

Elements

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ABOUT THE COVER:

High-energy cosmic particles hit molecules in the Earth's atmosphere where they initiate a cascade of secondary cosmic rays. These particles produce "meteoric" cosmogenic nuclides in the atmosphere, and "in situ" cosmogenic nuclides when they arrive at the Earth surface. The accumulation and radioactive decay of these nuclides serve as "clocks" of Earth-surface change. The background shows the Forno glacier, Swiss Central Alps. IMAGE FRIEDHELM VON BLANCKENBURG, JANE WILLENBRING, AND MANUELA DZIGGEL

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Cosmogenic Nuclides

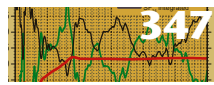
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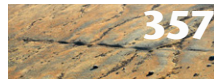
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