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Climate control on late Holocene high-energy sedimentation along coasts of the northeastern Atlantic Ocean

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Abstract

Abundant sedimentological and geochronological data gathered on European sandy coasts highlight major phases of increased high-energy sedimentation in the North Atlantic Ocean during the late Holocene. Owing to an inconsistent use of the terminology, it is often difficult to determine whether studies have described storm-built or wave-built deposits. Both deposits can be identified by overall similar coarse-grained sedimentary facies, but may provide contradictory paleoenvironmental interpretations. The aim of this study is to address this issue, by analysing a set of published ¹⁴C ages recovered from wave-built sediment bodies of the Pertuis Charentais (France). Integration of ¹⁴C data highlights seven coarse-grained sediment supply occurring around 2650, 2420, 1240, 970, 800, 650 and 450 cal. yr B.P. CSPs can be matched with geochronological data pub-

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