the Chesapeake Bay and the Susquehanna River contributes 27% (Gellis, et al., 2004). The Susquehanna River also has background rates of sediment generation (Reuter, et al., 2006). This thesis explores in situ and meteoric beryllium-10 (¹⁰Be) concentrations measured in fluvial sediment samples collected from the Potomac River Basin. The data present in this thesis is a direct comparison between the two different cosmogenic isotopic systems. It presents and interprets the isotopic data from 62 fluvial sediment samples with measurements of both in situ produced and meteoric ¹⁰Be along with an additional eight samples in which only meteoric ¹⁰Be was measured (Figure 1.2). I took 10 samples from U.S. Geological Survey gaging stations within the 37995 km² basin. These samples allow for a comparison between sediment yields and sediment generation rates.

Beryllium-10 is found both within and on mineral grains. The ¹⁰Be found in grains, in situ ¹⁰Be, is produced when high-energy, fast cosmic ray neutrons interact with the nuclei of oxygen and nitrogen (Bierman, 1994; Lal, 1998). The concentration of in situ ¹⁰Be changes based on how long the sediment is exposed to cosmogenic radiation; this is true both in bedrock and as material on slopes.

Meteoric ¹⁰Be forms in the atmosphere where cosmic rays interact with oxygen and nitrogen atoms. Meteoric ¹⁰Be rains out of the atmosphere and absorbs onto soil grains, including clay and organic particles (Pavich, et al., 1984). In some geologic settings, meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration appears to reflect how long the sediment resides on hill slopes before entering the river channel (Jungers, et al., 2009). In general, the longer sediment sits at or near Earth's surface, the higher the concentration of in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be and the slower the erosion rate.

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Suspended sediment concentrations measured at gaging stations, when convolved with flow data, provide estimates of modern rates of sediment yield (Judson, 1968; Judson & Ritter, 1964; Gellis, et al., 2004). Suspended sediment concentrations are measured by taking periodic samples from a river or stream over a certain duration of time. Then, the ratio of sediment to water in each sample is determined and this is multiplied by the amount of water flowing down the stream.

Brown et al. (1988) examined erosion in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed by first calculating how much meteoric ¹⁰Be was deposited in a gaged basin using the global average delivery rate of meteoric ¹⁰Be. Then, they measured the meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in riverine sediment leaving the gaged basin and compiled contemporary sediment yields to determine the flux (atoms/year) of meteoric ¹⁰Be leaving the gaged basin. With this information, they calculated an erosion index, which can suggest whether or not a basin is in short-term steady state in regards to meteoric ¹⁰Be. Applying this approach to a single sample, which was taken from a location that I resampled, in the Potomac River Basin, Brown et al. (1988) found that slightly more meteoric ¹⁰Be entered the basin than left the basin.

Motivations and Objectives

This thesis presents in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be data from 62 fluvial sediment samples along with an additional eight samples in which only meteoric ¹⁰Be was measured (Figure 1.2). I collected the fluvial sediment for this study from basins in each of the five physiographic provinces in the Potomac Watershed. I converted the in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be data to erosion rates which characterize how the landscape has changed in the mid-Atlantic region over $10^3 - 10^5$ year timescale.

With my samples, I am trying to develop a better understanding of how landscapes erode and what affects the amount of meteoric ¹⁰Be leaving the system. I want to understand better the relationship between in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be in an attempt to determine whether one can use meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations to determine erosion rates. I compared my in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates with modern sediment yield data. I also compared my meteoric ¹⁰Be data with previous meteoric ¹⁰Be data collected in the region by Brown et al. (1988) to see if there have been changes over time in meteoric ¹⁰Be export rates.

The three main objectives of my research are:

- to explore how in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations are affected by different environmental factors.
- to compare in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates and sediment yields from the same basins.
- to compare my meteoric ¹⁰Be data with previous meteoric ¹⁰Be data collected in the region by Brown et al. (1988).

Thesis Structure

Chapter 2 contains a short literature review on the physical setting in which my research took place and past research relating to the use of cosmogenic isotopes to study

erosion rates by the analysis of fluvial sediments, including work done near the Potomac River Basin. There also is a discussion of the controls on sediment yield and sediment generation. Chapter 3 describes the study methods including sampling strategy, field techniques, laboratory work, and analytical procedures. Chapter 4 presents all of my data. Chapter 5 contains my discussion. Chapter 6 contains conclusions of the research and recommendations for future work. Appendix A contains tables of all the data used and generated for this project. Appendix B contains sample sheets for each of my samples and topographic maps showing the location of each sample site, along with a few pictures. A disk is included with all data tables in excel format. Chapter 1 – Figures



Figure 1.1 - Map of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

This map show all of the major watersheds that drain into the Chesapeake Bay including, the Susquehanna River (tan), the James River (pink), and the Potomac River (green). Each of the numbered dots is a gaging station. I sampled at all but 3 of the gaging stations in the Potomac Watershed. Figure from Gellis et al. (2004).



Figure 1.2 - Map of the Potomac River Basin.

The green dots are the sampled sites. Each colored region on the map is a different physiographic province (from USGS). The green area is the Coastal Plain, the orange region is the Piedmont, and the blue portion is the Blue Ridge, the red area in the Valley and Ridge, and the yellow section is the Appalachian Plateau. The background is a shaded digital elevation model (USGS digital data, <u>http://seamless.usgs.gov/</u>).

Chapter 2 – Background and Literature Review

Potomac River Basin Physiography

The Potomac River Basin occupies 38019 km² in four states and the District of Colombia (Virginia, 14846 km²; Maryland, 9889 km²; West Virginia, 9039 km²; Pennsylvania, 4,066 km²; District of Columbia, 179 km²) (ICPRB, 2011). Based on the 2005 census, around 5.8 million people live in the Potomac River Basin, ³/₄ of which live in the Washington DC area (ICPRB, 2011). Agriculture, forestry, coal mining, paper, chemicals, and electronics are the important industries of the Potomac Watershed (Gerhart, 1991).

The Potomac River starts to be affected by tides after the river crosses the Fall Line a few kilometers upstream from Washington, D. C. (Gerhart, 1991). About 15% of the water and 44% of the riverine sediment flowing into the Chesapeake Bay comes from the Potomac River (Gerhart, 1991; Gellis, et al., 2004). Only 3% of the watershed is regulated by dams and none of the reservoirs are over 7.5 km² (Gerhart, 1991).

Physiographic Provinces

The Potomac River basin includes five physiographic provinces, the Appalachian Plateau, Valley and Ridge, Blue Ridge, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain (Figure 1.2). The Appalachian Plateau Province contains 6% of the Potomac River Basin. The province is made up of a thick, uplifted section of sedimentary rock composed of sandstone, shale, and limestone (Fenneman, 1938). The Valley and Ridge Province contains 57% of the

Potomac River Basin. The province is characterized by a series of parallel ridges with small valleys (EPA, US, 2001). The ridges are made up of well-cemented sandstone and conglomerates while the valleys are limestone, dolomite, and shale (Trapp & Horn, 1997). The Blue Ridge Province contains 7% of the Potomac River Basin. The highlands of the Blue Ridge are made up of low-grade metamorphic rocks while the valleys contain sedimentary rocks (Milici, 1995).

The Piedmont Province contains 20% of the Potomac River Basin. The Piedmont is made up of tightly folded and faulted metasedimentary and plutonic rocks. The Piedmont also contains sedimentary basins filled with shale, sandstone, and conglomerate, along with the occasional basaltic lava flows and minor coal beds (Trapp & Horn, 1997). The Coastal Plain Province borders the Atlantic Ocean (Trapp & Horn, 1997) and contains 10% of the Potomac River Basin. The Coastal Plain mostly is made up of semiconsolidated to unconsolidated sediments, typically, silt, clay, and sand, with small amounts of gravel and lignite. There are also some areas containing limestone and sandstone (Trapp & Horn, 1997).

Modern Climate of the Potomac River Basin

Based off of the Köppen climate classification system the Potomac River Basin has a humid subtropical climate (Kottek, et al., 2006) which is commonly referred to as a temperate climate. The basin experiences all four season including hot humid summers, cool winters and warm springs and falls. The basin averages 100 cm y⁻¹ of precipitation and has a range from 89 to 132 cm y⁻¹. The central portions of the basin experience the lowest average annual precipitation, around 89 cm, while the western mountains and the Coastal Plain average around 112 cm (Gerhart, 1991) (Figure 2.1). About a third of the precipitation falls as snow (water equivalent of 37 cm y^{-1}) (NCDC, 2004).

Geologic and Human History

Rivers have been flowing in the region of the Potomac River for at least the past 30 million years (Stanton, 1993). Around 6 to 7 Ma sea level in the modern D. C. area dropped to near current levels. This drop in sea level exposed the Coastal Plain and allowed the rivers in the region to deposit the sediments found there (Reed, et al., 1980). About 2 Ma, slow uplift steepened the local land surface and allowed the Potomac River to capture many of the small rivers in the region (Reed, et al., 1980). Around this time continental glaciation began which lowered sea level causing the Potomac River to cut deep valleys in the Piedmont (Reed, et al., 1980).

Around 12000 BP Nomadic Native Americans started inhabiting the Potomac River Basin (Stanton, 1993). About 1800 BP, Native Americans began practicing the first agriculture in the Potomac Watershed (Stanton, 1993). In 1634, the first European colony of the region, Maryland, was founded on the banks of the Potomac River (Stanton, 1993). After the founding of the colony, settlers removed most of the forest from the Coastal Plain for tobacco agriculture. In the late 1690s, the agriculture started to spread to the Piedmont (Costa, 1975). In 1791, the United States founded Washington, D. C. (Stanton, 1993). After the American Revolution, agriculture almost permanently left the Coastal Plain and spread to the Piedmont and lowlands of the Valley and Ridge, where the majority of agriculture still is today (Brown, 1943). The movement of farming allowed the forests of the Coastal Plain to almost completely grow back (Brown, 1943). The Potomac experienced some mill damming from the 1600s up through the 1800s, mainly in the northern section of the basin, in and near Pennsylvania (Merritts & Walter, 2003; Merritts, et al., 2006; Walter & Merritts, 2008). Forest, 52% of the basin, and agriculture, 36% of the basin, dominate the land use in the Potomac River Basin, today. The rest of the watershed contains developed land, 11%, barren land, 0.5%, and water, 0.5% (Figure 2.2).

Cosmogenic Nuclides, In Situ and Meteoric ¹⁰Be

This project focused solely on ¹⁰Be, using it to estimate rates of sediment generation, because ¹⁰Be has a relatively long half-life and allows for easy measurement (Lal & Arnold, 1985). Beryllium-10 is found both in and on mineral grains. In situ ¹⁰Be, that within the grains, is produced when high-energy, fast cosmic ray neutrons interact with the nuclei of oxygen and nitrogen (Bierman, 1994; Lal, 1998). Meteoric ¹⁰Be forms in the atmosphere where cosmic rays interact with oxygen and nitrogen atoms. Meteoric ¹⁰Be rains out and sorbs to soil grains, including clay and organic particles (Pavich, et al., 1984). Once absorbed to the soil grains, meteoric ¹⁰Be does not leave the grain during transport (Pavich, et al., 1984; Jungers, et al., 2009). The concentration of in situ ¹⁰Be changes based on how long the sediment experiences exposure to cosmogenic radiation, both in rocks and as material on slopes. Meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration appears to reflect how long the sediment resides on hill slopes before entering the river channel (Jungers, et al., 2009). The longer sediment sits at or near Earth's surface, the higher the concentration of in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be and the slower the erosion rate. Sediment with lower concentrations of in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be experiences a shorter period of exposure and indicates a faster erosion rate.

In Situ¹⁰Be

Analysis of in situ ¹⁰Be concentration in fine quartz sand carried by rivers has become an important technique for understanding long-term erosion rates (Brown, et al., 1995; Bierman & Steig, 1996; Granger, et al., 1996; Bierman & Nichols, 2004; von Blanckenburg, 2005). In situ ¹⁰Be in river sediment allows geologists to estimate erosion rates over 10³ to 10⁶ year time scales (Brown, et al., 1995; Bierman & Steig, 1996; Granger, et al., 1996). ¹⁰Be is easily measured in quartz (Lal & Arnold, 1985), which has great resistance to weathering and little reactivity to many acids (Kohl & Nishiizumi, 1992). The production curve of in situ ¹⁰Be is exponential with depth. Biota can churn the soil and mix the quartz grains so there is no depth dependence to the depth at which stirring reaches (Jungers et al., 2009).

Calculation of erosion rates from measured in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations requires several assumptions. Erosion rates must stay steady over time but not necessarily space (Bierman, 1994). In situ ¹⁰Be must remain in the quartz in which it forms (Kohl & Nishiizumi, 1992). The in situ ¹⁰Be concentration of the sample must be representative of the average concentration in the basin (Bierman & Steig, 1996). The average latitude and elevation of the basin from which the sample came must be known (Nishiizumi, et al., 1989) to calibrate production rates (Lal, 1988; Dunai, 2000; Desilets & Zreda, 2000; Lifton, et al., 2008). In situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates only represent areas with bedrock that contains quartz (Brown, et al., 1995). Minimal amounts of quartz should dissolve during the weathering process and sediment should not be repeatedly uncovered and buried (Brown, et al., 1995).

Meteoric ¹⁰Be

Recently geomorphologists have started using meteoric ¹⁰Be for calculating basin scale erosion rates (Bierman, et al., 2008; Reusser, et al., 2008; Willenbring & von Blanckenburg, 2010) but many assumptions have to be valid for this approach to work. Meteoric ¹⁰Be must adhere and remain on the surface of the sediment (Jungers, et al., 2009). The basin needs to be in steady state (Willenbring & von Blanckenburg, 2010). The main uncertainty with applying meteoric ¹⁰Be in the past was determining the delivery rate from the atmosphere to the surface. This had been estimated many ways (Monaghan, et al., 1986). The nominal value of 1.3×10^6 atoms g⁻¹ y⁻¹ was generally accepted for humid regions (Pavich, et al., 1984). Recently, Graley et al. (2010) compiled numerous measurements and, using the precipitation and latitude relationship with delivery, determined deposition rates of meteoric ¹⁰Be. Because meteoric ¹⁰Be moves in the soil profile, pedogenic rather than nuclear processes control meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration at the surface and its depth distribution and concentration changes over time and space (Graly, et al., 2010). Meteoric ¹⁰Be has larger concentrations in the B horizon of well-developed soils than the A horizon (Jungers, et al., 2009; Graly, et al., 2010) or there can be larger concentrations of meteoric ¹⁰Be at the top of the soil with a steady decline deeper into the soil (Graly, et al. 2010). These two profiles can affect the timescale reflected by the meteoric ¹⁰Be from a sample. The profile with a large amount of meteoric ¹⁰Be in the B horizon then the timescale is the same as in in situ applications (von Blanckenburg, 2005). If the largest concentrations are found at the surface the timescales reflected are potentially much shorter (Willenbring & von Blanckenburg, 2010).

Meteoric ¹⁰Be may not remain adhered to grains. Graley et al. (2010) showed that soils with a pH below 3.9 inhibit meteoric ¹⁰Be accumulation but Pavich, Brown and Harden, et al. (1986) show that a significant amount still accumulates. Valette-Silver et al. (1986) in lab tests showed Be starts to become mobile at a pH of 5.2 and fully mobile around a pH of 4. However, Takahashi (1999) showed that Be does not become mobile until the pH equals 2. The ability of the soil to incorporate cations, including Be, can be quantified empirically as the cation exchange capacity (CEC) which is directly related to pH (Birkeland, 1999). A significant portion of meteoric ¹⁰Be found in the soil attaches to organic matter, clays, or oxyhydroxides via the CEC (Barg, et al., 1997). The reason pH is so important is that the lower the pH the lower the CEC and therefore the less meteoric ¹⁰Be the soil can sorb.

Another potential factor that could affect the amount of meteoric ¹⁰Be found in a sample is grain size. It stands to reason the two samples of equal size but different grain

sizes would have different concentrations of meteoric ¹⁰Be because the sample with smaller grain sizes has a larger surface area for the meteoric ¹⁰Be to sorb on.

Controls on Sediment Generation and Yield

Suspended sediment concentrations, measured at gaging stations, when convolved with flow data, provide estimates of modern rates of sediment yield (Judson, 1968; Judson & Ritter, 1964; Gellis, et al., 2004). Three main factors control sediment yield: land cover, climate, and rock erodability (Holeman, 1968). Many contemporary land-use practices, including agriculture, construction, mining, and the clear-cutting of forests, increase short-term sediment yields (Costa, 1975; Hewawasam, et al., 2002; Jennings, et al., 2003; Noren, et al., 2002; Wolman & Schick, 1967). Damming rivers and streams temporarily lowers sediment yields downstream from the dams (Merritts & Walter, 2003). Much of the sediment eroded from hill slopes resides on colluvial footslopes, in alluvial fans, and in river terraces for centuries or more, slowing transport out of the basin (Schumm, 1977; Trimble, 1977; Walling, 1983). Conversely, some sediment rapidly moves through the system because of agriculture, construction, or mining (Wilkinson & McElroy, 2007).

Sediment yield describes how much sediment is exported from a basin (Evans, et al., 2000). Sediment generation rates describe how rapidly the creation of sediment occurs in the basin. Equating sediment yield and sediment generation implies steady-state behavior and assumes no change in the volume of sediment stored within a basin, an assumption repeatedly questioned for short time scales (Meade, 1969; Trimble, 1977;

Trimble, 1999; Walling, 1983). The timescales of sediment generation measurement and modern sediment yield present a problem. Sediment generation rates represent timescales of 10³ to 10⁶ years (Brown, et al., 1995; Bierman & Steig, 1996; Granger, et al., 1996), while sediment yields are typically on the scale of 10 to 100 years depending on how long the river has been monitored (Kirchner, et al., 2001). Tomkins et al. (2007) discovered this first hand when they calculated modern denudation rates that are about 25% as large as the long-term denudation rates in Southeastern Australia. They determine there must be "high-magnitude, low frequency extreme events" that has not been recorded in the modern record therefore causing the modern sediment export rates to be much lower than the long-term denudation rates. Gardner et al. (1987) showed analytically that there can be up to an order of magnitude difference between modern denudation rates and long-term denudation rates caused by the difference in timescale.

When there are high sediment generation rates and low sediment yields, a large amount of sediment is produced and stored in the basin. When sediment yield is high and sediment generation rates low, sediment leaves the basin faster than it is generated. Brown et al. (1988) examined whether basins, in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, were generating more sediment or losing more sediment than was being exported than was by calculating an erosion index. First, the deposition rate of meteoric ¹⁰Be in a basin must be determined. Second, the amount of meteoric ¹⁰Be leaving the basin must be determined by convolving measured meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in river sediments with contemporary sediment yields. Brown et al. (1988) used the equation below to calculate

the erosion index. A is the basin area in cm^2 ; SL is the average annual sediment load in g yr⁻¹, M is the concentration

$$EI = \frac{SL*M}{A*Q}$$
 Equation 2-1

of meteoric ¹⁰Be in the sample in atoms g⁻¹ and Q is the deposition rate of meteoric ¹⁰Be in atoms cm⁻² y⁻¹. The erosion index (*EI*) is unitless. Theoretically, if more meteoric ¹⁰Be enters the basin than leaves, sediment yield would be lower than sediment generation and the erosion index would be less than 1. If less meteoric ¹⁰Be enters the basin than leaves, sediment yield would be higher than the sediment generation and the erosion index would be greater than 1.

In reality, erosion indexes are complicated. They measure whether more meteoric ¹⁰Be is entering the basin or leaving the basin. In a perfect system this would be a good proxy for sediment generation and sediment yield. For the erosion index to work correctly when meteoric ¹⁰Be is deposited in a basin it must stay near the top layer of soil and in many systems it is found mostly in the B horizon of the soil (Jungers, et al., 2009; Graly, et al., 2010). Also, the sediment moving in the streams must be coming from the top of the soil column, which cannot be guaranteed in many systems. Because of these uncertainties, erosion indexes are uncertain.

In the southern and central Appalachian highlands, sediment yield and sediment generation rates appear well matched (Matmon, et al., 2003; Reuter, et al., 2006). Other regions show large differences between sediment yield and sediment generation, including previously glaciated regions of Europe (Scaller, et al., 2001), parts of Idaho (Kirchner, et al., 2001), agriculturally affected tropical highlands (Hewawasam, et al., 2002), the heavily farmed mid-Atlantic Piedmont (Reuter, et al., 2006) and the passive margin of Western Australia, which experiences wildfires and flooding (Tomkins, et al., 2007). These findings suggest both human modification of landscapes (Hewawasam, et al., 2002; Reuter, et al., 2006), and natural variability in sediment delivery (Kirchner, et al., 2001) share responsibility for these differences.

Geomorphic Models of Appalachian Landscape Evolution

Many geomorphologists have created models to describe the evolution of the Appalachian Mountains. William Morris Davis and John Hack have developed the most commonly referenced models. Davis' *Geographic Cycle* (1899) evolved from his observations in the Susquehanna River Basin and the Appalachian Mountains. Davis' (1899) model is based on the peneplain concept and suggests that in an undisturbed landscape, the land will erode over time, until the land is completely flat. Hack's model (1960) of *dynamic equilibrium* suggests the morphology of the landscape reflects erosional resistance of the underlying rock over the long-term. Hack's model theorizes that differences in the erosional resistance of rocks are compensated for by slope; the stronger the lithology, the steeper the slope and the weaker the lithology, the shallower the slope.

Past Erosion Rate Studies

Many previous projects have determined in situ ¹⁰Be estimates of erosion rates in the Appalachian Mountains (Matmon, et al., 2003; Reuter, et al., 2006; Duxbury, 2009; Sullivan, 2007). All of the results presented in this section reflect values published in Portenga and Bierman (2011). Portenga and Bierman (2011) recalculated all of the erosion rates using standard methods.

Reston, Virginia, 1996

Lal et al. (1996) measured in situ produced cosmogenic ¹⁴C and ¹⁰Be in quartz chips taken from a quartz vein in a soil profile near Reston, Virginia. They calculated erosion rates around 30 m My⁻¹ using ¹⁴C and 3 m My⁻¹ using ¹⁰Be. The large difference in erosion can be explained by non-steady erosion. The quartz vein eroded at the slower of the two rates and was then covered in soil. Then, erosion started to occur at the preburial rate again. In terms of the general erosion of the Piedmont, these erosion rates suggest that the Piedmont may have experienced short-term cycles of rapid deposition followed by erosion that removed the recently deposited soil.

Mammoth Cave National Park, 2001

Granger et al. (2001) used in situ ²⁶Al and ¹⁰Be to examine incision of the Green River in Kentucky from the Pliocene to the Pleistocene. The cosmogenic ²⁶Al and ¹⁰Be were measured in fluvial sediments collected from different levels of Mammoth Cave, Kentucky. The sediments record the former water table positions resulting from incision and aggradation of the Green River. Drainage reorganizations and major climate changes correlate well with the incision history of the Green River. Measurements of the cosmogenic isotopes indicate that the sandstone uplands have been eroding at a rate of 2-7 m My⁻¹ over the last 3.5 million years. There were increased river incision rates during the Pleistocene of around 30 m My⁻¹.

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 2003

Matmon et al. (2003) determined erosion rates using in situ ²⁶Al and ¹⁰Be in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Great Smoky Mountains, in the humid southern Appalachians, are located between Tennessee and North Carolina. They are the highest mountains in the region. The mountains are composed of medium grade, metamorphosed quartz-rich sedimentary rocks and gneiss that form steep, soil-covered and vegetated slopes. The mean annual rainfall is 140–230 cm. They measured cosmogenic nuclide concentrations in bedrock, alluvial sediments and colluvium. They found erosion rates from 17 to 57 m My⁻¹.

Susquehanna and Potomac Rivers, 2004

Reusser, Bierman and Pavich et al. (2004) did cosmogenic isotope analysis to investigate rates of fluvial bedrock incision in the Appalachians. Using the Susquehanna and Potomac Rivers, which drain the Atlantic passive margin, they measured the rate and timing of bedrock incision that started 35 ka, at the onset of the last glacial maximum. They discovered that the Susquehanna and the Potomac River Valleys were lowering into the Piedmont Province. These findings reflect late Cenozoic sea-level fall, slow flexural uplift due to offshore sediment loading, and isostatic response to denudation. They sampled from Holtwood Gorge on the Susquehanna and Great Falls/Mather Gorge on the Potomac. They looked for fluvially eroded bedrock surfaces that were exposed as the rivers incised to lower levels. The samples allowed them to examine the effects of rapidly changing climate on river incision rates. They discovered in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations could be used for direct models of terrace abandonment ages (Reusser, et al., 2004).

The results of Reusser, Bierman and Pavich, et al. (2004) indicate that after 35,000 years ago, incision on both rivers increased markedly (600–800 m My⁻¹). The abandonment and exposure of bedrock terraces on the Susquehanna and Potomac Rivers support these findings. The results suggest that the Susquehanna and Potomac Rivers are capable of periodic rapid incision rates 1 to 2 orders of magnitude higher than the long-term incision rates. Reusser, Bierman and Pavich, et al. (2004) believe that this rapid incision occurred during a period of cold, stormy and unstable climate, and that incision rates slowed with the transition to the warmer and more stable Holocene climate.

Susquehanna River Basin, 2006

Reuter et al. (2006) worked in the Susquehanna River Basin. They collected fluvial sediments in three physiographic provinces comprising 3 distinct lithologies including sandstone in the Appalachian Plateau, sandstone and shale in the Valley and Ridge, and schist in the Piedmont. Reuter et al. (2006) found erosion rates correlated with slope, but not lithology. The small basins sampled had in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates of 4–70 m My⁻¹ and indicated that steep slopes are eroding faster than shallow slopes. They found erosion rates increase toward the Susquehanna headwaters (Piedmont (6–16 m My⁻¹), Valley and Ridge (4–37 m My⁻¹), Appalachian Plateaus (7–70 m My⁻¹). These findings suggest that the system is exhibiting a transient response to drainage network perturbation and is not in steady state (Reuter, et al., 2006).

New River, 2005

Ward et al. (2005) determined the incision history of the New River, in Virginia, using cosmogenic in situ ¹⁰Be exposure dating. In route to the Gulf of Mexico, the New River flows through crystalline metasedimentary and metaigneous rocks of the Blue Ridge, carbonates of the Valley and Ridge, and clastic and carbonate rocks of the Cumberland Plateau in the Appalachian Mountains. The New River is wider and shallower when flowing through more resistant units, and incises deeply when flowing through less resistant units. They collected terrace soils and bedrock samples at four sites along the New River.

By using cosmogenic radionuclide dating of the terrace soil and bedrock samples, Ward et al. (2005) were able to infer the incision and aggradation history of the New River over the last few million years. The dates help in understanding which variables affect river incision such as; bedrock lithologies, climate and drainage network organization. Around 955 ka, the New River was incising at an average rate of 43 m My⁻¹, through alluvial fill and bedrock. There was also punctuated periods of faster downcutting when rates reached around 100 m My⁻¹. In between erosion events, extensive terraces were formed that indicate times of large scale aggradation. Ward, et al. (2005) believe these data point to short periods of disequilibrium where incision rates exceeded the rates of erosion of the surrounding landforms.

Blue Ridge Escarpment, 2007

Sullivan (2007) studied the geomorphologic evolution of the Blue Ridge Escarpment, in North Carolina and Virginia, using cosmogenic isotope analysis. They used in situ ¹⁰Be to describe how the Blue Ridge Escarpment has evolved over time. They collected fluvial samples and a bedrock sample of schist, along four transects perpendicular to the Blue Ridge Escarpment. These samples allowed them to investigate what variables may affect the evolution of this landform including; basin slope, relative position of the Brevard Fault Zone, and landscape position. They found basin-averaged erosion rates of 5–49 m My⁻¹. The data suggest that the erosion, which shaped the Blue Ridge Escarpment, occurred after rifting in the Mesozoic, around 200 Ma. They discovered a correlation between slope and erosion rate. The data indicates that the escarpment is retreating only very slowly and that the area is lowering at very slow rates.

Shenandoah River Basin, 2009

Duxbury (2009) collected 57 samples from the Shenandoah River Basin, a tributary of the Potomac River, including five bedrock samples and 52 fluvial samples. She measured in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations in each sample to determine in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates. They calculated erosion rates between 3-48 m My⁻¹ for the fluvial samples and 2-11

m My⁻¹ for the bedrock samples. Duxbury found no correlation between in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates and slope and they saw little difference between in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates in regions of different rock type. This information supports Hack's (1960) theory of *Dynamic Equilibrium*.

Dolly Sods, West Virginia, 2007

Hancock and Kirwan (2007) determined erosion rates using in situ ¹⁰Be from exposed bedrock on high elevation surfaces in Dolly Sods, West Virginia, and the Appalachian plateau. Dolly Sods, a broad, gently rolling upland, is situated around 300 km southwest of the late Wisconsinin glacial maximum. The bedrock is mainly quartz conglomerates and sandstones. They collected bedrock samples from bedrock blocks, tors, and outcrops. Also, quartz clasts were taken from the conglomerate to determine the erosional history.

The average in situ erosion rate from the bedrock outcrops was 7 m My⁻¹. The average in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate from the conglomerates was 6 m My⁻¹. These data indicate that the erosion at Dolly Sods is slow, despite the fact that it experienced a periglacial climate during parts of the last 2.4 my. These bedrock in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates are, on average, much lower than fluvial in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates measured in samples from the Appalachians. Hancock and Kirwan (2007) believe that the bedrock erosion rates are low because the region is in disequilibrium. They show that the topographic relief is increasing at a rate of around 10-790 m My⁻¹ as evidence of the disequilibrium. The observation of increasing relief is inconsistent with Hack's (1960)

theory which causes them to believe that the Dolly Sods landscape in the process of transitioning to a state of equilibrium. The region must be adjusting to climatically-driven increases in the rates of fluvial incision, which causes the large changes in relief.

Potomac and Susquehanna Bedrock, 2010

Portenga, Bierman and Trodick et al. (2010) collected 72 samples from spur-ridge and ridge-top bedrock outcrops within the Potomac and Susquehanna River Basins and calculated in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates for each of these samples. 46 samples came from the Potomac River Basin and 26 came from the Susquehanna River Basin. The Potomac erosion rates range from 1 to 66 m My⁻¹ and the Susquehanna ranges from 2 to 28 m My⁻¹. They discovered similar rates of erosion between the bedrock outcrops from their study and the drainage basins erosion rates from my study. This leads to the conclusion that the Central Appalachians have reached a general state of equilibrium which disagrees with some previous studies (Reuter, et al., 2006; Hancock & Kirwan, 2007).

Thermochronology

Several projects have used thermochronology to determine long-term erosion rates in the Appalachian Mountains. In most thermochronology studies, fission track dating is the technique used. Fission track dating involves analyzing the damage trails left by fission fragments in certain uranium bearing minerals. Typically the dating is done by counting the number of fission events produced during the decay of ²³⁸U in accessory minerals, usually zircon. This allows researchers to determine when the rock cooled

below its closure temperature (Roden, 1991; Pazzaglia & Brandon, 1996; Spotila, et al., 2004; Naeser, et al., 2004). Knowing when the rock reached its closure temperature allows researchers to determine many things about the rock including the age of the rock and the erosion rate of the rock if the geothermal gradient is assumed.

Naeser, et al. (2004) inferred erosion rates of 20 m My^{-1} in the Blue Ridge Province. Pazzaglia and Brandon (1996) found an average erosion rate of 29 m My^{-1} for the entire Appalachians Mountains. Spotila et al. (2004) found erosion rates between 9 m My^{-1} –29 m My^{-1} along the Blue Ridge escarpment. Roden (1991) found erosion rates of 16 m My^{-1} –36 m My^{-1} in the Southern Appalachian Basin of Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.

Implications of Past Studies for Potomac Erosion Rates

These previous studies make it possible to craft hypotheses about erosion rates in the Potomac Basin. First, the measured erosion rates in the region range from 1 to 70 m My⁻¹. Most of my erosion rates should fall in that range. Potomac Basin erosion rates should be most similar to Duxbury's (2009) fluvial samples because they came from the Shenandoah River, a tributary of the Potomac River. Duxbury's (2009) average in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate of 11 m My⁻¹ should be very similar to my average erosion rate especially in the Blue Ridge Province. Also, I should see clear similarities with Portenga, Bierman and Trodick et al.'s (2010) bedrock samples from the Potomac Watershed. My erosion rates should be similar to their average bedrock erosion rate of 15 m My⁻¹ in the Potomac River Basin.




A map of the Potomac Watershed showing average annual precipitation in millimeters per year; the dark regions have higher rainfall and lighter regions have lower rainfall (from <u>http://worldclim.org/</u>). The turquoise polygons are the sampled basins and the dark blue dots are the sample sites and the yellow labels are the sample number.



Figure 2.2 – Land Use in the Potomac Basin.

A map of the Potomac Watershed showing the different land uses of the region. Red is developed land, light yellow is agriculture land, and green is forest (NOAA, 2010). The turquoise polygons are the sampled basins and the dark blue dots are the sample sites and the yellow labels are the sample number.

Chapter 3 - Methods

Sampling Strategy

I collected sediment samples from 71 stream and river basins in the Potomac Drainage Basin. I sampled 10 basins at locations with U.S. Geological Survey gaging stations or former gaging stations, which have long-term sediment yield records (Gellis, et al., 2004). In ArcGIS, I split the Potomac Basin into separate physiographic provinces and used a slope DEM to find small river basins. Then, using topographic maps, I found each sampling site and traced its basin. After tracing the basin, I examined it on the topographic map to see if there were potential disturbances within the basin that could affect my sampling, including quarrying and gravel pits. If there were significant disturbances in a basin, I did not sample it. I selected 61 small (5–100 km²) basins of the Potomac River and its tributaries in this manner (Figure 3.1). Basins have different land uses (Figure 2.2), elevation (Figure 3.1) and different mean slopes (Figure 3.2).

At each sampling site, I collected fine sand in the middle of the stream or on point bars and sieved the sand on site to between 250 and 850 μ m before collecting 0.5 kg to 2 kg of sample, depending on the amount of quartz in the sample. At each sampling site, I took several pictures, determined the latitude and longitude of the site using GPS and marked the sample site in a Delorme Atlas.

Lab Methods

After collection, samples were returned to the University of Vermont for processing. First, I dried and sieved each sample. Then, I took an aliquot from each sample for meteoric ¹⁰Be analysis and magnetically separated the rest of the sample for in situ ¹⁰Be processing. The in situ ¹⁰Be samples went through repeated ultrasonic etching in hot 6N HCl, followed by dilute HF/HNO₃, that dissolves most minerals except quartz (Kohl & Nishiizumi, 1992). The in situ ¹⁰Be samples had all organic material, including coal, removed in a high temperature burn of 500° C for 5 hours. Density separation removed any remaining heavy minerals in the in situ ¹⁰Be samples, before a 7-day, weak acid (HF and HNO₃) etch.

Before the final round of processing, the samples went through a quartz purity test. I took a 0.250 gram aliquot of each sample and dissolved it in a concentrated HF/H₂SO₄ solution. Then each sample had the HF evaporated off leaving just the dissolved sample in H₂SO₄. This solution was diluted with Milliq-Q water (DI water that has been further cleaned) and analyzed on a JY Horiba ICP-OES. The best samples have less than 100 ppm Al, Fe and Ti along with around 10 ppm Na, Ca and K. If samples had more than the desired amounts of any of these elements, they went through another density separation if dark heavy minerals were visible, a 7-day weak acid (HF and HNO₃) etch, and return for another quartz purity test.

For in situ ¹⁰Be measurements, I dissolved purified quartz in concentrated HF in the presence of ⁹Be SPEX brand carrier. I dried each sample with HClO₄ and HCl before

removing Fe by anion chromatography and separating Be with cation chromatography. BeOH was precipitated, dried and burned followed by a mixing with Nb in 1:1 molar ratio before packing into targets for isotopic analysis.

I used a flux-fusion method modified from Stone (1998) to extract meteoric ¹⁰Be, which adheres to the surface of sediment and soil grains, from each of my meteoric ¹⁰Be samples. First, I powdered the sample and then spiked with ⁹Be. Then, I added KHF₂ and Na₂SO₄ to the sample and fused each sample in a platinum crucible over a natural gas/O₂ flame. I removed potassium using HClO₄ and cation chromatography removed B. I precipitated Be(OH)₂ with NH₄OH and burned each sample to form BeO. I measured beryllium isotopic ratios with an Accelerator Mass Spectrometer (AMS) at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and normalized to standard 07KNSTD3110 with a reported ¹⁰Be/⁹Be ratio of 2.85 x 10⁻¹² (Nishiizumi, et al., 2007).

Every in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be batch that I processed contained one full process blank that was treated the same way as the samples only no sample was added to it. These blanks were run on the AMS along with the other samples. The blank ratios were then subtracted from the ratios of the samples that they were processed with. This corrects for any background ¹⁰Be in AMS or added in processing. The uncertainty reported with each sample reflects the greater of the internal error (controlled by counting statistics) and the external error (controlled by reproducibility over multiple analyses). A small uncertainty is introduced by the correction made for blanks and boron isobaric interference. For these samples, both of those corrections are very small and thus introduce minimal uncertainty. None of my sample errors were much over 2%.

Data Calculations

I determined an effective elevation, longitude and latitude for each basin using ArcGIS and Matlab R2010a. Luke Reusser created a model in ArcGIS that exports elevation, longitude, and latitude as ASCII grid files for each cell in any size watershed and elevation datasets of any resolution. I fed the ASCII grid files directly into a Matlab script that determined the effective elevation and latitude needed by the CRONUS calculator, which calculates the erosion rate for each sample (Balco, et al., 2008). The Matlab script reduces the ASCII grid files of elevation and latitude to a single point representing the entire basin. The elevation and latitude grids are used to calculate the ELD scaling factor for each cell. The average scaling factor for all cells, or the effective ELD, is used in conjunction with the actual effective latitude for the basin to backcalculate the corresponding effective elevation (Portenga & Bierman, 2011).

I fed this information along with the final data from LLNL into the CRONUS calculator to determine basin scale erosion rates using the in situ ¹⁰Be data (Balco, et al., 2008). Measured in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations were corrected for basin elevation and latitude based on the scaling scheme of Lal (1991) and Stone (2000). Basin-scale erosion rates were modeled using the interpretive model of Bierman and Steig (1996) with a normalized sea level, high latitude in situ ¹⁰Be production rate of 4.9 atoms g quartz⁻¹ yr⁻¹, an attenuation depth of 160 g cm⁻², and assuming a rock density of 2.7 g cm⁻³.

I calculated the deposition rate of meteoric ¹⁰Be in each basin using Equation 2 from Graly et al. (2010), seen below as Equation 3-1. *P* is the annual precipitation in cm of the sample site and *L* is the latitude, in decimal degrees. The calculated deposition rate is in atoms cm⁻² y⁻¹.

$$Q = P * \left(\frac{1.44}{1 + e^{(30.7 - L) / 4.36)} + 0.63} \right)$$
 Equation 3-1

Next, I needed to normalize my meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations, because meteoric ¹⁰Be deposition rates vary from basin to basin. Deposition rates vary by latitude and precipitation. Given two basins sitting at different latitudes and experiencing different amounts of precipitation but with all other variables equal, each basin will have different deposition rates. Therefore over a fixed period of time these basins will have different concentrations of meteoric ¹⁰Be in the soil. To normalize my meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration rate to get ratio between the basin production rate and the lowest observed production rate. Next, I divided each measured meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration by the ratio for each basin. This gives me a normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration, accounting for differing deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rate by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rate by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rate by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rate by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rate by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rates by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rates by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rates by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rates by the lowest calculated deposition rates by the lowest calculated deposition rates between basins. I divided each deposition rates by the lowest calculated deposition rates b

Also, I needed to normalize my in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations, because like meteoric ¹⁰Be deposition rates, in situ ¹⁰Be production rates vary from basin to basin. Production rates vary by latitude and elevation. Given two basins sitting at different latitudes and

elevation each basin will have different production rates. Therefore, these basins will have different concentrations of in situ ¹⁰B even if they are eroding at the same rate. The production rates were determined in the CRONUS calculator (Balco, et al., 2008) and I used the total production rates. To normalize my in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations I divided each basin-specific production rate by 4.9 atoms g quartz⁻¹ yr⁻¹, the sea level, high latitude in situ ¹⁰Be production rate, to get a ratio between the observed production rate and the expected production rate. Next, I divided each measured in situ ¹⁰Be concentration by the ratio for each basin. This gives me a normalized in situ ¹⁰Be concentration, accounting for differing production rates between basins. I use this concentration for all future analyses of in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations.

For an easier comparison of meteoric and in situ ¹⁰Be normalized concentrations, I divided each normalized concentration by its highest respective normalized concentration. These final standardized data allow for an easy comparison between meteoric and in situ ¹⁰Be normalized concentrations because the standardized concentrations should line up on a 1 to 1 line. Then, as a way to quantify the difference between the standardized in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations, I divided the standardized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration by the standardized in situ ¹⁰Be concentration for each basin. This ratio allows me to determine if any known variables (ex. average slope, annual rainfall, etc.) are potentially affecting the relationship between normalized in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations and normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. I also calculated model erosion rates using my meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. I use equation 3-2 below, where M equals my un-normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations in atoms per gram and ρ equals the density of the rock at 2.7 grams per cm². *Q* is the basin specific meteoric ¹⁰Be deposition rate. This equation is the same as equation 21 reported in Willenbring and von Blanckenburg (2010) except the meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rate (*MER*) is converted to meters per million year.

$$MER = \frac{\frac{Q}{\rho * M}}{10^8}$$
 Equation 3-2

I converted my erosion rates, both meteoric and in situ ¹⁰Be, into long-term sediment export rates (*LTSE*) using the units of grams per year to maintain consistency with modern sediment yields. I used the equation below, where *ER* is the erosion rate in meters per million year and A_m is the basin area in m².

$$LTSE = ER * A_m * \rho$$
Equation 3-3
Statistical Analysis

Most of my data analysis was performed using JMP 9. First, I created box plots of my in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates and examined outliers (Figure 3.3 and Figure 3.4). For the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate outliers, I looked back at the sampling sites to see if I possibly collected sediment that either did not come from the basin or did not represent the basin as a whole. All situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate analyses were repeated, with and without the outliers. One outlier sticks out for in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates, 39 m My⁻¹, in the Coastal Plain, POT20. I took the sample just downstream from a U.S. Department of Agriculture

testing site where soil may be imported or disturbed. That possibility combined with the fact that the outlier is 30 m My^{-1} higher than the 2nd highest Coastal Plain in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate, 9 m My⁻¹, casts doubt on the veracity of the sample.

After doing the initial analysis of the meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates, I discovered 21% were outliers and that 58% of the meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates are at least twice the in situ erosion rates from the same basin. Because of these observations, I did all meteoric statistics on the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations not excluding any outliers.

I did log₁₀ transformations of my in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates both with and without outliers. I also, did log₁₀ transformations of my normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations with all outliers included. Then, I tested each of the transformations and the original data to determine if they were normally distributed, using the Shapiro-Wilk W Test (Figure 3.5 - Figure 3.10). Next, I chose the most normally distributed group of data or transformations to use for future analysis. In this case, the log₁₀ transformations of the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates including outliers and the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations data had the highest W-Value, meaning they were the closest to normally distributed (Figure 3.6 and Figure 3.10). After the 2 outliers were removed from the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate population the original data was closest to normally distributed (Figure 3.7).

I analyzed both the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates and normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations with respect to average slope, basin area, and effective elevation using regression analysis with a 95% confidence interval. I also analyzed both with respect to physiographic province and land use, using one-way ANOVA tests with a 95%

confidence level. I did all of these analyses in the statistical program JMP. I also did basic summary statistics in Excel and created graphs in Matlab. All maps were made in ArcGIS.

Updating Brown et al. (1988)

Brown et al. (1988) collected 45 fluvial sediment samples from USGS gauging stations on rivers flowing into the Chesapeake Bay. Since they originally calculated their meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations, many things have changed including the value of the ¹⁰Be standard, estimates of the ¹⁰Be half-life, and the estimates of the meteoric ¹⁰Be deposition rate. I updated all of Brown et al. (1988) meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations, updating the standard from KNSTD to 07KNSTD by multiplying each of Brown et al.'s reported meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations by 0.9042. Next, I updated their meteoric ¹⁰Be deposition rates by using equation 3.1. I used both the latitude and annual rainfall published in Brown et al. (1988) in this equation. With the new meteoric ¹⁰Be deposition rate for each basin, I normalized Brown et al.'s (1988) meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations the same way I normalized mine. I was also able to calculate new erosion indices for each of Brown et al (1988) basins using the sediment yields reported in their paper.



Figure 3.1 - Elevation in the Potomac Watershed.

A map of the Potomac Watershed showing the elevation of the land surface in meters, the dark regions have lower elevation and lighter regions have higher elevation (USGS digital data, <u>http://seamless.usgs.gov/</u>). The turquoise polygons are the sampled basins and the dark blue dots are the sample sites and the yellow labels are the sample number.



Figure 3.2 – Slope in the Potomac Watershed.

A map of the Potomac Watershed showing the slope of the land surface in degrees, the dark regions have lower slope and lighter regions have higher slope (USGS digital data, <u>http://seamless.usgs.gov/</u>). The turquoise polygons are the sampled basins and the dark blue dots are the sample sites and the yellow labels are the sample number.



Figure 3.3 – In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rate Box Plot.

A box plot of all of Potomac River Basin in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates. The y-axis is the erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers. All other data points are small red circles.



Figure 3.4 – Meteoric ¹⁰Be Erosion Rate Box Plot.

A box plot of all of Potomac River Basin meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates. The y-axis is the erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers. All other data points are small red circles.



Figure 3.5 – In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rate Histogram with Outliers. A histogram of Potomac River Basin in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates in m My⁻¹ with all outliers included. The analysis shows the data are not normally distributed (W<0.01).



Figure 3.6 – Log₁₀ Transformation of In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rates Histogram with Outliers Included.

A histogram of Potomac River Basin \log_{10} transformed in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates with all outliers included. The analysis shows the data are somewhat normally distributed (W=0.07).







Figure 3.8 - Log₁₀ Transformation of In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rates Histogram without Outliers.

A histogram of Potomac River Basin \log_{10} transformed in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates without 2 outliers. The analysis shows the data are not normally distributed (W<0.01).



Figure 3.9 - Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations Histogram of All Samples. A histogram of Potomac River Basin meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. The analysis shows the data are not normally distributed (W<0.01).



Figure 3.10 - Log₁₀ Transformation of Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations Histogram of all data included.

A histogram of Potomac River Basin \log_{10} transformed meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. The analysis shows the data are normally distributed (W=0.49).

Chapter 4 - Data

In Situ¹⁰Be

Potomac River samples measured for in situ ¹⁰Be (n=62) (Table A.1), had a range of normalized, to high latitude and sea-level, ¹⁰Be concentrations from 9.72 x 10⁴ to 9.14 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz with a mean of 3.43 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz, median of 2.79 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz (Figure 4.1 and Figure 4.2). Within each province, in situ ¹⁰Be concentration ranges were: Coastal Plain, 9.72 x 10⁴ to 8.08 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz; Appalachian Plateau, 1.69 x 10⁵ to 3.08 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz; Blue Ridge, 1.94 x 10⁵ to 3.41 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz; Piedmont, 1.66 x 10⁵ to 9.14 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz and Valley and Ridge, 1.05 x 10⁵ to 8.18 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz (Table 4.1 and Figure 4.3). The larger basins which contain many of the physiographic provinces have ¹⁰Be concentrations of 1.89 x 10⁵ and 2.01 x 10⁵ atoms g⁻¹ quartz.

In situ, basin-scale, ¹⁰Be erosion rates range from 3 to 39 m My⁻¹ with a mean and median of 12 m My⁻¹ and two outliers, one in the Coastal Plain 39 m My⁻¹ and one in the Valley and Ridge 29 m My⁻¹ (Figure 3.3); the data do not show a normal distribution (w<0.01) (Figure 3.5), but when log_{10} transformed the data become more normally distributed (w=0.07) (Figure 3.6). When the outliers are removed, the data are normally distributed (0.17) (Figure 3.7), but when log_{10} transformed, the data, without outliers, are no longer normally distributed (w<0.01) (Figure 3.8). All of the analyses were done on the log_{10} transformed the data including outliers and the original data without outliers

province, the erosion rate ranges are: Coastal Plain, 4 to 39 m My⁻¹; Appalachian Plateau, 10 to 18 m My⁻¹; Blue Ridge, 9 to 16 m My⁻¹; Piedmont, 3 to 21 m My⁻¹ and Valley and Ridge, 3 to 29 m My⁻¹ (Table 4.1 and Figure 4.4). The larger basins, which include many physiographic provinces, have in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates of 16 and 17 m My⁻¹.

In situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates, including outliers, show no correlation with slope $(R^2=0.06, p>0.05)$, but a weak correlation with elevation $(R^2=0.10, p=0.01)$ (Figure 4.5 and Figure 4.6). The range of in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates including outliers changes a lot with basin area but has no correlation $(R^2=0.02, p=0.23)$ (Figure 4.7). The in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates including outliers grouped by physiographic provinces show no statistical inseparability using an ANOVA (p=0.13) (Figure 4.4). In situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates, excluding outliers, grouped by physiographic provinces show the Coastal Plain is statistically dissimilar using ANOVA (p=0.25) (Figure 4.4). In situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates, including outliers, show a weak correlation with weighted average and min soil pH, ($R^2=0.06$, p=0.049; $R^2=0.07$, p=0.04) (Figure 4.8, Figure 4.9) but no correlation with max soil pH ($R^2=0.05$, p=0.08) (Figure 4.10).

Meteoric ¹⁰Be

Potomac River Basin samples measured for meteoric ¹⁰Be (n=70) (Table A.1), had a range of normalized ¹⁰Be concentrations from 1.02 x 10⁷ to 6.62 x 10⁸ atoms g⁻¹ sediment with a mean of 1.39 x 10⁸ atoms g⁻¹ sediment , median of 9.61 x 10⁷ atoms g⁻¹ sediment (Figure 4.11). The data are not normally distributed (w<0.01) (Figure 3.9), but when \log_{10} transformed, the data becomes more normally distributed (w=0.49) (Figure 3.10). Within each province, meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration ranges were: Valley and Ridge, 3.02×10^7 to 3.42×10^8 atoms g⁻¹ sediment; Appalachian Plateau, 3.18×10^7 to 3.68×10^8 atoms g⁻¹ sediment; Piedmont, 2.26×10^7 to 2.84×10^8 atoms g⁻¹ sediment; Blue Ridge, 1.31×10^7 to 2.31×10^8 atoms g⁻¹ sediment and Coastal Plain, 1.02×10^7 to 3.11×10^7 atoms g⁻¹ sediment (Table 4.2 and Figure 4.12). The larger basins which flow through many of the physiographic provinces have concentrations of 6.00×10^7 and 6.49×10^7 atoms g⁻¹ sediment.

Meteoric, basin-scale, ¹⁰Be erosion rates modeled using the approach of Willenbring and von Blanckenburg (2010) range from 3 to 212 m My⁻¹ with a mean of 40 m My⁻¹ and a median of 22 m My⁻¹ (Figure 3.4). By province, the model erosion rate ranges are: Appalachian Plateau, 6 to 67 m My⁻¹; Valley and Ridge, 3 to 71 m My⁻¹; Piedmont, 4 to 95 m My⁻¹; Coastal Plain, 69 to 212 m My⁻¹ and Blue Ridge, 9 to 164 m My⁻¹ (Table 4.2 and Figure 4.13). The larger basins, which include many physiographic provinces, have meteoric ¹⁰Be model erosion rates of 36 and 33 m My⁻¹.

Normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show a weak correlation with slope $(R^2=0.06, p=0.04)$ (Figure 4.14) and no correlation with elevation $(R^2<0.01, p=0.82)$ (Figure 4.15). Normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show a pattern similar to what others have seen with basin area and in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates (Duxbury, 2009; Matmon, et al., 2003; Reuter, et al., 2006; Sullivan, 2007), small basins show large variability while large basins show less variability but there is no correlation of concentration with

area ($R^2 < 0.01$, p=0.63) (Figure 4.16). Meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations in Coastal Plain sediments are statistically dissimilar than the other provinces using ANOVA (p<0.01). The other four physiographic provinces have statistically similar meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations (p=0.06) (Figure 4.12). Meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show a weak correlation with max and min soil pH, ($R^2=0.16$, p<0.01; $R^2=0.07$, p=0.03) (Figure 4.17, Figure 4.18) but no correlation with weighted average soil pH ($R^2=0.02$, p=0.25) (Figure 4.19).

Chapter 4 – Tables

		Normalized In Situ ¹⁰ Be Concentrations (atoms g ⁻¹)				In Situ ¹⁰ Be Erosion Rates (m My ⁻¹)			
Province	Amount	Min	Max	Mean	Median	Min	Max	Mean	Median
All	62	9.72E+04	9.14E+05	3.43E+05	2.79E+05	3	39	12	12
СР	8	9.72E+04	8.08E+05	5.20E+05	5.32E+05	4	39	10	6
Pied	21	1.66E+05	9.14E+05	3.36E+05	2.68E+05	3	21	12	12
BR	8	1.94E+05	3.41E+05	2.64E+05	2.44E+05	9	16	12	13
VR	17	1.05E+05	8.18E+05	3.60E+05	3.24E+05	3	29	11	9
AP	6	1.69E+05	3.08E+05	2.35E+05	2.35E+05	10	18	13	13

Table 4.1 - In Situ ¹⁰Be Summary Statistics

		Meteoric ¹⁰ Be Concentrations (atoms g ⁻¹)				Meteoric ¹⁰ Be Erosion Rates (m My ⁻¹)			
Province	Amount	Min	Max	Mean	Median	Min	Max	Mean	Median
All	70	1.02E+07	6.62E+08	1.39E+08	9.61E+07	3	212	40	22
СР	8	1.02E+07	3.11E+07	1.88E+07	1.74E+07	69	212	132	125
Pied	21	2.26E+07	4.79E+08	1.20E+08	7.47E+07	4	95	35	29
BR	8	1.31E+07	2.31E+08	9.89E+07	8.86E+07	9	164	40	24
VR	21	3.02E+07	6.62E+08	2.07E+08	1.20E+08	3	71	20	18
AP	10	3.18E+07	3.68E+08	1.80E+08	1.78E+08	6	67	19	12

 Table 4.2 - Meteoric ¹⁰Be Summary Statistics



Figure 4.1 - In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations Histogram.

A histogram showing the variability of normalized in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations from the Potomac River Basin samples. The x-axis shows the ranges of normalized in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations in atoms/g. (W<0.01)



Figure 4.2 - A Boxplot of all of Potomac River Basin Normalized In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations.

The y-axis is the normalized in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations in atoms g quartz⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles.



Figure 4.3 - Normalized In Situ ¹⁰**Be Concentration against Physiographic Province.** CP is the Coastal Plain, Pied is the Piedmont, BR is the Blue Ridge, VR is the Valley and Ridge, and AP is the Appalachian Plateau. The y-axis is the normalized in situ ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g quartz⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles (p=0.02).



Figure 4.4 - In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rate Including Outliers against Physiographic Province.

CP is the Coastal Plain, Pied is the Piedmont, BR is the Blue Ridge, VR is the Valley and Ridge, and AP is the Appalachian Plateau. The y-axis is the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate in m My^{-1} . The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles (with outliers p=0.14, without outliers p<0.01).



Figure 4.5 - In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rate Including Outliers against Average Slope. The y-axis is the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The x-axis is the average slope in degrees. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. In situ erosion rates show no correlation with slope (R^2 =0.06, p>0.05).



Figure 4.6 - In Situ ¹⁰**Be Erosion Rate Including Outliers against Effective Elevation.** The y-axis is the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The x-axis is the effective elevation in meters. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. In situ erosion rates show a weak correlation with effective elevation (R^2 =0.09, p=0.01).



Figure 4.7 - In Situ ¹⁰**Be Erosion Rate Including Outliers against Basin Area.** The y-axis is the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The x-axis is the basin area in km² on a log scale. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. In situ erosion rates show no correlation with basin area (R^2 =0.02, p=0.23).



Figure 4.8 - In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rate Including Outliers against Weighted Average Soil pH.

The y-axis is the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The x-axis is the weighted average soil pH. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. In situ erosion rates show a weak correlation with weighted average soil pH (R^2 =0.06, p=0.049). Data taken from http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/.






Figure 4.10 - In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rate Including Outliers against Maximum Soil pH.

The y-axis is the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The x-axis is the maximum soil pH. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. In situ erosion rates show a weak correlation with maximum soil pH (R^2 =0.05, p=0.08). Data taken from http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/.



Figure 4.11 - Box Plot of Potomac River Basin Normalized Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations.

A box plot of all of Potomac River Basin meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g sediment⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles.



Figure 4.12 - Normalized Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentration against Physiographic Provinces.

CP is the Coastal Plain, Pied is the Piedmont, BR is the Blue Ridge, VR is the Valley and Ridge, and AP is the Appalachian Plateau. The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g sediment⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles (p=0.01).



Figure 4.13 - Meteoric ¹⁰**Be Erosion Rate against Physiographic Provinces.** CP is the Coastal Plain, Pied is the Piedmont, BR is the Blue Ridge, VR is the Valley and Ridge, and AP is the Appalachian Plateau. The y-axis is the meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles. The Piedmont, Blue Ridge, Valley and Ridge and Appalachian Plateau show statistical similarities (*p*=0.12). The Coastal Plain has much higher rates than the other provinces with a median five times higher than all of the other provinces (*p*<0.01).



Figure 4.14 - Normalized Meteoric ¹⁰**Be Concentration against Average Slope.** The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g sediment⁻¹ in log scale. The x-axis is the average slope in degrees. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. Normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations shows a weak correlation with slope (r²=0.06, *p*=0.04).



Figure 4.15 – Normalized Meteoric ¹⁰**Be Concentration against Effective Elevation.** The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g sediment⁻¹ on a log scale. The x-axis is the average elevation in meters. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. Normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show a weak correlation with effective elevation (R²=0.06, p=0.04).





Figure 4.16 - Normalized Meteoric¹⁰**Be Concentration against Basin Area.** The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g sediment⁻¹ on a log scale. The x-axis is the basin area in km^2 on a log scale. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. Normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show no correlation with basin area ($R^2 < 0.01$, *p*=0.63).



Figure 4.17 - Normalized Meteoric¹⁰**Be Concentrations against Maximum Soil pH.** The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g sediment⁻¹ on a log scale. The x-axis is the maximum soil pH. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. Normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show a weak correlation with maximum soil pH (R^2 =0.16, p<0.01). Data taken from <u>http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/</u>.







Figure 4.19 - Normalized Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Weighted Average Soil pH.

The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g sediment⁻¹ on a log scale. The x-axis is the weighted average soil pH. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. Normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show no correlation with weighted average soil pH (R^2 =0.02, p=0.25). Data taken from <u>http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/</u>.

Chapter 5 – Discussion

With all of my data and the previous information collected about the region, I was able to do large amount of analysis on the Potomac Watershed. First, I assume that in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates represent the actual erosion rates from the basin integrated over the last 10⁴ to 10⁵ years. With this assumption, I am able to analyze what, if any, landscape-scale variables affect the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates. Erosion rates modeled from meteoric ¹⁰Be in fluvial sediments appear unrepresentative for most basins, based on a lack of correlation with the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates. Thus, I examine the variables affecting meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations to better understand why the meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates are incorrect. I also want to understand better the relationship between in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be as another way to determine why the meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations, I am able to compare my ¹⁰Be concentrations and modeled erosion rates with sediment yields. I am also able to compare my meteoric ¹⁰Be.

Comparing In Situ vs. Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations

No correlation exists between standardized in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations (R^2 =0.08, p=0.03) (Figure 5.1). Many factors potentially cause this lack of correlation. First, the production curve of in situ ¹⁰Be is exponential with depth. Biota can churn the soil and mix the quartz grains so there is no depth dependence of in situ ¹⁰Be concentration to the depth at which stirring reaches (Jungers et al., 2009). Second,

meteoric ¹⁰Be typically has larger concentrations in the B horizon of well-developed soils than the A horizon (Jungers, et al., 2009; Graly, et al., 2010). If the erosion occurring in the basin is only stripping soil from the very top of the soil column the eroded soil could potentially be deficient in meteoric ¹⁰Be. All of the meteoric ¹⁰Be may not remain adhered to grains or may not attach to the grains at all. This does not appear true because the ratio between meteoric and in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations has no correlation with weight average, max or min soil pH in each basin (R^2 =0.01, p=0.42; R^2 =0.04, p=0.10; R^2 <0.02, p=0.28) (Figure 5.2-Figure 5.4). These findings agree with the previous findings of Graly et al. (2010) who found no correlation between meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration and pH or CEC at pH above 4.

Another possibility for the difference between the standardized in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations could be a sampling bias. I only sampled sediment that was between 250 and 850 µm and I potentially did not sample the sediment that had most of the meteoric ¹⁰Be. A sample with smaller sediment sizes would have more surface area therefore it could hold a larger amount of meteoric ¹⁰Be. If this is true for my samples than it contrasts with Brown et al. (1988) who found no relationship between meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations and grain sizes but is consistent with the ¹⁰Be/grain size relationship reported in Willenbring and von Blanckenburg (2010).

Using the ratio I created to quantify the relationship between in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations, based off of the data for Figure 5.1, I examined several variables to see if any were affecting the relationship between in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. With this ratio I can see that 53 basins, or 85%, fall below the one to one

line on Figure 5.1 indicating they have less meteoric ¹⁰Be than expected and 9 basins, or 14%, are above the line indicating they have more meteoric ¹⁰Be than expected. This shows me that a majority of the samples have less meteoric ¹⁰Be in them than expected.

The Coastal Plain is statistically different than the other physiographic provinces when looking at the difference between normalized in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations (p=0.02). All of the other provinces are statistically similar (p=0.95) (Figure 5.5). In Figure 5.1 it is also possible to see that the all of the Coastal Plain samples are in a line across the bottom of the graph while the other physiographic provinces are spread around the graph. This is expected considering the Coastal Plain has the highest in situ concentrations and the lowest meteoric concentrations. There is also no correlation with the ratio between normalized meteoric and in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations and slope, effective elevation, basin area or annual precipitation (R^2 =0.01, p=0.42; R^2 =0.04, p=0.12; R^2 <0.01, p=0.83; R^2 <0.01, p=0.91) (Figure 5.6-Figure 5.9).

One factor does seem to have an effect on the ratio of meteoric ¹⁰Be to in situ ¹⁰Be, land use. I determined the dominate land use in each of the basins by calculating which land use was in the largest percentage of the basin (Figure 2.2) (NOAA, 2010). All of the basins fell into either agriculture, forest or urban. The ratio of meteoric ¹⁰Be to in situ ¹⁰Be in each of these land use categories are statistically dissimilar from one another (p<0.01) (Figure 5.10). The mean ratio of agriculture is 0.82, forest is 0.57 and urban is 0.20. This makes sense in agriculture regions because the farmers are probably plowing up meteoric ¹⁰Be from the B horizon while not changing the concentration of in situ ¹⁰Be. The urban ratio could be explained by two factors. First, construction could be digging up soil below the B horizon with low meteoric ¹⁰Be but this would show up in the in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations also, but it does not (Figure 5.11). Another possibility is human activity decreasing the pH of the soil thereby making it more difficult for the soil to retain meteoric ¹⁰Be. Also, it is worth noting that all of the urban basins are in the Coastal Plain or very near the Coastal Plain which appears to naturally have relatively low concentrations on meteoric ¹⁰Be.

Gaged basins

For each of my basins, I converted my erosion rates into export rates of grams per year so that I could do a direct comparison between sediment yield, in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates and meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates for the ten U.S. Geological Survey gauged sampling sites. Small basins have variable differences between sediment yield, in situ ¹⁰Be export rates and meteoric ¹⁰Be export rates. Large basins, specifically the six largest basins (440 km² to 29796 km²); show less difference between sediment yield, in situ ¹⁰Be bases sediment export rates and meteoric ¹⁰Be based sediment export rates (Figure 5.12). Small basins naturally have more variability in sediment input and large basins have much less variability. Events, such as a land slide or a construction project, affect small basins much more because these events release a large percentage of the sediment leaving the basin. In larger basins these same events have much less affect because they release a much smaller percentage of the sediment from the basin. The difference between in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be sediment export rates when comparing them to modern sediment export rates could be explained by timescale difference. All of the differences between the long-term export rates, both in situ and meteoric, and the modern export rates are an order of magnitude or less. Gardner et al. (1987) showed the difference in timescale can explain up to an order of magnitude of difference between modern and long-term timescales.

A comparison of the standardized in situ and meteoric concentrations from the large basins shows that even in the large basins (440 km² to 29796 km²) of the Potomac Watershed the standardized concentrations show no correlation ($R^2=0.27$, p=0.24) (Figure 5.13). This lack of correlation most likely is caused the different land uses in the basins potentially affecting the meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations and acidic soils causing less than expected meteoric ¹⁰Be to stick to soils.

Variables Affecting In Situ¹⁰Be Erosion Rates

All statistical analyses of in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates were done twice, once, with all of the data in a log_{10} transformation and a second time with the original data having samples POT20 and POT45 removed. I did the dual analysis to better understand how the outliers affect statistical inferences. The data, including the outliers, were log_{10} transformed to make the data more normally distributed, while the data excluding the outliers was not transformed because the original data was more normal than the transformation.

Basin size

Basin area seems to have no correlation with in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates both including and excluding outliers (R^2 =0.02, p=0.23; R^2 =0.05, p=0.10) (Figure 4.7). Larger basins often show less variability in the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates (Duxbury, 2009; Matmon, et al., 2003; Reuter, et al., 2006; Sullivan, 2007) but it appears that the large basins in the Potomac Watershed contain as much variability as the small basins as long as you exclude the two statistical outliers at 29 and 39 m My⁻¹. Smaller basin erosion rates range from 4 to 21 m My⁻¹ while large basins range from 7 to 17 m My⁻¹. The slight difference in range is most likely caused by many more samples coming from small basins and mixing occurring in the larger basins. I believe that variability did not change with basin size for one main reason, the small basins show little variability, which makes it difficult, statistically, for the larger basins to show less variability.

Slope and Elevation

In situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates show no correlation with average basin slope and a weak positive correlation with the effective elevation of a basin when outliers are both included and excluded (Slope R^2 =0.06, p>0.05; R^2 =0.04, p=0.11; Elevation R^2 =0.10, p=0.01; R^2 =0.11, p=0.01) (Figure 4.5, Figure 4.6). There is no correlation between slope and in situ erosion rates for each physiographic province considered individually (CP, R^2 =0.01, p=0.81; Pied, R^2 =0.06, p=0.27; BR, R^2 =0.01, p=0.81; VR, R^2 =0.22, p>0.05; AP, R^2 =0.07, p=0.61) (Figure 4.5). Also, there is no correlation between the average erosion rate of each physiographic province and the average slope (R^2 =0.31, p=0.33) (Figure 5.14). The lack of a relationship between erosion rates and average slope contradicts some previous studies (DiBase, et al., 2009; Matmon, et al., 2003; Ouimet, et al., 2009; Palumbo, et al., 2009; von Blanckenburg, et al., 2004; Portenga & Bierman, 2011). The weak correlation between elevation and in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates also contrast with some previous studies (Heimsath, et al., 2000; Palumbo, et al., 2009), but agrees with Portenga and Bierman (2011).

I believe that two factors cause this lack of correlation. First, the hills and mountains of the Potomac Watershed have had plenty of time to reach equilibrium. Looking at the contrasting views of Hack (1960) and Davis (1899) allows me to better understand the landscape evolution in the area. Hack's (1960) model suggests there should be very few areas of relatively high and low erosion rates in the sampled basin, which is what I measure in the Potomac River Basin. Hard to erode quartzites and quartz sandstone make up most of the steep areas and sediments and easily eroded shales make up the less sloped areas (Hack, 1960). The flattest and lowest area, the Coastal Plain, does have the lowest erosion rates and is statistically different when outliers are removed, most likely because the Coastal Plain has such a low slope making it extremely difficult to erode. On average, sampled basins from the Coastal Plain and the Piedmont both have statistically lower slopes than the other three provinces (p<0.01) and the Coastal Plain has a lower slope than the Piedmont (p=0.01) (Figure 5.15).

Physiographic provinces and spatial distribution

When the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate outliers are left in, all five physiographic provinces have statistically similar erosion rates (p=0.13) (Figure 4.4). With outliers taken out the Coastal Plain is statistically different with its lower erosion rates (p<0.01). The other four provinces show statistical similarity (p=0.25) (Figure 4.4). As stated above, the very low slope and elevation of the Coastal Plain appears to cause the difference in in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates.

Looking at Figure 5.16 it is possible to see the locations with the highest and lowest in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates. As was previously determined all of the Coastal Plain samples are very low expect the outlier, POT20. The northern portion of the Piedmont has much larger erosion rates than the southern portion. Besides these patterns the only other pattern that sticks out is a line of low erosion rates in the Appalachian Plateau including POT56, POT57, POT59 and POT60.

Basin Soil pH

In situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates, including outliers, show a weak correlation with weighted average and min soil pH, (R^2 =0.06, p=0.049; R^2 =0.07, p=0.04) (Figure 4.8, Figure 4.9) but no correlation with max soil pH (R^2 =0.05, p=0.08) (Figure 4.10). The lack of correlation is to be expected because soil pH has never been shown to affect in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates.

Erosion Rates from Past Studies

Using the newly recalculated in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates for Duxbury (2009), Matmon, et al. (2003), Reuter et al. (2006) and Sullivan (2007) from Portenga and Bierman (2011), I compared my data and these previous projects. For this analysis, I left the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate outliers in because previous studies left their outliers in. Using ANOVA, my data are statistically dissimilar to that of Matmon et al. (2003) from the Great Smokey Mountains National Park, Reuter et al. (2006) from the Susquehanna, and Sullivan (2007) from the Blue Ridge Escarpment (p<0.01) (Figure 5.17). My data does show statistical similarities with Duxbury's (2009) work from the Shenandoah using a t test (p=0.76) (Figure 5.17), which make sense because the Shenandoah is a tributary of the Potomac River.

Variables Affecting Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations

All statistical analyses done on my meteoric samples examined the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. I did not use erosion rates derived from the meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations because the erosion rates modeled from meteoric ¹⁰Be were largely different than the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates. Because of this large difference, I sought to better understand what affects meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. All of my statistical analyses of the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations were done on log₁₀ transformed data because they are much closer to normally distributed than the original data.

Basin size

Basin area seems to have no correlation with meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations $(R^2 < 0.01, p=0.63)$ (Figure 4.16). Unlike the in situ data, the meteoric concentrations are more variable in small basins and less so in large basins. This is a common characteristic seen with in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates (Duxbury, 2009; Matmon, et al., 2003; Reuter, et al., 2006; Sullivan, 2007). A small amount of this variability is explained by the large amount of samples coming from small basins. Most of the variability must result from the different land uses in the basins and the different soil types. The lack of variability in the large basins is most likely caused by mixing.

Slope and Elevation

It appears the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show a weak positive correlation with average slope and no correlation with the effective elevation of a basin $(R^2=0.06, p=0.04; R^2<0.01, p=0.82)$ (Figure 4.14 and Figure 4.15).

Physiographic provinces and spatial distribution

Like in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates, normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations are statistically different in the Coastal Plain (p<0.01), while the other four physiographic provinces are similar (p=0.08) (Figure 4.12). The normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations are much lower in the Coastal Plain then the other provinces; this is may be caused by acidic soils in the Coastal Plain causing less than expected meteoric ¹⁰Be to be retained. Looking at how soil pH varies by physiographic province the data shows the Coastal Plain actually has some of the higher soil pHs (Figure 5.18).

Looking at Figure 5.19 it is possible to see the locations with the highest and lowest meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. As was previously determined all of the Coastal Plain samples are very low. All but one sample in the Appalachian Plateau has high meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. Also, the samples in the Piedmont that are closest to the Coastal Plain have low meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. The rest of the basin it is very difficult to see any patterns.

Basin Soil pH

Meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show a weak positive correlation with max soil pH and a weak negative correlation with min soil pH, (R^2 =0.16, p<0.01; R^2 =0.07, p=0.03) (Figure 4.17, Figure 4.18) and no correlation with weighted average soil pH (R^2 =0.02, p=0.25) (Figure 4.19). These findings agree with the previous findings of Graly et al. (2010) who found no correlation between meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration and pH or CEC above a pH of 4.

Land Use

Using ANOVA, urban areas have statistically different concentration of ¹⁰Be than agriculture and forested areas (p<0.01). Agriculture and forested areas are statistically similar (p=0.18) (Figure 5.20). Mean normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations for each land use type are; urban 3.68 x 10⁷ atoms g sediment⁻¹, forest 1.39 x 10⁸ atoms g sediment⁻¹ and, agriculture 1.84 x 10⁸ atoms g sediment⁻¹. Meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations vary in the A and B horizon of the soil with most of the meteoric ¹⁰Be residing in the B horizon (Jungers, et al., 2009; Graly, et al., 2010). This causes meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations to vary by land use because if a farmer or construction team is digging up the B horizon in the soil, higher concentration of meteoric ¹⁰Be will be transported to the stream than if just the A-horizon is being eroded. This may explain why agriculture-dominated basins have the highest normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. Also all of the urban basins come from the Coastal Plain or very near the Coastal Plain which has much lower normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations than any of the other physiographic provinces.

Comparison of my Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations to Brown et al. (1988)

I went back to Brown et al.'s (1988) data and updated his meteoric ¹⁰Be delivery rates, meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations, and erosion indexes (see methods chapter). With their concentrations updated, I am able to compare their data with my data. In my study I focused on smaller, for the most part ungauged stations. Brown et al. (1988), on the other hand, focused on larger gauged stations. This allows for a very interesting comparison (Figure 5.21) because it allows me to better see how basin area affects meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. Again, I see a wide range in concentrations in smaller basins and narrower range in larger basins; similar to what has been seen with in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates (Duxbury, 2009; Matmon, et al., 2003; Reuter, et al., 2006; Sullivan, 2007).

While Brown et al. (1988) measured two samples from the Potomac Watershed; I was able to resample only one of the sites. At this one location, the Brown et al. (1988) corrected concentration is 9.79×10^{7} ¹⁰Be atoms g sediment⁻¹ and an erosion index of 0.67. My concentration at that location and erosion index, 6.49 x 10⁷ atoms g sediment⁻¹ and 0.47 are different than those of Brown et al. (1988).

Brown et al. (1988) collected 45 samples from the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Brown et al. (1988) measured normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations ranging from 2.11 x 10^7 atoms g sediment⁻¹ to 2.14 x 10^8 atoms g sediment⁻¹, with a mean of 8.00 x 10^7 atoms g sediment⁻¹, and a median of 6.57 x 10^7 atoms g sediment⁻¹. A t-test shows that my data are statistically different than all of Brown et al. (1988) data (*p*<0.01) (Figure 5.22). This makes sense because Brown et al. (1988) only collected 2 samples from the Potomac Watershed. Also, because Brown et al. (1988) only sampled large basins, the range of their concentrations was smaller with a lot less basins with high normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations.

With the updated erosion indexes it appears that around two thirds, 29 of 45, of Browns original basins had more meteoric ¹⁰Be entering the basin than leaving. His average erosion index was 0.87. I analyzed the ten gauged basins from my data and discovered eight had more meteoric ¹⁰Be entering the basin than leaving. My average erosion index was 0.65. Using a t-test, my erosion indexes show statistical similarities with Brown et al.'s (1988) erosion indexes (p=0.44) (Figure 5.23).

Chapter 5 – Figures



Figure 5.1 - Standardized In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Standardized Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations.

The y-axis is the standardized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the standardized in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The line is a one to one relationship. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. Standardized in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations and standardized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations show no correlation (r²=0.08, p=0.03).



Figure 5.2 - Ratio Between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Weighted Average Soil pH.

The y-axis is the ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the weighted average soil pH. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. The ratio shows no correlation with weighted average soil pH (R^2 =0.01, p=0.66). Data taken from http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/.



Figure 5.3 - Ratio Between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Maximum Soil pH.

The y-axis is the ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the maximum soil pH. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. The ratio shows no correlation with maximum soil pH (R^2 =0.04, p=0.10). Data taken from http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/.



Figure 5.4 - Ratio Between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Minimum Soil pH.

The y-axis is the ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the minimum soil pH. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. The ratio shows no correlation with minimum soil pH (R^2 =0.02, p=0.28). Data taken from http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/.





CP is the Coastal Plain, Pied is the Piedmont, BR is the Blue Ridge, VR is the Valley and Ridge, and AP is the Appalachian Plateau. The y-axis is the ratio between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles The Coastal Plain is statistically different than all other provinces (p=0.02). All of the other provinces are statistically similar (p=0.95).



Figure 5.6 - Ratio Between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Average Slope.

The y-axis is the ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the average slope in degrees. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. The ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations show no correlation with average slope (R^2 =0.01, p=0.42).



Figure 5.7 - Ratio Between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Effective Elevation.

The y-axis is the ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the effective elevation in m. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. The ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations show no correlation with effective elevation (R^2 =0.04, p=0.12).



Figure 5.8 - Ratio Between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Basin Area.

The y-axis is the ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the basin area in km². The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. The ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations show no correlation with basin area ($R^2 < 0.01$, p=0.83).



Figure 5.9 - Ratio Between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Precipitation.

The y-axis is the ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the precipitation in mm/yr. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. The ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations show no correlation with precipitation (R^2 <0.01, p=0.91).



Figure 5.10 - Ratio Between Meteoric to In Situ ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Land Use.

Each land use group contains basins which contain a majority of that type of land use. The y-axis is the ratio between meteoric to in situ ¹⁰Be concentrations. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles (p<0.01).



Figure 5.11 - Normalized In Situ ¹⁰**Be Concentrations against Land Use.** Each land use group contains basins which contain a majority of that type of land use. The y-axis is the normalized in situ ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g quartz⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles (*p*=0.98).



Figure 5.12 - In Situ, Meteoric and Modern Sediment Export Rate at each Gaging Station

This plot is a comparison of export rates of sediment determined by modern sediment yield calculations, and converting in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates into export rates. The y-axis is the export rates in g yr⁻¹ on a log scale. The x-axis is the basin area in km^2 on a log scale. The blue diamonds are the in situ ¹⁰Be export rates, the red squares are the meteoric ¹⁰Be export rate and the green triangles are the modern sediment export rates. The numbers above each set of points is the gaging station number.





Figure 5.13 - Standardized Meteoric¹⁰**Be Concentration against Standardized In Situ**¹⁰**Be Concentration at Basins Greater than 400 km².** The y-axis is the standardized in situ¹⁰Be concentrations. The x-axis is the standardized meteoric¹⁰Be concentrations. The line is a one to one relationship. Standardized in situ¹⁰Be concentrations and standardized meteoric¹⁰Be concentrations show no correlation $(R^2=0.27, p=0.24).$




The y-axis is the in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate in m My⁻¹. The x-axis is the average slope in degrees. The blue circles are samples from large basins that occupy many physiographic provinces. The green squares are from the Coastal Plain, red diamond, Piedmont, turquoise upside down triangle Blue Ridge, purple triangle Valley and Ridge, yellow sideways triangle Appalachian Plateau. The black lines coming off of each point are standard deviation error bars. Average in situ erosion rates from each physiographic province show no correlation with average slope (R^2 =0.31, p=0.33).





CP is the Coastal Plain, Pied is the Piedmont, BR is the Blue Ridge, VR is the Valley and Ridge, and AP is the Appalachian Plateau. The y-axis is the average slope in degrees. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles. Slopes from the Coastal Plain and Piedmont are lower than the other provinces (p<0.01). The Coastal Plain is also lower than the Piedmont (p=0.01).



Figure 5.16 – Spatial Distribution of In Situ ¹⁰Be Erosion Rates in the Potomac Basin

The brown dots are the sampled sites, larger dots are higher erosion rates while the smaller dots are lower erosion rates. Each colored region on the map is a different physiographic province (from USGS). The green area is the Coastal Plain, the orange region is the Piedmont, and the blue portion is the Blue Ridge, the red area in the Valley and Ridge, and the yellow section is the Appalachian Plateau. The background is a shaded digital elevation model (USGS digital data, <u>http://seamless.usgs.gov/</u>).



Past Projects



A series of box plots showing in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates for my study against previous studies including Duxbury and others (2008), Matmon and others (2003), Reuter and others (2005) and Sullivan and others (2007) with the data taken from Portenga and others (2011. My data are statistically dissimilar than Matmon and others (2003) work from the Great Smokey Mountains National Park, Reuter and others (2005) work from the Susquehanna and Sullivan and others (2007) work from the Blue Ridge Escarpment (p<0.01). My data are similar to Duxbury and others (2008) work from the Shenandoah (p=0.76).



Figure 5.18 – Weighted Average Soil pH against Physiographic Province. CP is the Coastal Plain, Pied is the Piedmont, BR is the Blue Ridge, VR is the Valley and Ridge, and AP is the Appalachian Plateau. The y-axis is the weighted average soil pH. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles.



Figure 5.19 – Spatial Distribution of Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations in the Potomac Basin

The brown dots are the sampled sites, larger dots are higher concentrations while the smaller dots are lower concentrations. Each colored region on the map is a different physiographic province (from USGS). The green area is the Coastal Plain, the orange region is the Piedmont, and the blue portion is the Blue Ridge, the red area in the Valley and Ridge, and the yellow section is the Appalachian Plateau. The background is a shaded digital elevation model (USGS digital data, <u>http://seamless.usgs.gov/</u>).





Each land use group contains basins which contain a majority of that type of land use. The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles. The urban basins are statistically different (p<0.01), while the agriculture and forested basin are statistically similar (p=0.18).



Figure 5.21 - Brown et al. 1988 and My Normalized Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations against Basin Area.

A scatterplot showing my measured meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations (atoms g⁻¹) and Brown and others' (1988) meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration (atoms g⁻¹) against basin area (km²). The blue circles are my data and the red circles are Brown and others' (1988) data. The y-axis is the meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g⁻¹ on a log scale and the x-axis is the basin area in km² on a log scale.



Figure 5.22 - Normalized Meteoric ¹⁰Be Concentrations of Brown et al. 1988 and My Work.

The y-axis is the normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration in atoms g sediment⁻¹. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles. Statistically they are different (p<0.01).



Figure 5.23 - Erosion Indexes of Brown et al. (1988) and My Work.

The y-axis is the erosion index. The red line in the middle of the box is the median. The bottom of the box is the 25% quartile, and the top of the box is the 75% quartile. The bottom whisker is the 25% quartile - 1.5 * the interquartile range, the top whisker is the 75% quartile + 1.5 * the interquartile range. The interquartile range is equal to the 75% quartile - 25% quartile. All points out side of the whiskers, the red crosses, are statistical outliers if the data are normally distributed. All other data points are small red circles. Statistically they are very similar (p=0.44).

Chapter 6 – Conclusions and Recommendations

In situ, basin-scale, ¹⁰Be erosion rates range from 3 to 39 m My⁻¹ with a mean of 12 m My⁻¹ and a median of 12 m My⁻¹ (Figure 3.3 and Figure 3.5). The larger basins (29796 and 24851 km²), which contain many of the physiographic provinces, have in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates of 16 and 17 m My⁻¹. Meteoric, basin-scale, ¹⁰Be erosion rates using the approach of Willenbring and von Blanckenburg (2010) range from 3 to 212 m My⁻¹ with a mean of 40 m My⁻¹, median of 22 m My⁻¹ (Figure 3.4). The larger basins which flow through many of the physiographic provinces have meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates of 36 and 33 m My⁻¹.

When considering in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates with outliers, all five physiographic provinces are similar (p=0.13) (Figure 4.4). The four physiographic provinces of the Piedmont, Blue Ridge, Valley and Ridge and the Appalachian Plateau are statistically similar for when looking at in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates without outliers and normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations separately (p=0.25, p=0.06) (Figure 4.4 and Figure 4.12). This appears to agree with Hack's (1960) model of landscape evolution. The Coastal Plain is statistically separate from the other four physiographic provinces when analyzing both in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates without outliers and normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations separately (p<0.01, p<0.01) (Figure 4.4 and Figure 4.12). In the case of in situ ¹⁰Be, the Coastal Plain erosion rates are much lower than the other physiographic provinces. This could be caused by the fact that the slope of the Coastal Plain is statistically lower than all of the other provinces (p<0.01, p=0.01) (Figure 5.15). The slope, erosion rate relationship on the Coastal Plain agrees with Davis (1899). The normalized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations of the Coastal Plain are much lower than the other provinces. Most likely something is occurring on the Coastal Plain where an unexpectedly low amount of meteoric ¹⁰Be is sticking to the surface sediment, possibly acidified soil or could also be sandy, permeable soil trough which ¹⁰Be is deeply penetrating.

In situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates show no correlation with average slope and a weak positive correlation with the effective elevation of a basin when outliers are both included and excluded (Slope R^2 =0.06, p>0.05; R^2 =0.04, p=0.11; Elevation R^2 =0.10, p=0.01; R^2 =0.11, p=0.01) (Figure 4.5, Figure 4.6). There is also no correlation between slope and in situ erosion rates when each physiographic province is considered individually (CP, R^2 =0.01, p=0.81; Pied, R^2 =0.06, p=0.27; BR, R^2 =0.01, p=0.81; VR, R^2 =0.22, p>0.05; AP, R^2 =0.07, p=0.61) (Figure 4.5). Although, as stated above, the Coastal Plain appears to have such a low slope that erosion is much slower. Again, this tends to agree with Hack (1960) except for the Coastal Plain. My sampled basins also show no correlation between normalized in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations. Most likely this is occurring because of my poor understanding of where meteoric ¹⁰Be resides in the sediment of my basins which makes it difficult to properly normalize meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations.

My in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates are within the range of the past studies of Matmon et al. (2003), Reuter et al. (2006) and Sullivan (2007), but they are statistically different

(p<0.01). On the other hand, my in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates are statistically similar to Duxbury et al. (2009) work on the Shenandoah River, a tributary of the Potomac River (p=0.76) (Figure 5.7). Brown et al. (1988) meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations that were collected from gaging stations in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed are statistically different than my meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations (p<0.01). Their erosion indexes are statistically similar to mine (p=0.44) and most of their erosion indexes and mine are below 1 indicating that basins have slightly more meteoric ¹⁰Be entering than leaving the basin.

Finally, sediment export rates that I calculated from my in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates appear to line up with modern sediment export rates in large basins (>400 km²) (Figure 5.12) but the lack of a correlation between the in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates in the large basins casts doubt on this finding (Figure 5.13). This finding which shows the meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration could potentially be used as a proxy for modern sediment yields, in large basins but much more work needs to be done to better understand the relationship between modern sediment yields and meteoric ¹⁰Be concentrations.

Recommendations for Future Work

My research has continued the recent work on in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates from around the world. Clearly these studies should continue so that we can better understand how the earth is eroding. While there have been many studies on in situ ¹⁰Be, there have been very few studies using meteoric ¹⁰Be. I think someone could get samples from basins used for previous studies on in situ ¹⁰Be and future in situ ¹⁰Be studies should also include meteoric ¹⁰Be so that the relationship between in situ and meteoric ¹⁰Be can be better understood along with the variables that affect meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration. As of right now it appears that meteoric ¹⁰Be does not work well in the Potomac Basin, so I would suggest trying it in new areas that have noticeably different landscapes than the Potomac Basin.

Finally, to properly use meteoric ¹⁰Be, soil cores need to be taken from representative points in each sampled basin. These soil cores can have specific parts analyzed for meteoric ¹⁰Be to allow for a better understanding of how the meteoric ¹⁰Be is distributed in the soil of the basin with depth. Knowing how the meteoric ¹⁰Be is distributed in the soil would allow for a better determination of erosion rates using meteoric ¹⁰Be. Future studies would benefit from comparing in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rates, meteoric ¹⁰Be erosion rates, and modern sediment yields. To do this, future studies need to sample near gaging stations so that there is a record of modern sediment export.

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Appendix A - Tables

Table A.1 - Sample Location

Sample Name	Stream Name/Gaging Station	Physiographic Province	Latitude	Longitude	In Situ ¹⁰ Be Concentration ¹	In Situ ¹⁰ Be Error ¹	Meteoric ¹⁰ Be Concentration ¹	Meteoric ¹⁰ Be Error ¹
			(DD)	(DD)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)
POT01	1646580	Main Branch	38.930571	-77.116148	2.83E+05	5.14E+03	1.94E+08	4.24E+06
POT02	1650500	Piedmont	39.064727	-77.028419	1.84E+05	4.11E+03	8.07E+07	1.17E+06
POT04	1647740	Piedmont	39.105904	-77.125032	2.31E+05	5.93E+03	1.15E+08	1.96E+06
POT05	1647720	Piedmont	39.117900	-77.100871	2.54E+05	5.67E+03	1.42E+08	2.06E+06
POT06	1638500	Main Branch	39.272350	-77.546222	2.81E+05	6.27E+03	2.09E+08	2.27E+06
РОТ09	1656120	Piedmont	38.640112	-77.512321	4.34E+05	1.15E+04	1.62E+08	2.33E+06
POT10	1631000	Valley and Ridge	38.914248	-78.209969	6.76E+05	1.22E+04	3.65E+08	5.15E+06
POT11	1603000	Appalachian Plateau	39.621466	-78.773700	3.88E+05	8.63E+03	2.93E+08	2.95E+06
POT12	1614500	Valley and Ridge	39.715704	-77.824155	5.00E+05	9.07E+03	4.46E+08	5.62E+06
POT13	1639000	Piedmont	39.715704	-77.824155	2.98E+05	5.43E+03	2.55E+08	2.57E+06
POT14	No Name	Blue Ridge	39.586971	-77.464085	2.96E+05	6.56E+03	8.39E+08	1.04E+07
POT15	Dutchman Creek	Blue Ridge	39.306916	-77.651142	3.60E+05	8.01E+03	2.63E+08	2.39E+06
POT16	Friends Creek	Blue Ridge	39.708375	-77.411599	3.26E+05	7.26E+03	3.80E+08	5.18E+06
POT17	Above Israel Creek	Piedmont	39.479666	-77.327614	2.48E+05	5.54E+03	3.89E+08	4.60E+06
POT18	Ten Mile Creek	Piedmont	39.210672	-77.310759	2.72E+05	6.06E+03	5.21E+08	4.27E+06
POT19	Rock Creek	Piedmont	39.154325	-77.131963	3.03E+05	5.50E+03	1.94E+08	1.77E+06
POT20	Beaver Dam Creek	Coastal Plain	39.021751	-76.860352	9.94E+04	2.22E+03	3.52E+07	4.72E+05
POT21	Henson Creek	Coastal Plain	38.831217	-76.919746	3.85E+05	8.56E+03	3.49E+07	4.86E+05
POT22	No Name	Coastal Plain	38.755388	-76.841726	7.25E+05	1.32E+04	8.86E+07	9.75E+05
POT23	Tinkers Creek	Coastal Plain	38.759003	-76.941934	4.92E+05	1.03E+04	5.12E+07	7.56E+05
POT24	Timothy Creek	Coastal Plain	38.664503	-76.879363	6.85E+05	1.08E+04	7.41E+07	8.47E+05
POT25	Port Tobacco Creek	Coastal Plain	38.542057	-77.017593	6.00E+05	9.41E+03	6.29E+07	1.08E+06
POT26	Beaver Dam Creek	Coastal Plain	38.422865	-77.213202	4.79E+05	1.07E+04	5.08E+07	7.96E+05
POT27	Burgess Creek	Coastal Plain	38.483023	-77.084112	8.18E+05	1.29E+04	1.01E+08	1.08E+06

Sample Name	Stream Name/Gaging Station	Physiographic Province	Latitude	Longitude	In Situ ¹⁰ Be Concentration ¹	In Situ ¹⁰ Be Error ¹	Meteoric ¹⁰ Be Concentration ¹	Meteoric ¹⁰ Be Error ¹
			(DD)	(DD)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)
POT28	Potomac Run Creek	Piedmont	38.441724	-77.540603	2.98E+05	9.04E+03	1.12E+08	1.52E+06
POT29	Elk Run	Piedmont	38.566422	-77.672696	4.98E+05	1.11E+04	7.54E+08	1.15E+07
POT30	Licking Run	Piedmont	38.629276	-77.764106	3.09E+05	6.90E+03	9.46E+08	5.51E+06
POT31	Slate Run	Piedmont	38.668758	-77.537427	6.38E+05	1.42E+04	1.53E+09	2.01E+07
POT32	Powells Creek	Piedmont	38.617440	-77.372117	9.80E+05	1.54E+04	7.28E+07	7.89E+05
POT33	Popes Head Creek	Piedmont	38.781789	-77.387953	6.88E+05	1.08E+04	3.93E+08	2.73E+06
POT34	Head Creek East Fork	Piedmont	38.797979	-77.351861	3.03E+05	6.74E+03	1.58E+08	1.22E+06
POT35	Lenah Run	Piedmont	38.959309	-77.538328	3.36E+05	7.47E+03	6.49E+08	4.50E+06
POT36	Little Creek	Piedmont	38.950832	-77.719560	4.53E+05	8.66E+03	1.85E+08	1.98E+06
POT37	North Fork Beaver Dam Creek	Piedmont	39.061616	-77.754321	2.74E+05	6.12E+03	1.87E+08	1.76E+06
POT38	Opequon Creek	Valley and Ridge	39.082839	-78.126397	2.80E+05	6.22E+03	8.95E+08	8.88E+06
POT39	Howellsville Branch	Valley and Ridge	38.973523	-78.082023	5.54E+05	1.23E+04	3.98E+08	2.56E+06
POT40	No Name	Valley and Ridge	38.735808	-78.530574	9.41E+05	1.47E+04	3.63E+08	3.36E+06
POT41	Hawksbill Creek	Blue Ridge	38.347143	-78.612027	3.70E+05	8.24E+03	4.14E+08	2.22E+06
POT42	No Name	Valley and Ridge	38.250988	-78.892007	1.11E+06	1.74E+04	1.70E+09	1.75E+07
POT43	Sawmill Run	Blue Ridge	38.101435	-78.860335	5.50E+05	1.21E+04	2.63E+08	3.92E+06
POT44	Back Creek	Blue Ridge	37.940339	-78.968182	4.40E+05	7.67E+03	3.51E+08	3.38E+06
POT45	Skidmore Fork	Valley and Ridge	38.558167	-79.152031	2.39E+05	5.74E+03	2.18E+08	1.44E+06
POT46	Laurel Fork	Valley and Ridge	38.492563	-79.665341	3.96E+05	8.81E+03	3.06E+08	2.79E+06
POT47	Crab Run	Valley and Ridge	38.809617	-78.945694			5.19E+08	5.49E+06
POT48	Dumpling Run	Valley and Ridge	39.070046	-78.957539	8.73E+05	1.59E+04	6.08E+08	4.68E+06
POT49	North River	Valley and Ridge	39.137350	-78.771715	5.06E+05	9.19E+03	4.30E+08	4.77E+06
POT50	Roaring Creek	Valley and Ridge	38.889463	-79.403086	4.95E+05	9.88E+03	2.90E+08	4.76E+06
POT51	Laural Run	Appalachian Plateau	39.237272	-79.449005	3.79E+05	6.90E+03	1.34E+08	1.16E+06
POT52	Laural Run	Appalachian Plateau	39.348403	-79.285069	5.74E+05	9.02E+03	6.24E+08	9.58E+06
POT53	Deep Run Cranberry Run	Appalachian Plateau	39.398563	-79.133406	5.72E+05	9.02E+03	7.08E+08	7.71E+06
POT54	Rienhart Run	Valley and Ridge	39.455182	-78.804073			3.42E+08	2.64E+06
POT55	Crabtree Creek	Appalachian Plateau	39.457833	-79.228077	5.03E+05	1.12E+04	4.15E+08	3.20E+06
POT56	Middle Fork	Appalachian Plateau	39.513378	-79.154863			2.56E+08	1.98E+06
POT57	Blacklick Run	Appalachian Plateau	39.603374	-79.079118			3.50E+08	4.17E+06

Sample	Stream Name/Gaging Station	Physiographic Province	Latitude	Longitude	In Situ ¹⁰ Be	In Situ ¹⁰ Be	Meteoric ¹⁰ Be	Meteoric ¹⁰ Be
Name			(2.2.)	(2.2.)	Concentration	Error	Concentration	Error
			(DD)	(DD)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)
POT58	George's Creek	Appalachian Plateau	39.565669	-78.979940	3.06E+05	6.82E+03	3.29E+08	3.01E+06
POT59	Willis Creek	Appalachian Plateau	39.819052	-78.937583			4.28E+08	7.10E+06
POT60	No Name	Appalachian Plateau	39.905885	-78.835487			3.04E+08	2.35E+06
POT61	Sand Spring Run	Valley and Ridge	39.893341	-78.601899	6.35E+05	1.00E+04	3.57E+08	4.53E+06
POT62	No Name	Valley and Ridge	39.687011	-78.585806	3.07E+05	7.83E+03	3.91E+08	5.29E+06
POT63	Critton Run	Valley and Ridge	39.471218	-78.437963	6.86E+05	1.10E+04	2.12E+08	3.55E+06
POT64	McKee's Run	Valley and Ridge	39.795513	-78.254671	3.50E+05	7.81E+03	2.97E+08	1.98E+06
POT65	Branch of East Branch	Valley and Ridge	39.861461	-78.301706	3.62E+05	8.93E+03	2.29E+08	1.25E+06
POT66	Liching Fortune Teller Creek	Valley and Ridge	40.017985	-78.040094			7.14E+08	3.87E+06
POT67	No Name	Valley and Ridge	40.177332	-77.663040	4.80E+05	7.56E+03	1.05E+08	7.04E+05
POT68	Branch of Rock Creek	Piedmont	39.867126	-77.222729	2.94E+05	6.56E+03	7.79E+08	4.82E+06
POT69	Mummasburg Run	Blue Ridge	39.879445	-77.293582	4.11E+05	7.46E+03	2.36E+08	1.61E+06
POT70	Branch of Back Creek	Valley and Ridge	39.916254	-77.748227			5.35E+08	5.83E+06
POT71	Birch Run	Blue Ridge	39.950477	-77.444472	3.48E+05	6.32E+03	4.88E+07	4.23E+05
POT72	Turkeyfoot Run	Piedmont	39.567456	-77.059822	2.46E+05	5.49E+03	3.68E+08	4.18E+06
POT73	Big Pipe Creek	Piedmont	39.660970	-76.948189	2.58E+05	5.73E+03	3.53E+08	2.41E+06

¹Measured concentrations from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, normalized to standard 07KNSTD3110 with a reported ratio of 2850 x 10⁻¹⁵ (Nishiizumi, et al., 2007) and blank corrected.

Effective Effective Effective Measured Sample Error² Concentration² Latitude¹ Longitude¹ Elevation¹ name (DD) (m) (atoms/g) (atoms/g) (DD) POT01 39.1646 -78.3821 383.4 2.83E+05 5.14E+03 1.84E+05 4.11E+03 **POT02** 39.1077 -77.0333 112.7 2.31E+05 5.93E+03 **POT04** 39.1480 -77.1409 126.5 39.1463 -77.0953 2.54E+05 5.67E+03 **POT05** 121.8 **POT06** 39.1331 -78.5789 445.8 2.81E+05 6.27E+03 38.6458 -77.6740 4.34E+05 1.15E+04 **POT09** 92.4 **POT10** 38.3639 -78.8516 492.6 6.76E+05 1.22E+04 39.5320 651.4 3.88E+05 8.63E+03 POT11 -79.0409 POT12 39.9156 -77.7381 253.5 5.00E+05 9.07E+03 POT13 39.8122 2.98E+05 5.43E+03 -77.2481 174.0 **POT14** 39.5889 -77.4863 463.9 2.96E+05 6.56E+03 -77.6720 3.60E+05 8.01E+03 POT15 39.2838 148.0 POT16 39.7046 7.26E+03 -77.4442 346.4 3.26E+05 POT17 39.4753 -77.2971 128.5 2.48E+05 5.54E+03 39.2305 -77.3077 2.72E+05 6.06E+03 POT18 154.2 39.1742 **POT19** -77.1376 135.1 3.03E+05 5.50E+03 39.0238 **POT20** -76.8481 33.2 9.94E+04 2.22E+03 POT21 38.8347 -76.9004 67.5 3.85E+05 8.56E+03 POT22 38.7840 -76.8573 60.6 7.25E+05 1.32E+04 POT23 38.7815 -76.9091 62.2 4.92E+05 1.03E+04 38.6820 49.0 1.08E+04 **POT24** -76.8701 6.85E+05 **POT25** 38.5761 -76.9937 40.2 6.00E+05 9.41E+03 POT26 38.4612 -77.2141 16.7 4.79E+05 1.07E+04 **POT27** 38.5142 -77.0821 29.9 8.18E+05 1.29E+04 POT28 38.4614 -77.5592 86.0 2.98E+05 9.04E+03 **POT29** 38.5507 -77.6748 87.1 4.98E+05 1.11E+04 115.6 **POT30** 38.6472 -77.7873 3.09E+05 6.90E+03

Table A.2 - Data for Cronus Calculator

Sample	Effective	Effective	Effective	Measured	Error ²
name	Latitude ¹	Longitude ¹	Elevation ¹	Concentration ²	LIIOI
	(DD)	(DD)	(m)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)
POT31	38.6784	-77.5692	53.2	6.38E+05	1.42E+04
POT32	38.6389	-77.4061	86.5	9.80E+05	1.54E+04
POT33	38.8084	-77.3677	91.8	6.88E+05	1.08E+04
POT34	38.8216	-77.3337	98.1	3.03E+05	6.74E+03
POT35	38.9644	-77.5740	86.5	3.36E+05	7.47E+03
POT36	38.9100	-77.7497	167.7	4.53E+05	8.66E+03
POT37	39.0953	-77.8036	194.2	2.74E+05	6.12E+03
POT38	39.0804	-78.1632	202.0	2.80E+05	6.22E+03
POT39	38.9555	-78.0571	373.3	5.54E+05	1.23E+04
POT40	38.7440	-78.5545	607.6	9.41E+05	1.47E+04
POT41	38.3203	-78.6222	553.4	3.70E+05	8.24E+03
POT42	38.2594	-78.9283	355.0	1.11E+06	1.74E+04
POT43	38.0935	-78.8106	567.1	5.50E+05	1.21E+04
POT44	37.9132	-79.0043	674.3	4.40E+05	7.67E+03
POT45	38.5328	-79.1694	977.5	2.39E+05	5.74E+03
POT46	38.4727	-79.6798	1189.7	3.96E+05	8.81E+03
POT48	39.0436	-78.9278	370.1	8.73E+05	1.59E+04
POT49	39.1385	-78.8125	633.2	5.06E+05	9.19E+03
POT50	38.9115	-79.4140	1148.5	4.95E+05	9.88E+03
POT51	39.2320	-79.4714	860.7	3.79E+05	6.90E+03
POT52	39.3621	-79.3090	828.0	5.74E+05	9.02E+03
POT53	39.3709	-79.1249	710.6	5.72E+05	9.02E+03
POT55	39.4464	-79.2536	790.4	5.03E+05	1.12E+04
POT58	39.5436	78.9634	689.7	3.06E+05	6.82E+03
POT61	39.8905	-78.6265	577.7	6.35E+05	1.00E+04
POT62	39.6955	-78.6093	343.7	3.07E+05	7.83E+03
POT63	39.4651	-78.4584	409.8	6.86E+05	1.10E+04
POT64	39.7878	78.2925	318.9	3.50E+05	7.81E+03
POT65	39.8874	-78.2867	415.4	3.62E+05	8.93E+03

Sample	Effective	Effective	Effective	Measured	Error ²
name	Latitude ¹	Longitude ¹	Elevation ¹	Concentration ²	Error
	(DD)	(DD)	(m)	(atoms/g)	(atoms/g)
POT67	40.2034	-77.6386	421.0	4.80E+05	7.56E+03
POT68	39.8900	-77.2197	154.1	2.94E+05	6.56E+03
POT69	39.9043	-77.3101	217.0	4.11E+05	7.46E+03
POT71	39.9720	-77.4291	540.8	3.48E+05	6.32E+03
POT72	39.5648	-77.0250	186.7	2.46E+05	5.49E+03
POT73	39.6687	-76.9185	226.8	2.58E+05	5.73E+03

¹Created by model in ArcGIS that exports elevation, longitude, and latitude, ASCII grid files for each cell in any sized watershed and elevation datasets of any resolution. The ASCII grid files were fed directly into a Matlab script which determined the effective elevation longitude and latitude needed by the CRONUS calculator. The Matlab script reduces the ASCII grid files of elevation and latitude to a single point representing the entire basin. The elevation and latitude grids are used to calculate the ELD scaling factor for each cell. The average scaling factor for all cells, or the effective ELD, is used in conjunction with the actual effective latitude for the basin to back calculate the corresponding effective elevation (Portenga & Bierman, 2011).

² Measured concentrations from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, normalized to standard 07KNSTD3110 and blank corrected.

Sample	LLNL BE#	Batch#	10Be/9Be Ratio ¹	Ratio Error ¹	Sample Mass	Carrier Mass ²	Prod Rate ³	Erosion Rate ⁴	Error ⁴	Normalized Concentration ⁵	Standardized Concentration ⁶	Log Tran ER ⁷
			(blank corrected)		(g)	(ug)	(atoms/(g*y))	(m/My)	(m/My)	(atoms/g)		
POT01	BE29062	B433	3.44E-13	6.74E-15	20.28	249.1	5.72	16.14	1.19	2.42E+05	0.26	1.21
POT02	BE29063	B433	2.36E-13	5.80E-15	21.30	248.8	4.49	21.21	1.52	2.01E+05	0.17	1.33
POT04	BE29064	B433	2.84E-13	7.30E-15	20.47	248.8	4.55	16.66	1.24	2.48E+05	0.21	1.22
POT05	BE29066	B433	3.11E-13	7.55E-15	20.33	248.1	4.53	14.93	1.10	2.74E+05	0.23	1.17
POT06	BE29067	B433	3.41E-13	8.23E-15	20.33	250.9	6.03	17.02	1.27	2.29E+05	0.25	1.23
POT09	BE29068	B433	5.24E-13	1.49E-14	20.11	249.2	4.37	7.88	0.64	4.86E+05	0.39	0.90
POT10	BE29069	B433	8.15E-13	1.60E-14	20.20	250.5	6.19	6.55	0.53	5.35E+05	0.61	0.82
POT11	BE29070	B433	4.83E-13	1.14E-14	20.68	248.3	7.22	13.99	1.08	2.63E+05	0.35	1.15
POT12	BE29071	B433	6.18E-13	1.19E-14	20.49	248.1	5.16	7.79	0.61	4.75E+05	0.45	0.89
POT13	BE29072	B433	3.66E-13	7.17E-15	20.41	248.7	4.80	13.11	0.97	3.04E+05	0.27	1.12
POT14	BE29073	B433	3.65E-13	8.63E-15	20.55	249.2	6.18	16.41	1.23	2.34E+05	0.27	1.22
POT15	BE29074	B434	4.83E-13	1.14E-14	22.24	247.9	4.65	10.30	0.79	3.79E+05	0.33	1.01
POT16	BE29086	B435	2.45E-13	5.96E-15	12.49	248.7	5.59	13.54	1.03	2.86E+05	0.29	1.13
POT17	BE29075	B434	3.35E-13	7.98E-15	22.48	249.5	4.58	15.47	1.14	2.66E+05	0.22	1.19
POT18	BE29077	B434	3.15E-13	7.50E-15	19.21	249.0	4.67	14.20	1.06	2.86E+05	0.25	1.15
POT19	BE29078	B434	4.08E-13	7.95E-15	22.46	249.5	4.59	12.38	0.92	3.23E+05	0.27	1.09
POT20	BE29079	B434	1.37E-13	3.52E-15	23.05	249.8	4.15	39.20	2.67	1.17E+05	0.09	1.59
POT21	BE29080	B434	5.19E-13	1.23E-14	22.37	248.6	4.28	8.89	0.69	4.41E+05	0.35	0.95
POT22	BE29081	B434	9.86E-13	1.94E-14	22.51	247.7	4.25	4.20	0.36	8.36E+05	0.66	0.62
POT23	BE29088	B435	6.68E-13	1.31E-14	22.73	250.4	4.26	6.65	0.53	5.66E+05	0.44	0.82
POT24	BE29089	B435	8.51E-13	1.45E-14	20.63	248.6	4.20	4.44	0.37	8.00E+05	0.62	0.65
POT25	BE29090	B435	7.50E-13	1.28E-14	20.78	248.6	4.16	5.15	0.42	7.07E+05	0.54	0.71
POT26	BE29091	B435	6.04E-13	1.42E-14	21.03	249.7	4.06	6.57	0.53	5.78E+05	0.43	0.82
POT27	BE29082	B434	1.11E-12	1.94E-14	22.48	247.9	4.11	3.51	0.30	9.76E+05	0.74	0.55
POT28	BE29083	B434	4.04E-13	6.80E-15	22.39	247.4	4.33	12.03	0.95	3.38E+05	0.27	1.08
POT29	BE29092	B435	6.87E-13	1.61E-14	22.22	241.1	4.34	6.68	0.54	5.63E+05	0.45	0.82
POT30	BE29093	B435	3.82E-13	9.12E-15	20.54	249.0	4.47	11.85	0.89	3.39E+05	0.28	1.07
POT31	BE29094	B435	5.05E-13	1.17E-14	13.17	249.1	4.21	4.85	0.41	7.42E+05	0.58	0.69
POT32	BE29095	B435	1.22E-12	2.03E-14	20.62	248.3	4.35	2.98	0.26	1.10E+06	0.89	0.47
POT33	BE29084	B434	9.41E-13	1.44E-14	22.72	248.4	4.38	4.60	0.38	7.69E+05	0.62	0.66
POT34	BE29085	B434	4.11E-13	9.82E-15	22.77	251.0	4.41	11.97	0.90	3.37E+05	0.27	1.08
POT35	BE29096	B435	4.05E-13	9.49E-15	20.06	249.3	4.37	10.56	0.81	3.77E+05	0.30	1.02
POT36	BE29097	B435	5.12E-13	9.36E-15	18.97	251.0	4.70	8.02	0.63	4.72E+05	0.41	0.90
POT37	BE29099	B436	3.03E-13	7.21E-15	18.42	249.1	4.83	14.50	1.08	2.78E+05	0.25	1.16

 Table A.3 - In Situ
 ¹⁰Be Information

Sample	LLNL BE#	Batch#	10Be/9Be Ratio ¹	Ratio Error ¹	Sample Mass	Carrier Mass ²	Prod Rate ³	Erosion Rate ⁴	Error ⁴	Normalized Concentration ⁵	Standardized Concentration ⁶	Log Trans ER ⁷
			(blank corrected)		(g)	(ug)	(atoms/(g*y))	(m My ⁻ 1)	(m My ⁻ 1)	(atoms/g)		
POT38	BE29100	B436	3.12E-13	7.39E-15	18.51	248.3	4.86	14.23	1.06	2.82E+05	0.25	1.15
POT39	BE29101	B436	6.72E-13	1.56E-14	20.11	248.2	5.65	7.54	0.61	4.81E+05	0.50	0.88
POT40	BE29102	B436	1.03E-12	1.68E-14	18.21	250.0	6.86	4.96	0.42	6.72E+05	0.85	0.70
POT41	BE29103	B436	4.11E-13	9.61E-15	18.67	251.2	6.50	13.45	1.03	2.79E+05	0.33	1.13
POT42	BE29104	B436	1.24E-12	2.05E-14	18.53	247.8	5.49	3.27	0.29	9.87E+05	1.00	0.51
POT43	BE29105	B436	6.73E-13	1.62E-14	20.48	250.5	6.55	8.72	0.70	4.11E+05	0.50	0.94
POT44	BE29106	B436	4.93E-13	8.35E-15	18.60	248.4	7.12	12.06	0.92	3.03E+05	0.40	1.08
POT45	BE29107	B436	2.46E-13	5.66E-15	17.16	249.1	9.19	29.10	2.20	1.27E+05	0.22	1.46
POT46	BE29108	B436	4.07E-13	9.52E-15	17.21	250.1	10.82	19.68	1.54	1.79E+05	0.36	1.29
POT48	BE29109	B436	9.68E-13	1.83E-14	18.66	251.7	5.64	4.46	0.38	7.58E+05	0.79	0.65
POT49	BE29110	B437	6.59E-13	1.26E-14	21.63	248.5	7.06	10.24	0.80	3.51E+05	0.46	1.01
POT50	BE29111	B437	6.44E-13	1.42E-14	21.64	249.1	10.60	15.21	1.20	2.29E+05	0.45	1.18
POT51	BE29112	B437	4.88E-13	9.37E-15	21.40	249.0	8.50	16.61	1.26	2.19E+05	0.34	1.22
POT52	BE29113	B437	7.54E-13	1.25E-14	21.89	249.2	8.31	10.36	0.81	3.38E+05	0.52	1.02
POT53	BE29114	B437	4.98E-13	8.33E-15	14.50	249.6	7.55	9.52	0.75	3.71E+05	0.52	0.98
POT55	BE29115	B437	2.68E-13	6.39E-15	8.93	250.8	8.07	11.66	0.92	3.05E+05	0.45	1.07
POT58	BE29116	B437	3.98E-13	9.34E-15	21.65	248.7	7.36	18.43	1.39	2.04E+05	0.28	1.27
POT61	BE29117	B437	8.27E-13	1.37E-14	21.66	249.1	6.84	7.72	0.61	4.55E+05	0.57	0.89
POT62	BE29118	B437	1.82E-13	4.47E-15	9.81	248.3	5.57	14.42	1.10	2.70E+05	0.28	1.16
POT63	BE29119	B437	8.99E-13	1.48E-14	21.70	248.0	5.88	6.13	0.50	5.72E+05	0.62	0.79
POT64	BE29120	B437	4.22E-13	9.86E-15	20.05	249.3	5.41	12.15	0.93	3.17E+05	0.32	1.08
POT65	BE29122	B438	4.39E-13	1.13E-14	20.15	248.7	5.95	12.73	0.99	2.98E+05	0.33	1.10
POT67	BE29123	B438	6.42E-13	1.07E-14	22.16	248.0	6.02	9.38	0.72	3.91E+05	0.43	0.97
POT68	BE29124	B438	3.82E-13	8.98E-15	21.58	249.0	4.71	13.11	0.98	3.06E+05	0.27	1.12
POT69	BE29125	B438	5.43E-13	1.03E-14	21.99	249.1	5.00	9.45	0.73	4.03E+05	0.37	0.98
POT71	BE29126	B438	4.61E-13	8.79E-15	21.98	248.6	6.64	14.64	1.10	2.57E+05	0.31	1.17
POT72	BE29127	B438	3.26E-13	7.73E-15	22.13	249.8	4.84	16.35	1.20	2.49E+05	0.22	1.21
POT73	BE29128	B438	3.52E-13	8.29E-15	22.70	248.6	5.03	16.01	1.18	2.51E+05	0.23	1.20

¹Measured ratios from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, blank corrected.

²Mass of ⁹Be added to a sample from the SPEX Be Carrier.

³Calculated using the Cronus Calculator. Basin-scale erosion rates were modeled using the interpretive model of Bierman and Steig (1996) with a normalized sea level, high latitude in situ ¹⁰Be production rate of 4.9 atoms g quartz⁻¹ yr⁻¹, an attenuation depth of 160 g cm⁻², and assuming a rock density of 2.7 g cm⁻³

⁴Calculated using the Cronus Calculator based off the effective elevation and latitude of each basin.

⁵To normalize each measured in situ ¹⁰Be concentration, each production rate was divided by 4.9 atoms g quartz⁻¹ yr⁻¹, the normalized sea level, high latitude in situ ¹⁰Be production rate, to get a normalized production rate. Next, I divided each measured in situ ¹⁰Be concentration by my newly normalized production rate for that basin. ⁶Divided each normalized concentration by the highest normalized concentration.

⁷A log₁₀ transformation of each in situ ¹⁰Be erosion rate.

Sample	LLNLBE#	Batch#	10Be/9Be Ratio ¹	Ratio Error ¹	Sample	Carrier	Deposition Pato ³	Erosion Patos ⁴	Normalized	Standardized	Log Trans
			(Plank Corrected)	Error	iviass (g)	iviass	Rate	Rates (m (Mu)	(otoms/g)	Concentration	Conc.
DOT01	DE 2700E	MPO		1 165 12	(8)	200.00		(11/1919)		0.11	7 70
POTOI	DE2/095	NARO	5.51E-12 2.09E 12	1.10E-13 2.02E 14	0.551	200.99	1.872+00	30	0.00E+07	0.11	7.78 7.27
POTOZ	DE27090	NADO	2.00E-12	5.05E-14	0.519	201.99	2.000+00	52	2.546+07	0.04	7.57
POT04	BE2/09/	IVIB9	3.31E-12	5.63E-14	0.581	301.98	1.96E+06	53	3.40E+07	0.06	7.53
POTUS	BE27098	IVIB9	4.07E-12	5.88E-14	0.575	300.99	1.98E+06	52	4.1/E+U/	0.08	7.62
POTOS	BE2///8	INIB12	5.31E-12	5.78E-14	0.456	300.99	1.86E+06	33	6.49E+07	0.12	7.81
POT09	BE2/100	IVIB9	4.1/E-12	6.01E-14	0.517	300.00	1.90E+06	44	4.94E+07	0.09	7.69
POT10	BE2/101	MB9	1.04E-11	1.47E-13	0.574	300.99	1.88E+06	19	1.13E+08	0.21	8.05
POT11	BE27779	MB15	8.55E-12	8.61E-14	0.459	300.99	2.04E+06	26	8.34E+07	0.15	7.92
POT12	BE27780	MB15	1.18E-11	1.49E-13	0.486	300.99	1.94E+06	16	1.33E+08	0.24	8.12
POT13	BE27781	MB15	6.55E-12	6.61E-14	0.495	300.00	1.98E+06	29	7.47E+07	0.14	7.87
POT14	BE27782	MB15	1.82E-11	2.25E-13	0.475	327.72	2.10E+06	9	2.31E+08	0.42	8.36
POT15	BE27762	MB16	7.55E-12	6.84E-14	0.577	300.99	1.88E+06	26	8.12E+07	0.15	7.91
POT16	BE27763	MB16	8.78E-12	1.20E-13	0.463	300.00	2.06E+06	20	1.07E+08	0.20	8.03
POT17	BE27764	MB16	9.18E-12	1.09E-13	0.474	300.00	1.90E+06	18	1.18E+08	0.22	8.07
POT18	BE27765	MB16	1.22E-11	1.00E-13	0.471	300.99	1.92E+06	14	1.58E+08	0.29	8.20
POT19	BE27766	MB16	4.65E-12	4.23E-14	0.481	300.99	1.97E+06	38	5.72E+07	0.10	7.76
POT20	BE27767	MB16	8.21E-13	1.10E-14	0.462	296.04	2.01E+06	212	1.02E+07	0.02	7.01
POT21	BE27768	MB16	7.59E-13	1.06E-14	0.443	304.95	1.96E+06	208	1.03E+07	0.02	7.01
POT22	BE27769	MB16	2.12E-12	2.34E-14	0.479	299.01	1.95E+06	82	2.64E+07	0.05	7.42
POT23	BE27770	MB16	1.21E-12	1.79E-14	0.479	301.98	1.94E+06	140	1.53E+07	0.03	7.18
POT24	BE27771	MB16	1.68E-12	1.93E-14	0.459	301.98	1.95E+06	97	2.21E+07	0.04	7.34
POT25	BE27105	MB9	1.64E-12	2.82E-14	0.526	301.98	1.92E+06	113	1.90E+07	0.03	7.28
POT26	BE27772	MB16	1.24E-12	1.94E-14	0.491	300.99	1.87E+06	136	1.58E+07	0.03	7.20
POT27	BE27773	MB16	2.52E-12	2.69E-14	0.497	299.01	1.89E+06	69	3.11E+07	0.06	7.49
POT28	BE27774	MB16	2.84E-12	3.86E-14	0.510	300.99	1.92E+06	64	3.38E+07	0.06	7.53
POT29	BE27775	MB16	1.78E-11	2.72E-13	0.474	300.00	1.92E+06	9	2.28E+08	0.42	8.36
POT30	BE27776	MB16	2.55E-11	1.48E-13	0.542	300.99	1.93E+06	8	2.84E+08	0.52	8.45
POT31	BE28973	MB20	3.80E-11	5.00E-13	0.498	299.41	1.85E+06	4	4.79E+08	0.87	8.68
POT32	BE28974	MB20	1.99E-12	2.16E-14	0.545	298.42	1.87E+06	95	2.26E+07	0.04	7.35
POT33	BE28975	MB20	1.05E-11	7.30E-14	0.536	300.40	1.88E+06	18	1.22E+08	0.22	8.08
POT34	BE28976	MB20	4.23E-12	3.26E-14	0.532	298.42	1.89E+06	44	4.86E+07	0.09	7.69
POT35	BE28977	MB20	1.73E-11	1.20E-13	0.533	299.41	1.88E+06	11	2.00E+08	0.37	8.30
POT36	BE29391	MB20	5.02E-12	5.39E-14	0.546	300.40	1.93E+06	39	5.56E+07	0.10	7.75
POT37	BE29392	MB20	4.88E-12	4.58E-14	0.522	299.41	1.90E+06	38	5.70E+07	0.10	7.76
POT38	BE29393	MB20	2.31E-11	2.30E-13	0.514	297.43	1.79E+06	7	2.90E+08	0.53	8.46
POT39	BE29394	MB20	1.15E-11	7.44E-14	0.581	299.41	1.92E+06	18	1.20E+08	0.22	8.08
POT40	BE29395	MB20	9.30E-12	8.60E-14	0.511	298.42	1.90E+06	19	1.10E+08	0.20	8.04
POT41	BF29396	MB20	1.08F-11	5.80F-14	0.524	300.40	2.02F+06	18	1.19F+08	0.22	8.08
POT42	BF29397	MB20	4.34F-11	4.46F-13	0.513	300.40	1.80F+06	4	5.48F+08	1.00	8.74
POT43	BF27106	MB20	7.54F-12	1.12E-13	0.575	300.00	2.04F+06	29	7.48F+07	0.14	7.87
DOT 14	DE20200	MR20	0.585 12	9 23E-1/	0.546	299 <u>4</u> 1	2.012.00 2.12E+06	22	9 59E+07	0.18	7 98

 Table A.4 - Meteoric ¹⁰Be Information

Sample	LI NI RE#	Batch#	10Be/9Be Batio ¹	Ratio	Sample	Carrier	Deposition	Erosion	Normalized	Standardized	Log Trans
Sumple		Daterin	IODC/ JDC Natio	Error⁺	Mass	Mass ²	Rate	Rates ^⁴	Concentration ⁵	Concentration [®]	Conc.'
			(Blank Corrected)		(g)	(ug)	(atms/(cm ³ *y))	(m My ⁻ 1)	(atoms/g)		
POT45	BE29399	MB20	5.52E-12	3.65E-14	0.507	299.41	2.09E+06	36	6.04E+07	0.11	7.78
POT46	BE29401	MB21	8.40E-12	7.65E-14	0.549	299.41	2.45E+06	30	7.25E+07	0.13	7.86
POT47	BE29402	MB21	1.44E-11	1.52E-13	0.554	298.42	6.02E+05	4	5.00E+08	0.91	8.70
POT48	BE29403	MB21	1.60E-11	1.23E-13	0.530	302.37	1.72E+06	10	2.06E+08	0.38	8.31
POT49	BE29404	MB21	1.16E-11	1.29E-13	0.539	298.42	1.88E+06	16	1.32E+08	0.24	8.12
POT50	BE27107	MB9	7.28E-12	1.20E-13	0.506	300.99	2.46E+06	31	6.83E+07	0.12	7.83
POT51	BE29405	MB21	3.98E-12	3.45E-14	0.594	299.41	2.44E+06	67	3.18E+07	0.06	7.50
POT52	BE29406	MB21	1.71E-11	2.62E-13	0.551	301.38	2.30E+06	14	1.57E+08	0.29	8.20
POT53	BE29407	MB21	1.79E-11	1.96E-13	0.509	300.40	2.07E+06	11	1.99E+08	0.36	8.30
POT54	BE29408	MB21	9.26E-12	7.16E-14	0.539	297.43	5.80E+05	6	3.42E+08	0.62	8.53
POT55	BE29409	MB21	1.05E-11	8.07E-14	0.506	300.40	2.21E+06	20	1.09E+08	0.20	8.04
POT56	BE29410	MB21	7.10E-12	5.49E-14	0.555	299.41	7.12E+05	10	2.09E+08	0.38	8.32
POT57	BE29411	MB21	9.34E-12	1.11E-13	0.518	290.51	6.95E+05	7	2.92E+08	0.53	8.47
POT58	BE27108	MB9	8.92E-12	8.18E-14	0.544	300.00	1.98E+06	22	9.63E+07	0.18	7.98
POT59	BE29412	MB21	1.12E-11	1.86E-13	0.523	299.41	6.76E+05	6	3.68E+08	0.67	8.57
POT60	BE29413	MB21	8.26E-12	6.38E-14	0.545	300.40	6.80E+05	8	2.60E+08	0.47	8.41
POT61	BE29414	MB21	9.51E-12	1.21E-13	0.533	299.41	1.91E+06	20	1.09E+08	0.20	8.04
POT62	BE29416	MB22	1.06E-11	1.43E-13	0.539	298.42	1.79E+06	17	1.27E+08	0.23	8.10
POT63	BE27109	MB9	5.45E-12	9.14E-14	0.518	300.99	1.80E+06	31	6.83E+07	0.12	7.83
POT64	BE29417	MB22	7.53E-12	5.03E-14	0.511	301.38	1.82E+06	23	9.47E+07	0.17	7.98
POT65	BE29418	MB22	5.82E-12	3.16E-14	0.508	299.41	1.86E+06	30	7.15E+07	0.13	7.85
POT66	BE29419	MB22	1.89E-11	1.03E-13	0.530	299.41	6.26E+05	3	6.62E+08	1.21	8.82
POT67	BE29420	MB22	2.70E-12	1.82E-14	0.519	300.40	2.01E+06	71	3.02E+07	0.06	7.48
POT68	BE29421	MB22	2.04E-11	1.26E-13	0.523	299.41	1.96E+06	9	2.30E+08	0.42	8.36
POT69	BE29422	MB22	6.27E-12	4.28E-14	0.533	300.40	1.99E+06	31	6.88E+07	0.13	7.84
POT70	BE29423	MB22	1.33E-11	1.45E-13	0.510	306.32	6.36E+05	4	4.88E+08	0.89	8.69
POT71	BE29424	MB22	1.26E-12	1.09E-14	0.516	300.40	2.16E+06	164	1.31E+07	0.02	7.12
POT72	BE29425	MB22	9.68E-12	1.10E-13	0.530	301.38	2.01E+06	20	1.06E+08	0.19	8.03
POT73	BE29426	MB22	9.24E-12	6.31E-14	0.525	300.40	2.04E+06	21	1.00E+08	0.18	8.00

¹Measured ratios from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, blank corrected.

²Mass of ⁹Be added to a sample from the SPEX Be Carrier.

³Deposition rate calculated using equation 2 from Graley et al. (2010).

⁴Calculated with equation 21 from Willenbring and von Blanckenburg (2010).

⁵ To normalize each measured meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration, each deposition rate was divided by the highest deposition rate for both the Potomac River Basin Data and the Brown et al (1988) data to get a normalized deposition rate. Next, I divided each measured meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration by my newly normalized deposition rate for that basin.

⁶Divided each normalized concentration by the highest normalized concentration.

⁷A log₁₀ transformation of each meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration.

Sample	Physiographic Province	Average Elevation ¹	Average	Basin Area	Mean Precip ³	Weighted	Maximum pH ⁴	Minimum pH ⁴	Land Use ⁵	Met. And In Situ Batio ⁶
	Trovince	(m)	(°)	(km^2)	(cm/y)	Average pri				Situ Natio
POT01	Main Branch	387	8 75	29796	100	5.0	7.0	4.2	Forest	0.50
POT02	Piedmont	130	3.46	54	107	5.0	6.9	4.6	Urban	0.23
POT04	Piedmont	143	2 97	38	105	5.2	6.9	4.6	Urban	0.25
POT05	Piedmont	140	2.37	23	105	53	6.9	4.0	Urban	0.20
POTOS	Main Branch	/32	9.63	2/851	100	5.0	7.0	4.2	Forest	0.51
POTOS	Piedmont	113	2.05	/36	103	1.0	1.0	4.2	Agriculture	0.37
POT10	Valley and Ridge	494	9.36	4136	103	4.5	4.5 5 1	4.5	Forest	0.20
POT11	Annalachian Plateau	658	10 52	2254	102	5.1	7.0	4.5	Forest	0.42
POT12	Valley and Ridge	266	5.63	1281	100	49	6.4	4.6	Agriculture	0.57
POT13	Piedmont	192	3.05	440	105	4.9	6.8	4.6		0.49
POT14	Blue Ridge	477	8 71	15	105	5.1	7.0	4.8	Forest	1 99
POT15	Blue Ridge	167	4 88	33	100	49	4 9	4 9	Agriculture	0.43
POT16	Blue Ridge	361	8.22	27	109	5.2	7.0	4.8	Forest	0.75
POT17	Piedmont	152	5.38	10	101	5.3	6.3	4.6	Agriculture	0.90
POT18	Piedmont	173	4 97	13	102	5.0	6.9	4.2	Agriculture	1 11
POT19	Piedmont	155	2.57	14	105	5.1	6.9	4.6	Agriculture	0.36
POT20	Coastal Plain	53	2.01	28	108	5.2	7.8	4.5	Urban	0.17
POT21	Coastal Plain	79	2.65	16	105	4.9	7.2	4.5	Urban	0.05
POT22	Coastal Plain	73	1.82	15	105	5.1	7.2	4.5	Urban	0.06
POT23	Coastal Plain	76	2.17	28	105	4.9	7.8	4.5	Urban	0.05
POT24	Coastal Plain	69	0.93	9	105	5.0	6.6	4.5	Agriculture	0.06
POT25	Coastal Plain	57	2.79	36	104	5.2	6.5	4.5	Forest	0.05
POT26	Coastal Plain	33	1.83	41	101	5.2	7.4	4.6	Forest	0.05
POT27	Coastal Plain	47	3.37	22	103	5.3	6.5	4.5	Forest	0.06
POT28	Piedmont	99	2.94	17	104	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.20
POT29	Piedmont	109	2.16	8	104	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.82
POT30	Piedmont	140	1.94	21	105	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	1.69
POT31	Piedmont	74	1.39	21	100	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	1.30
POT32	Piedmont	108	3.71	21	101	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.04
POT33	Piedmont	110	4.06	28	101	4.9	4.9	4.9	Urban	0.32
POT34	Piedmont	121	4.01	16	102	4.9	4.9	4.9	Urban	0.29
POT35	Piedmont	110	2.51	21	101	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	1.07
POT36	Piedmont	184	5.36	64	104	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	0.24
POT37	Piedmont	210	5.27	48	102	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	0.41
POT38	Valley and Ridge	216	2.85	12	96	4.9	5.1	4.9	Agriculture	2.07
POT39	Valley and Ridge	377	11.60	13	103	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.50
POT40	Valley and Ridge	605	13.75	9	103	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.33
POT41	Blue Ridge	602	17.53	12	110	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.86
POT42	Valley and Ridge	369	3.91	16	98	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	1.12
POT43	Blue Ridge	575	13.79	25	111	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.37
POT44	Blue Ridge	693	16.34	28	117	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.64

Table A.5 - Basin Information

Sample	Physiographic Province	Average Elevation ¹ (m)	Average Slope ² (°)	Basin Area (km ²)	Mean Precip. ³ (cm/y)	Weighted Average pH^4	$Maximum pH^4$	$Minimum \ pH^4$	Land Use ⁵	Met. And In Situ Ratio ⁶
POT45	Valley and Ridge	990	21.85	29	113	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.96
POT46	Valley and Ridge	1198	12.74	15	133	5.1	5.1	4.9	Forest	0.81
POT47	Valley and Ridge	595	13.14	16	95	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	
POT48	Valley and Ridge	391	11.39	13	92	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.55
POT49	Valley and Ridge	651	11.74	27	101	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.76
POT50	Valley and Ridge	1150	19.04	20	132	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.60
POT51	Appalachian Plateau	868	9.22	13	131	5.1	6	4.2	Forest	0.29
POT52	Appalachian Plateau	844	6.07	19	123	5.1	6	4.2	Forest	0.94
POT53	Appalachian Plateau	720	11.12	21	110	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	1.08
POT54	Valley and Ridge	324	15.61	5	92	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	
POT55	Appalachian Plateau	804	8.51	16	118	5.2	5.6	4.5	Forest	0.72
POT56	Appalachian Plateau	716	13.29	28	113	5.2	6	4.2	Forest	
POT57	Appalachian Plateau	740	12.70	6	110	5.2	6	4.5	Forest	
POT58	Appalachian Plateau	704	10.18	10	105	5.3	6.5	4.3	Forest	0.95
POT59	Appalachian Plateau	734	8.97	17	107	5.2	6.3	4.6	Forest	
POT60	Appalachian Plateau	707	10.93	5	108	5.2	6.3	4.7	Agriculture	
POT61	Valley and Ridge	602	13.94	5	101	5.2	6.6	4.6	Forest	0.48
POT62	Valley and Ridge	367	13.14	7	95	5.2	6	4.5	Forest/Agriculture	0.95
POT63	Valley and Ridge	424	10.71	18	96	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.24
POT64	Valley and Ridge	341	8.70	13	96	5.2	5.9	4.6	Forest	0.60
POT65	Valley and Ridge	430	8.95	11	98	5.3	6.6	4.6	Forest	0.48
POT66	Valley and Ridge	309	7.54	10	99	5.2	5.9	4.9	Forest	
POT67	Valley and Ridge	438	12.09	25	105	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.16
POT68	Piedmont	171	2.43	12	104	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	1.51
POT69	Blue Ridge	237	4.91	11	105	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	0.34
POT70	Valley and Ridge	196	3.30	13	101	4.9	4.9	4.9	Agriculture	
POT71	Blue Ridge	558	8.71	11	114	4.9	4.9	4.9	Forest	0.10
POT72	Piedmont	205	4.79	24	107	5.0	6	4.6	Agriculture	0.86
POT73	Piedmont	247	5.72	18	108	5.0	6	4.3	Agriculture	0.81

¹Data from USGS digital data at <u>http://seamless.usgs.gov/</u>. ²Data interpolated using USGS digital data at <u>http://seamless.usgs.gov/</u>. ³Data taken from a raster dataset from <u>http://worldclim.org/</u>. ⁴Data taken from <u>http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/</u> ⁵From USGS raster dataset.

⁶Divided the standardized meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration by the standardized in situ ¹⁰Be concentration

Sampla	Gaging	In Situ Export	Meteoric Export	Average Sediment	Erosion
Sample	Station	Rate ¹	Rate ¹	Load ²	Index ³
		(g/y)	(g/y)	(g/y)	
POT01	1646580	1.30E+12	2.88E+12	1.93E+12	0.67
POT02	1650500	3.07E+09	1.33E+10	1.34E+10	1.01
POT04	1647740	1.72E+09	6.51E+09	5.45E+08	0.08
POT05	1647720	9.08E+08	3.13E+09	1.77E+09	0.57
POT06	1638500	1.14E+12	2.22E+12	1.03E+12	0.47
POT09	1656120	9.28E+09	5.13E+10	1.04E+10	0.20
POT10	1631000	7.31E+10	2.13E+11	2.04E+11	0.96
POT11	1603000	8.52E+10	1.57E+11	1.42E+11	0.91
POT12	1614500	2.69E+10	5.57E+10	5.98E+10	1.07
POT13	1639000	1.56E+10	3.42E+10	1.80E+10	0.53
¹ Calculate	d using		Equation 3-3		

 Table A.6 - Gaging Station Information

¹Calculated using ²From Gellis et al. (2004) ³Calculated using

Equation **2-1** taken from Brown et al. (1988)

Table A.7 -	Brown	et al.	(1988)	Data
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Station	River	Location	Basin Area	Altitude	Gradient	Rainfall	Original Concentration	Error	Original El	Sed. Load	Latitude	New Concentration	Deposition Rate ¹	New Index ²	Normalized Concentration ³
			(km²)	(m)		(cm/y)	(atoms/g)	(%)		(g/y)	(DD)	(atoms/g)	(atms/cm3*y)		(atoms/g)
1463500	Delaware	Trenton	17560	2	0.00E+00	113	1.21E+08	5	0.26	5.44E+11	40.2217	1.09E+08	2.34E+06	0.14	2.71E+07
1474505	Schuylkill	Philadelphia	4903	2	0.00E+00	108	1.22E+08	12	0.81	4.56E+11	39.9208	1.10E+08	2.24E+06	0.46	2.86E+07
2083500	Tar	Tarboro	5654	3	1.60E-04	112	1.93E+08	21	0.27	1.13E+11	35.8944	1.75E+08	2.32E+06	0.15	4.37E+07
2084160	Chicod	Road 1769	117	2	5.90E-04	128	3.09E+08	16	0.48	3.04E+09	35.5617	2.79E+08	2.65E+06	0.27	6.12E+07
2089500	Neuse	Kinston	6972	3	1.60E-04	127	1.93E+08	4	0.13	7.67E+10	35.2578	1.75E+08	2.62E+06	0.07	3.86E+07
2091500	Contentnea	Hookerton	1888	5	1.40E-04	112	9.30E+07	5	0.05	1.51E+10	35.4289	8.41E+07	2.32E+06	0.03	2.11E+07
2091970	Creeping Swamp	Vanceboro	70	5	6.90E-04	128	4.00E+08	44	0.24	7.00E+08	35.3900	3.62E+08	2.65E+06	0.14	7.93E+07
2105769	Cape Fear	Lock 1	13610	-1	6.00E-05	117	1.20E+08	9	0.13	2.31E+11	34.4044	1.09E+08	2.41E+06	0.08	2.61E+07
2131000	Pee Dee	Pee Dee	22870	8	2.00E-04	116	6.36E+08	13	0.89	4.80E+11	34.2042	5.75E+08	2.39E+06	0.51	1.40E+08
2175000	Edisto	Givhans	7070	6	1.40E-04	114	1.41E+08	21	0.03	2.12E+10	33.0278	1.27E+08	2.32E+06	0.02	3.18E+07
2198500	Savannah	Clyo	25510	2	1.00E-04	120	6.96E+08	28	0.27	1.53E+11	32.5281	6.29E+08	2.42E+06	0.16	1.51E+08
1470500	Schuyikill	Berne	919	95	1.33E-03	116	4.11E+08	39	2.1	7.08E+10	40.5225	3.72E+08	2.40E+06	1.19	8.98E+07
1481000	Brandywine Cr.	Chadds Ford	743	46	5.45E-03	111	1.31E+08	8	0.67	5.50E+10	39.8697	1.18E+08	2.30E+06	0.38	2.99E+07
1481500	Brandywine Cr.	Wilmington	813	21	5.45E-03	113	5.46E+08	53	2.6	5.69E+10	39.7694	4.94E+08	2.34E+06	1.48	1.22E+08
1570500	Susquehanna	Harrisburg	62400	88	3.20E-04	101	3.11E+08	23	1.11	2.93E+12	40.2547	2.81E+08	2.09E+06	0.63	7.80E+07
1638500	Potomac	Point of Rocks	25996	61	4.80E-04	109	4.21E+08	4	0.77	6.76E+11	39.2736	3.81E+08	2.26E+06	0.44	9.79E+07
1643000	Monocay	Fredrick	2116	71	4.60E-04	111	8.50E+08	4	3.77	1.35E+11	39.7695	7.69E+08	2.30E+06	2.14	1.94E+08
1664000	Rappahannock	Remington	1606	77	4.90E-04	105	7.26E+08	1	3.62	1.09E+11	38.5306	6.56E+08	2.17E+06	2.05	1.75E+08
2035000	James	Cartersville	16206	50	2.80E-04	110	3.20E+08	19	0.58	4.21E+11	37.6708	2.89E+08	2.28E+06	0.33	7.37E+07
2075500	Dan	Paces	6604	98	3.60E-04	112	2.76E+08	67	1.84	6.41E+11	36.6422	2.50E+08	2.32E+06	1.04	6.25E+07
2080500	Roanoke	Roanoke Rapids	21720	13	4.10E-04	114	1.17E+08	13	0.02	6.52E+10	36.4600	1.06E+08	2.36E+06	0.01	2.60E+07
2087500	Neuse	Clayton	2978	39	3.80E-04	128	2.57E+08	18	0.82	1.58E+11	35.6472	2.32E+08	2.65E+06	0.47	5.09E+07
2098198	Haw	Moncure	4375	47	4.40E-04	124	1.05E+09	4	2.01	1.36E+11	35.6494	9.46E+08	2.56E+06	1.14	2.14E+08
2100500	Deep	Ramseur	904	128	1.40E-03	124	4.76E+08	67	1.77	5.42E+10	35.7264	4.30E+08	2.56E+06	1.01	9.74E+07
2116500	Yadkin	Yadkin College	5900	195	3.10E-04	123	5.23E+08	32	4.64	8.38E+11	35.8567	4.73E+08	2.54E+06	2.64	1.08E+08
2129000	Pee Dee	Rockingham	17780	37	6.10E-04	119	7.23E+08	11	0.61	2.31E+11	34.9458	6.54E+08	2.46E+06	0.35	1.54E+08
2151500	Broad	Boiling Springs	2266	195	1.08E-03	130	5.74E+08	34	6.69	4.46E+11	35.2108	5.19E+08	2.69E+06	3.81	1.12E+08
1540500	Susquehanna	Danville	29060	131	2.70E-04	103	1.77E+08	10	0.48	1.60E+12	40.9581	1.60E+08	2.13E+06	0.41	4.35E+07
1545600	Young Womans	Renovo	120	238	1.01E-02	103	3.40E+08	86	0.36	1.68E+09	41.3894	3.07E+08	2.13E+06	0.20	8.36E+07
1553500	Susquehanna	West Branch	17734	130	2.80E-04	103	6.01E+08	20	1.12	4.43E+11	40.9675	5.43E+08	2.13E+06	0.64	1.48E+08
1567000	Juniata	Newport	8687	111	4.90E-04	103	1.64E+08	8	0.37	2.61E+11	40.4783	1.48E+08	2.13E+06	0.21	4.03E+07
3068000	Shavers Fork	Bemis	298	785	9.61E-03	125	2.87E+08	19	0.44	7.45E+09	38.8075	2.60E+08	2.59E+06	0.25	5.82E+07
3068600	Shavers Fork	above Bowden	357	683	5.19E-03	125	3.35E+08	18	0.72	1.25E+10	38.9028	3.03E+08	2.59E+06	0.41	6.79E+07
3068800	Shavers Fork	below Bowden	391	645	3.69E-03	125	2.79E+08	27	0.89	2.03E+10	38.9131	2.52E+08	2.59E+06	0.51	5.66E+07
3202400	Guyandotte	Baileysville	798	347	1.15E-03	115	1.24E+08	22	1.08	1.04E+11	37.6039	1.12E+08	2.38E+06	0.61	2.73E+07
3202490	Indian Cr.	Fanrock	105	369	2.44E-03	115	2.76E+08	32	0.52	2.94E+09	37.5669	2.50E+08	2.38E+06	0.29	6.08E+07
3202750	Clear Fork	Clear Fork	319	354	2.13E-03	115	1.80E+08	30	1.65	4.37E+10	37.6231	1.63E+08	2.38E+06	0.94	3.97E+07
3198550	Big Coal	Alum	1145	180	4.90E-04	120	3.11E+08	24	3.73	2.14E+11	38.2500	2.81E+08	2.48E+06	2.12	6.57E+07
3199000	Little Coal	Danville	699	201	1.24E-03	120	1.50E+08	37	2.36	1.71E+11	38.0769	1.36E+08	2.48E+06	1.34	3.17E+07
3199400	Little Coal	Julian	826	193	4.90E-04	120	2.05E+08	52	2.83	1.78E+11	38.1547	1.85E+08	2.48E+06	1.60	4.33E+07
3199700	Coal	Alum	2163	180	3.40E-04	120	3.01E+08	30	4.13	4.63E+11	38.2867	2.72E+08	2.48E+06	2.34	6.36E+07

Station	River	Location	Basin Area (km²)	Altitude (m)	Gradient	Rainfall (cm/y)	Original Concentration (atms/g)	Error (%)	Original El	Sed. Load (g/y)	Latitude (DD)	New Concentration ¹ (atoms/g)	Deposition Rate ² (atms/cm3*y)	New Index ³	Normalized Concentration ⁴
3200500	Coal	Tornado	2230	174	3.30E-04	120	4.14E+08	5	5.15	4.33E+11	38.3389	3.74E+08	2.48E+06	2.92	8.74E+07
1610200	Lost	McMauley	401	384	2.89E-03	125	4.58E+08	24	2.23	3.17E+10	39.0550	4.14E+08	2.59E+06	1.26	9.28E+07
3176500	New River	Glen Lyn	9759	454	1.01E-03	102	7.25E+08	25	0.44	7.81E+10	37.3728	6.56E+08	2.11E+06	0.25	1.80E+08
3453500	Franch Broad	Marshall	3450	502	3.03E-03	132	4.03E+08	9	2.89	4.38E+11	35.7864	3.64E+08	2.73E+06	1.70	7.74E+07

Unless otherwise noted all data are original. ¹Updated from KNSTD to 07KNSTD by multiplying each original meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration by 0.9042. ²Deposition rate calculated using equation 2 from Graley et al. (2010).

³Calculated using Equation **2-1** taken from Brown et al. (1988) ⁴To normalize each measured meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration, each deposition rate was divided by the highest deposition rate for both the Potomac River Basin Data and the Brown et al (1988) data to get a normalized production rate. Next, I divided each measured meteoric ¹⁰Be concentration by my newly normalized deposition rate for that basin.

Appendix B – Sampled Sites

Sample Site	POT-01	Sar Charle	npler s Trodick	Gaging Station #	1646580				
Elevation	8m	Latitude	38.930571	Longitude	-77.116148				
Description									
80 meters upstream from Chain Bridge on VA side between 2nd and 3rd pylon. Sediment trap on downstream side of rock pile next to									




Sample Site	POT-02	Sampler Charles Trodick		Gaging Station #	1650500		
Elevation	79m	Latitude 39.064727		Longitude	-77.028419		
		D	Description				
Northwor	Northwest Branch off abandon partian of Old Bandolph Boad Bridge						

Northwest Branch off abandon portion of Old Randolph Road Bridge. Near corner of Randolph and Old Randolph. Old Gaging station. Sample just downstream from bridge. Bar in middle of stream.



Sample Site	POT-04	Sampler Charles Trodick		Gaging Station #	1647740
Elevation	143m	Latitude 39.105904		Longitude	-77.125032
		D	Description		
North Branch of Rock Creek near Rockville, MD. Near Avery St. and					

Southlawn. Upstream from Avery Bridge and downstream from Southlawn. Off walking path.



Sample Site	POT-05	Sampler Charles Trodick		Gaging Station #	1647720		
Elevation	120m	Latitude 39.1179		Longitude	-77.100871		
	Description						
Near Ma	Near Mancaster Road. North Branch of Rock Creek near Norbeck,						
MD. Upstream from bridge, bar on outside of turn.							







	Sample	POT-09	Sar	npler s Trodick	Gaging	1656120				
	Elevation	63m	Latitude	38.640112	Longitude	-77.512321				
			D	escription	Longitude	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				
Cedar Run, NW corner of Quantico. Where Aden Road crosses over										
Cedar Run. Upstream from bridge. Past two small tributaries. Bar in										
			midd	le of stream.						
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Sample Site	POT-10	Sampler Charles Trodick		Gaging Station #	1631000		
Elevation	148m	Latitude	Latitude 38.914248		-78.209969		
	Description						

South Fork Shenandoah at Front Royal. At boat landing downstream from bridge. Path downstream from boat landing. Town side of river across from house. Forested at sample site.





Sample Site	POT-11	Sampler Charles Trodick		Gaging Station #	1603000	
Elevation		Latitude 39.621466		Longitude	-78.7737	
	Description					

Potomac at Cumberland, MD. Highway 28 bridge, south end. Riffle just upstream from bridge. Between land and first pylon.





Sample Site	POT-12	Sampler Charles Trodick		Gaging Station #	1614500
Elevation	132m	Latitude 39.715704		Longitude	-77.824155
Description					
Gaging station down Wishand Road in southern Pennsylvania. Shack					

with platform near old dam. Upstream from station past a metal pole sticking out of a tree. Sediment from near side of stream, downstream from island.





Sample Site	POT-13	Sampler Charles Trodick		Gaging Station #	1639000
Elevation	118m	Latitude	Latitude 39.715704		-77.824155
Description					

Creek near Taneytown. Border with Carroll County, MD. On same side as gaging station, just in front of gaging station past the wall. A little difficult to determine sediment source.





Sample Site	POT-14	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	
Elevation	288m	Latitude	Latitude 39.586971		-77.464085
Description					

Near Cunningham Falls State Park Road. Just off road. Private land upstream from small bridge and two manmade log dams past previous dredging. Small rich community with some construction but land seems natural.



Sample Site	POT-15	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Dutchman Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 39.306916		-77.651142	
	Description					

Just upstream from Dutchman Creek Bridge. Gravel bedded stream. Sampled 4 different locations because of very little sand. Tall shinny rock uphill from site. Forested region. Just up from Potomac.



Sample	DOT 16	Sar	mpler	Stream	Friends	
Site	P01-10	Charles Trodick		Name	Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 39.708375		-77.411599	
	Description					

Just off Friends Creek Road. Down cut bank, upstream from tributary. Sampled at inlet and edge of stream 40m from road. Completely forested area.



Sample	DOT 17	Sar	mpler	Stream	Above Israel	
Site	P01-17	Charles Trodick		Name	Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 39.479666		-77.327614	
	Description					

Just off Water Street Road on Stauffer Road upstream from bridge near pasture land. Very few trees. Sample taken from some grasses across from an inlet near a big tree.



Sample	POT-18	Sar	npler	Stream	Ten Mile	
Site	FO1-10	Charles Trodick		Name	Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	39.210672	Longitude	-77.310759	
Description						

Just past gate on Ten Mile Creek Road. Small point bar upstream from bridge. Black Hill Regional Park upstream from Little Seneca Lake,

Reservoir.



Sample Site	POT-19	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Rock Creek		
Elevation		Latitude 39.154325		Longitude	-77.131963		
Description							

Upstream from Munster Road Bridge and confluence. Tried sampling under bridge but sediment was to fine. Found point bar upstream with gravel and fine sand. Near horse trail. Some trees. Rich suburban neighborhood.





Sample	DOT 21	Sar	npler	Stream	Henson		
Site	P01-21	Charles Trodick		Name	Creek		
Elevation		Latitude	38.831217	Longitude	-76.919746		
Description							

Parked at church on loop to south of Suitland Parkway. Residential area. Stream in woods. Behind church, follow small stream south to confluence with Henson Creek.



Sample Site	POT-22	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name		
5110		churc	JIIOUICK	Nume		
Elevation		Latitude	38.755388	Longitude	-76.841726	
Description						

Next to Homeland Security, across stream. Stopped at back of housing development. Hiked upstream from small confluence.



Sample	DOT 22	Sar	mpler	Stream	Tinkers	
Site	P01-25	Charles Trodick		Name	Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	38.759003	Longitude	-76.941934	
Description						

Point bar upstream from on Steed Road. Perfect sample.



Sample	DOT 24	Sar	npler	Stream	Timothy	
Site	P01-24	Charles Trodick		Name	Creek	
Elevation		Latitude 38.664503		Longitude	-76.879363	
Description						

Just upstream from bridge on Mckendree Road. Just downstream from confluence. Swampy area, near new housing development.



Sample Site	POT-25	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Port Tobacco Creek	
Elevation		Latitude 38.542057		Longitude	-77.017593	
		D	escription			
Downstream from bridge, Indian Head and La Plata Road. Further						

gravel and fine sand.



Sample Site	POT-26	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Beaver Dam Creek	
Elevation		Latitude 38.422865		Longitude	-77.213202	
Description						

Just downstream from Hancock Run Road. Small point bar. Rural area. Surrounded by trees. Lots of sand and gravel on road side.



Sample	DOT 27	Sar	npler	Stream	Burgess	
Site	P01-27	Charles Trodick		Name	Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	38.483023	Longitude	-77.084112	
Description						

Just upstream from La Plata (6) Road Bridge on east side only visible shallow spot. Tree in water. Tire. Perfect Sand. Parked on Mill Swamp Road.



Sample	DOT 29	Sar	mpler	Stream	Potomac	
Site	PU1-20	Charles Trodick		Name	Run Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	38.441724	Longitude	-77.540603	
Description						

Just downstream from Poplar Road Bridge. Sand bar on north side of stream. Forested with new development.



Sample Site	POT-29	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Elk Run	
Elevation		Latitude	38.566422	Longitude	-77.672696	
Description						

Just off Poplar Road Bridge on farm road, upstream of confluence. Appears farmer is removing gravel.



Sample Site	POT-30	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Licking Run	
Elevation		Latitude	38.629276	Longitude	-77.764106	
Description						

Upstream from bridge on Green Road. Surrounded by farms and trees. Sampled at bar with water plants. Nearby ditch input.



Sample Site	POT-31	Sar Charle	Sampler Charles Trodick		Slate Run	
Elevation		Latitude	38.668758	Longitude	-77.537427	
Description						
Downstream from Fleetwood Bridge. Surrounded by farmland.						

Mainly shale point bar in middle of stream.



Sample	POT-22	San	npler	Stream	Powell's
Site	F01-32	Charles Trodick		Name	Creek
Elevation		Latitude 38.61744		Longitude	-77.372117
Description					

Just downstream from Spriggs Road Bridge. Upstream from Mont Clare Lake. New construction everywhere. Samples from forested area. Parked in circle near stream. Walked 1/4 mile to stream.



Sample Site	POT-33	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Popes Head Creek	
Elevation		Latitude 38.781789		Longitude	-77.387953	
Description						

Just off a bridge on Newhaven Road. Upstream at small beach, kind of in a person's backyard. Path on bank. Forested residential area.



Sample Site	POT-34	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Head Creek East Fork	
Elevation		Latitude 38.797979		Longitude	-77.351861	
Description						

Off Fairfax Station Road. Upstream from bridge. Forested residential area. Just down a small terrace.



Sample Site	POT-35	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Lenah Run	
Elevation		Latitude	38.959309	Longitude	-77.538328	
Description						

Upstream from bridge on Belmont Ridge Road. Shale stream. Sampled from underwater bar on south side of stream, upstream from small confluence.



Sample Site	POT-36	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Little Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	38.950832	Longitude	-77.71956	
Description						

Just upstream from Landmark School Road. Sample taken from sand bar across stream from old mill. Forested area near vineyards and small town, Middleburg.



Sample Site	POT-37	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	North Fork Beaver Dam Creek	
Elevation		Latitude 39.061616		Longitude	-77.754321	
Description						
Just upstream from St. Louis Road Bridge. Stream is all coarse to fine						

sand. Surrounded by farms and a few trees.



Sample Site	POT-38	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Opequon Creek	
Elevation		Latitude	39.082839	Longitude	-78.126397	
Description						

Where Armel Road turns to Crismere Road. Upstream from bridge. Sample from point bar nearly under bridge. Border between Frederick and Clarke County. Hard sampling. Coarse bedded shale.



Sample Site	POT-39	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Howellsville Branch	
Elevation		Latitude 38.973523		Longitude	-78.082023	
Description						

Bridge on Howellsville road. Downstream from bridge. Mainly coarse gravel and sand. Plenty of quartz. 40 feet from bridge. Surrounded by trees, nearby farm.



Sample Site	POT-40	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	
Elevation		Latitude 38.735808		Longitude	-78.530574
Description					

Sampled where Moreland gap road bridge crosses stream. Sampled upstream and under bridge. Wooded area with some residential. Easy sample.


Sample	POT-41	Sar	npler	Stream	Hawksbill		
Site		Charles Trodick		Name	Creek		
Elevation		Latitude	38.347143	Longitude	-78.612027		
Description							

Sample taken from under Beldor Road Bridge in a pocket of coarse sand. Stream is mainly bedrock. Surrounded by farmland. Bridge is one lane.



Sample	DOT 42	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream			
Site	PU1-42			Name			
Elevation		Latitude	38.250988	Longitude	-78.892007		
Description							

Sample taken under bridge for 900 VA near Shenandoah Airport. Stream coarse sand and gravel with mud matrix. Hard to sample. Airport and farm near stream.



Sample Site	POT-43	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Sawmill Run			
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 38.101435		-78.860335			
	Description							

Sampled near 340 parked on Al Gore Road at East Side Speedway. Stream is bedrock and sandstone. Sampled from a pocket of sand on far side.



Sample Site	POT-44	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Back Creek			
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 37.940339		-78.968182			
	Description							

Just upstream from VA 664 bridge. Sample taken from pockets of fine sand all around stream. Surrounded by farms and a few trees. Steam mainly coarse gravel.



Sample	DOT 45	Sar	npler	Stream	Skidmore	
Site	PU1-45	Charles Trodick		Name	Fork	
Elevation		Latitude	38.558167	Longitude	-79.152031	
Description						

Sample taken from pockets on each downstream side of ford for FR227. Just upstream from reservoir. Valley, forested area. Gravel, boulder stream.



Sample Site	POT-46	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Laurel Fork		
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 38.492563		-79.665341		
	Description						

Sample taken downstream from bridge and confluence. Turned on to FR54. Sample at 1' by 1' island. Boulder stream. Good Sand. Use GPS.



Sample Site	POT-47	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Crab Run			
Elevation		Latitude	38.809617	Longitude	-78.945694			
	Description							

Sampled under bridge on East Side of Crab Run Road. Mainly coarse sand and gravel. Talked to local who has lived on creek for 34 years. He said stream 22 years ago was deep enough to swim in. Now mostly ankle deep. Change occurred when chicken coops moved in. Also, the river floods more, about once a year, causing a large amount of erosion, much more than has occurred in the past.



Sample Site	POT-48	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Dumpling Run			
Elevation		Latitude	39.070046	Longitude	-78.957539			
	Description							

Sampled just downstream from 55 bridge. Stream mainly gravel and coarse sand. Sampled from sand bar on east side of stream. Sampled in a small town.



Sample Site	POT-49	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	North River			
Elevation		Latitude	39.13735	Longitude	-78.771715			
	Description							

Sample taken downstream from bridge on North River Road. Stream in mainly forest with light residential. Stream mainly sandstone gravel and boulders, some bedrock. Sample taken from fine sand pocket north bank of stream.



Sample	POT-50	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream	Roaring	
Site				Name	Сгеек	
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 38.889463		-79.403086	
Description						

Sampled at Y in Roaring Creek Road, just downstream of ford. Creek is mainly bedrock and boulders. Samples came from coarse sand pockets on east side of stream.



Sample Site	POT-51	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Laural Run		
Elevation		Latitude	39.237272	Longitude	-79.449005		
Description							

Sampled just upstream from Kempton Road Bridge at little sand and gravel bar on south side of stream. Land was mainly forested with some agriculture. Logging was occurring in the area. Stream was a light tan color possibly indicating logging effects.



Sample Site	POT-52	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Laural Run		
Elevation		Latitude	39.348403	Longitude	-79.285069		
Description							

Sample taken at edge of Potomac State Forest, sample taken upstream of Audley Riley Bridge. North side sand and gravel bar. All forested area.



Sample Site	POT-53	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Deep Run Cranberry Run			
Elevation		Latitude 39.398563		Longitude	-79.133406			
	Description							
Sampl Sample	Sampled just off WV 46, downstream of bridge for small road. Sampled sand/gravel bar on north side. Mostly forest with light							

residential.



Sample	DOT 54	Sai	mpler	Stream	Reinhardt	
Site	PU1-54	Charles Trodick		Name	Run	
Elevation		Latitude	39.455182	Longitude	-78.804073	
Description						

Sampled under bridge for CR 46-114 in pocket of sand. Most of stream was gravel shale. Agriculture with forest up stream. Fossils in shale.





Sampled under Swanton Road Bridge. Large sand deposit. In very small town (kid). Mainly shale gravel.



Sample Site	POT-56	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Middle Fork	
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 39.513378		-79.154863	
Description						

Sampled upstream from Savage River Road Bridge and Savage River Reservoir. Bedrock stream with boulders. Sampled sand pocket behind a large rock on east side of stream.



Sample	DOT 57	Sar	npler	Stream	Blacklick	
Site	PU1-57	Charles Trodick		Name	Run	
Elevation		Latitude	39.603374	Longitude	-79.079118	
Description						

Sampled just upstream from Westernport Road off of a small gravel road in front of a house. Stream is mainly gravel and boulders. Sampled from a pocket of sand on west side. Area mainly agriculture with some forest.



Sample Site	POT-58	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	George's Creek	
Elevation		Latitude 39.565669		Longitude	-78.97994	
Description						

Sampled stream just east of MD 36. Mainly gravel and boulder stream sampled under bridge. Lot of organics in stream. Sampled in small town Lonaconing.



Sample Site	POT-59	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Willis Creek			
Elevation		Latitude	39.819052	Longitude	-78.937583			
	Description							

Sample under Gameland Road Bridge just off Witt Road. Stream is mostly gravel. Sample taken at fine sand and mud bank. Taken in forested light residential area.





Sample Site	POT-61	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Sand Spring Run			
Elevation		Latitude	39.893341	Longitude	-78.601899			
	Description							

Sample taken just downstream from 220 bridge. Light residential area. Gravel stream. Found quartz sand bars on north side of stream.



Sample Site	POT-62	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name		
Elevation		Latitude	39.687011	Longitude	-78.585806	
Description						

Sample taken up stream from Murley Branch Road Bridge and confluence with Murley Branch Stream. Stream mainly shale gravel and boulders. Sample taken from tire. Surrounded by farms.



Sample Site	POT-63	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Critton Run		
Elevation		Latitude 39.471218		Longitude	-78.437963		
Description							

Sampled downstream from 29 bridge. Large boulder stream. Sampled a gravel bar. Shale dominated stream. Mainly forested.





Sample Site	POT-65	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Branch of East Branch			
Elevation		Latitude 39.861461		Longitude	-78.301706			
	Description							
Sample stream.	Sample taken downstream of 355PA bridge. Complete bedrock							

Mainly shale.



Sample Site	POT-66	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Liching Fortune Teller Creek		
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 40.017985		-78.040094		
Description							
Sampled downstream from T417 bridge. Stream is mainly bedrock							

with some gravel. Sampled from some gravel on east side of stream. Shale. Almost all agriculture.



Sample	DOT 67	Sai	mpler	Stream		
Site	P01-07	Charles Trodick		Name		
Elevation		Latitude	Latitude 40.177332		-77.66304	
Description						

Sampled downstream from bridge for T591. Edge of private land. Large gravel and small boulder stream. Sampled pockets in middle of stream behind rock. Agriculture and lightly forested.



Sample	POT-68	Sampler		Stream	Branch of
Site	F 0 1-00	Charles Trodick		Name	Rock Creek
Elevation		Latitude 39.867126		Longitude	-77.222729
Description					

Sampled upstream from Table Rock Road Bridge. Stream is mainly shale bedrock. Almost no sand. Sample taken from mix of stuff near plants on side. Residential agriculture.



Sample Site	POT-69	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Mummasburg Run
Elevation		Latitude 39.879445		Longitude	-77.293582
Description					

Sampled upstream from bridge on small gravel road off Mummasburg Road. Agriculture area. Bedrock and sand. Sampled sand bar on east side of stream. Plenty of quartz.



Sample	POT-70	Sampler		Stream	Branch of
Site	101-70	Charles Trodick		Name	Back Creek
Elevation		Latitude 39.916254		Longitude	-77.748227
Description					

Sampled sand and gravel bar just upstream from T458 bridge. Agriculture area. Stream is mainly bedrock and gravel. Shale is



Sample Site	POT-71	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream Name	Birch Run
Elevation		Latitude	39.950477	Longitude	-77.444472
Description					

Sampled in pool just down from Birch Run Road Bridge and upstream from reservoir. Pure quartz sand. Forested area.



Sample	POT-72	Sampler Charles Trodick		Stream	Turkeyfoot
Site				Name	Kuli
Elevation		Latitude 39.567456		Longitude	-77.059822
Description					

Under bridge where Roops Mill Road and Rockland Road meet. Agriculture area. Stream mainly coarse sand, gravel with a little bedrock. Sampled sand bar under bridge.



