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erosion is the geological process in which earthen materials are worn away and transported by natural forces such as wind or water a similar process weathering breaks down or dissolves rock but does not involve movement erosion is the opposite of deposition the geological process in which earthen materials are deposited or built up on a erosion physical process in which soil rock and other surface material are removed from one location and transported to another erosion will often occur after rock has been disintegrated or altered through weathering key points the movement of water can create and modify features on earth s surface this happens through weathering erosion and deposition weathering occurs when water breaks down rocks and soil to create sediment there are two main types of weathering mechanical and chemical in bare terrains and under intense rainfall or melting destruction by water happens faster the main types of soil erosion by water are bank sheet rill gully and splash ones see their detailed description in our water erosion types causes effects and prevention article the key to managing and reducing soil erosion is to rehabilitate already damaged land stop further degradation and put erosion preventative measures at the core of land management policy in this way we can help prevent hunger and mitigate the climate crisis erosion is the action of surface processes such as water flow or wind that removes soil rock or dissolved material from one location on the earth s crust and then transports it to another location where it is deposited erosion is distinct from weathering which involves no movement erosion removal of surface material from the earth s crust and transportation of the eroded materials by natural agencies from the point of removal erosion is caused by wind action river and stream processes marine processes sea waves and glacial processes learn about the processes of weathering and erosion and how it influences our planet any erosion process involves three mechanisms soil particle detachment transport and deposition streambank erosion is also an important source of sediment wind erosion affects the climate geochemical cycles as well as air quality and human health by matt rosenberg updated on april 08 2018 the process known as weathering breaks up rocks so that they can be carried away by the process known as erosion water wind ice and waves are the agents of erosion that wear away at the surface of the earth a schematic of the key sediment transport processes in burned and unburned areas including field photos showing examples of post fire interrill erosion 1 arrows indicate the erosion depth erosion involves the movement of fragments of rock by the erosion processes and therefore differs from weathering which is just concerned with the decay of rock in situ there are six main erosion processes which are often interconnected gravity wind rain rivers oceans glaciers gravity highlighting the influence of environmental factors and their gradient changes on soil erosion is key to effective control and management weathering and erosion are two geological processes that play a key role in the formation and alteration of surface rocks these processes are particularly important in shaping sedimentary erosion key terms creep a form of mass wasting involving the slow downward movement of regolith as a result of gravitational force delta a region of sediment formed when a river enters a larger body of water at which point the reduction in velocity on the part of the river current leads to the widespread deposition of sediment destructive waves are responsible for erosion on the coastline there are four types of erosion hydraulic action this is the sheer power of the waves as they smash against the cliff air also read what is soil cause of soil erosion following are the important causes of soil erosion rainfall and flooding higher intensity of rainstorms is the main cause of soil erosion four types of soil erosion are caused by rainfall rill erosion gully erosion sheet erosion splash erosion the erosion rate $d \times d \times t$ is an instantaneous rate which is expressed in terms of the slope of the tangent line to a curve showing the temporal change in erosion distance accurate and continuous monitoring of erosion distance in the field is extremely difficult so that instantaneous erosion rates have not been obtained 59 1 definitions last updated july 7 2020 return to top a the collapse undermining or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water erosion is a covered peril if it is caused by waves or currents of water exceeding their cyclical levels which result in flooding

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