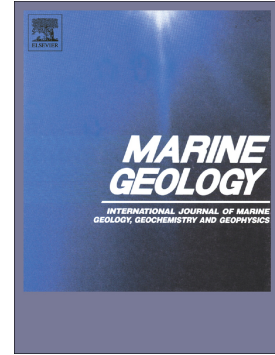


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**Importance of infragravity waves for the generation of washover deposits**

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**Abstract**

Washover deposits are among the most remarkable sedimentary signatures of dune breaching and coastal inundation. Overwash of the barrier leading to washover development can be related either to storms or tsunamis but the distinction between these two processes based on the depositional record is still a matter of debate. Hence, studying recent well-documented washover deposits, combining sedimentological and hydrodynamic investigations is a key approach to identify the processes governing the washover deposition and to analyze their sediment record within the washover. During the winter of 2013-2014, the coasts of the Bay of Biscay experienced an exceptional wave climate, leading to dune breaching and washover deposition at many locations, including the Gauseau Spit (South of Oléron Island, France). Field observations, aerial photographs, topographic measurements, GPR investigations, trenches and cores, grain size analysis and magnetic fabric measurements) were carried out and

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