

# ***Extreme Gulling in Mexico, in semi-abandoned agricultural lands and in active volcanic areas: field studies and modelling***

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# Gully erosion in Mexico

*Gully system on residuals soil cap above sedimentary rocks Photo by L.B. 2015 – san Luis potosí Mexico*



Following Bolano et al. (2016)\* , about 76% of soil surface in Mexico are affected by severe soil erosion and degradation. And 12% of total surface by severe and active erosion processes. as: gully – rill erosion

\*Bolaños-González, M.A., Paz-Pellat, F., Cruz-Gaistardo, C.O., Argumedo-Espinoza, J.A., Romero-Benítez, V.M., De la Cruz-Cabrera, J.C., 2016, Mapa de erosión de los suelos de México y posibles implicaciones en el almacenamiento de carbono orgánico del suelo: Terra Latinoamericana, 34(3), p. 271-288

# Evidences of severity of gully erosion and its posible causes:

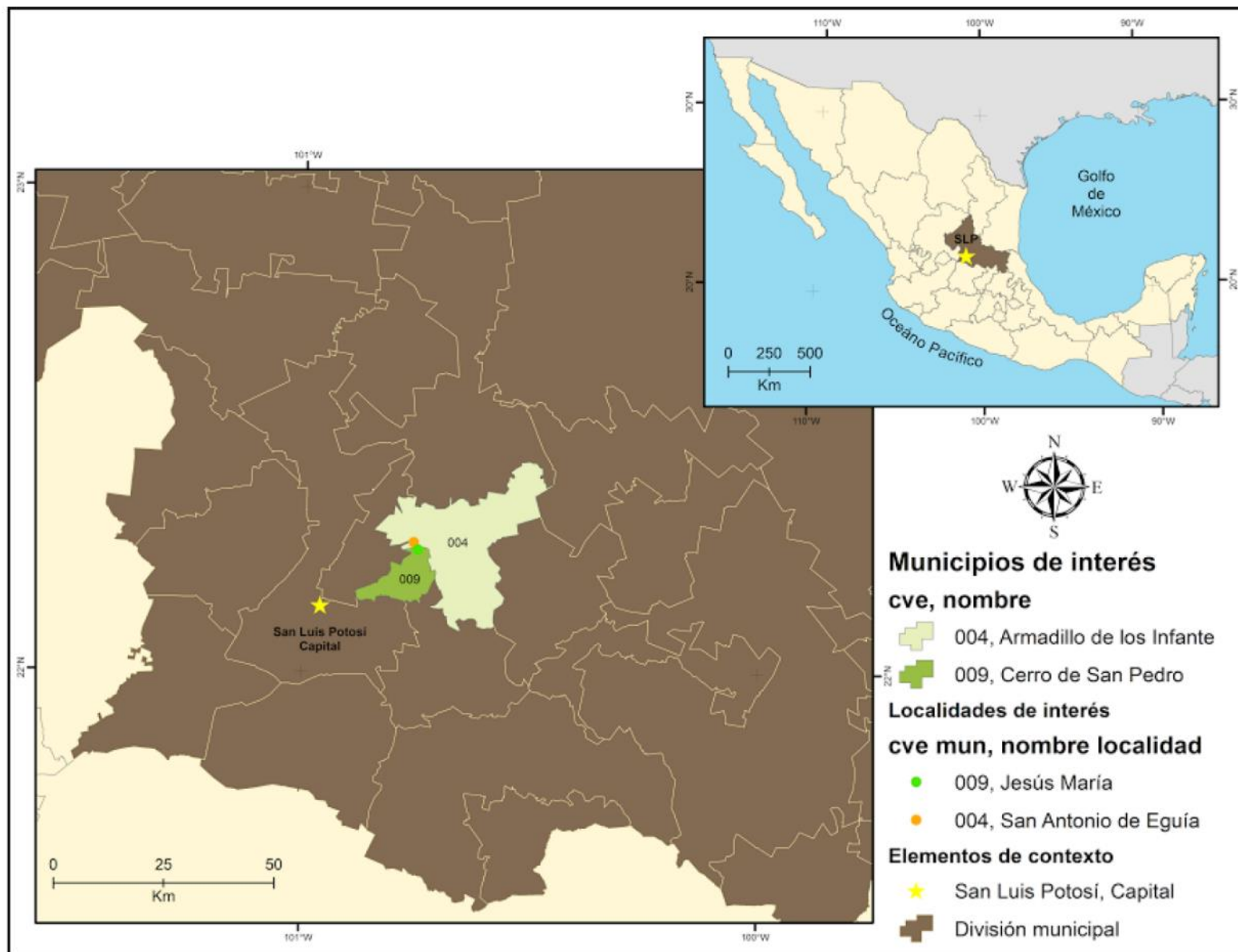


*Gully system on soils cap above volcanic bedrock  
Photo by L.B. 2012 – san Luis potosí Mexico*

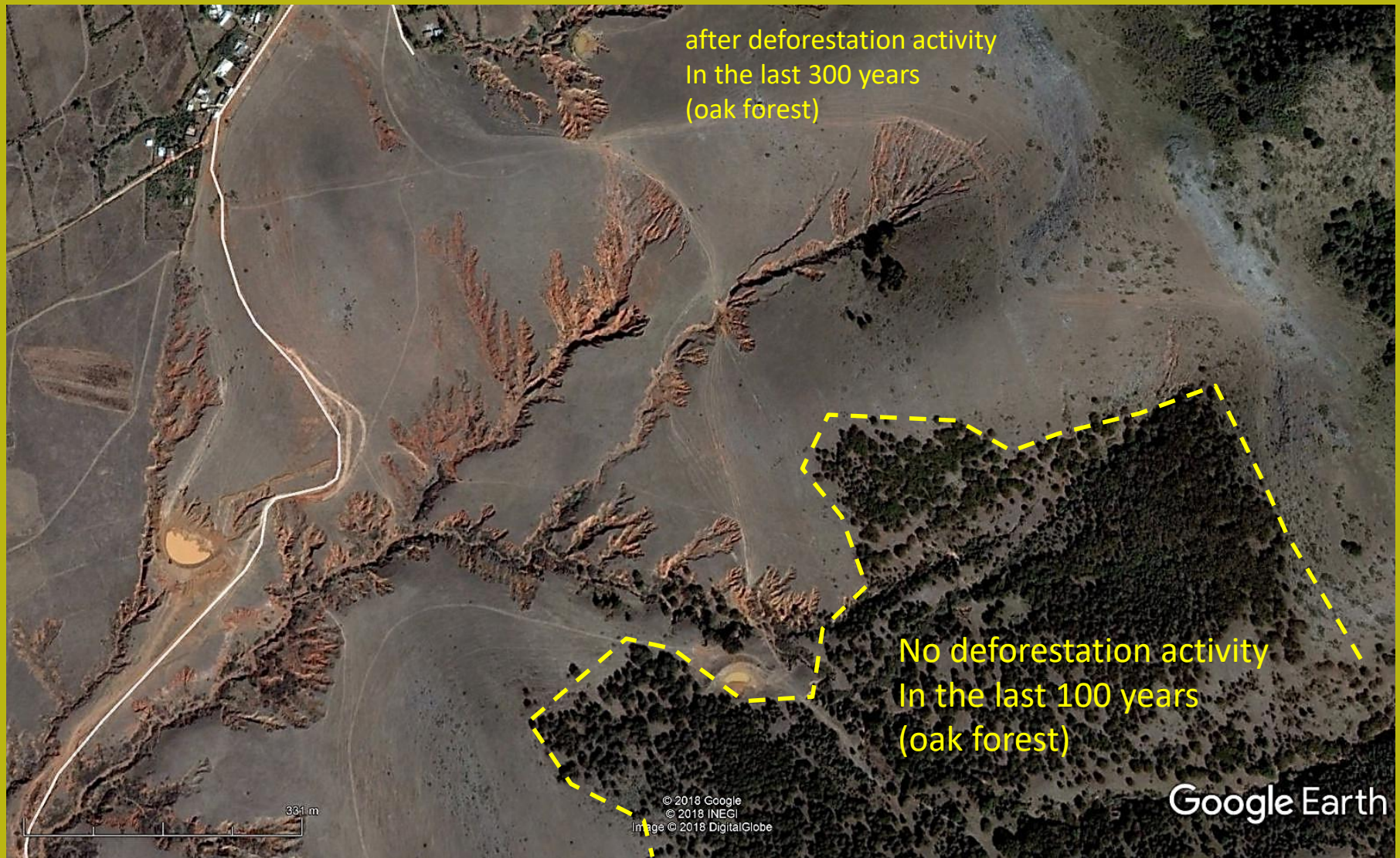
## Possible causes

- Nature of soils (e.g. high erodibility, dispersive nature, and structural instability)
- Climatic condition and extreme events ( e.g. tropical storms ,hurricanes)
- Overgrazing
- Field Abandonments.. due to emigration (internal, and in USA)
- Absence of effective soil conservation measures
- Non maintained existing soil conservation measures
- Deforestation
- Insufficient land planning
- ....

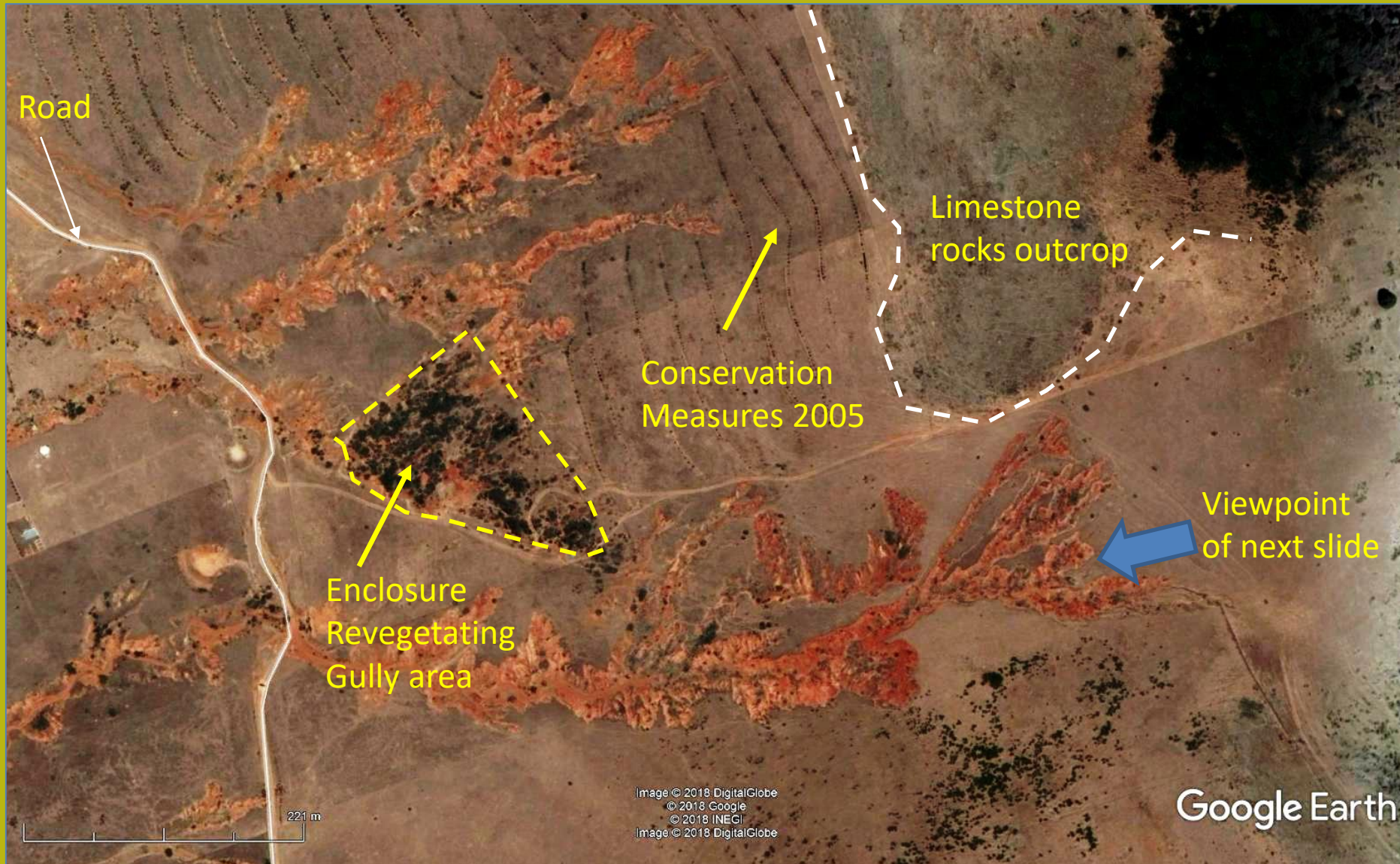
# Valle de la Palomas gully system



# Valles de la Palomas Gully erosion system



# Valles de la Palomas Gully erosion system



# Valle de la Palomas gully system



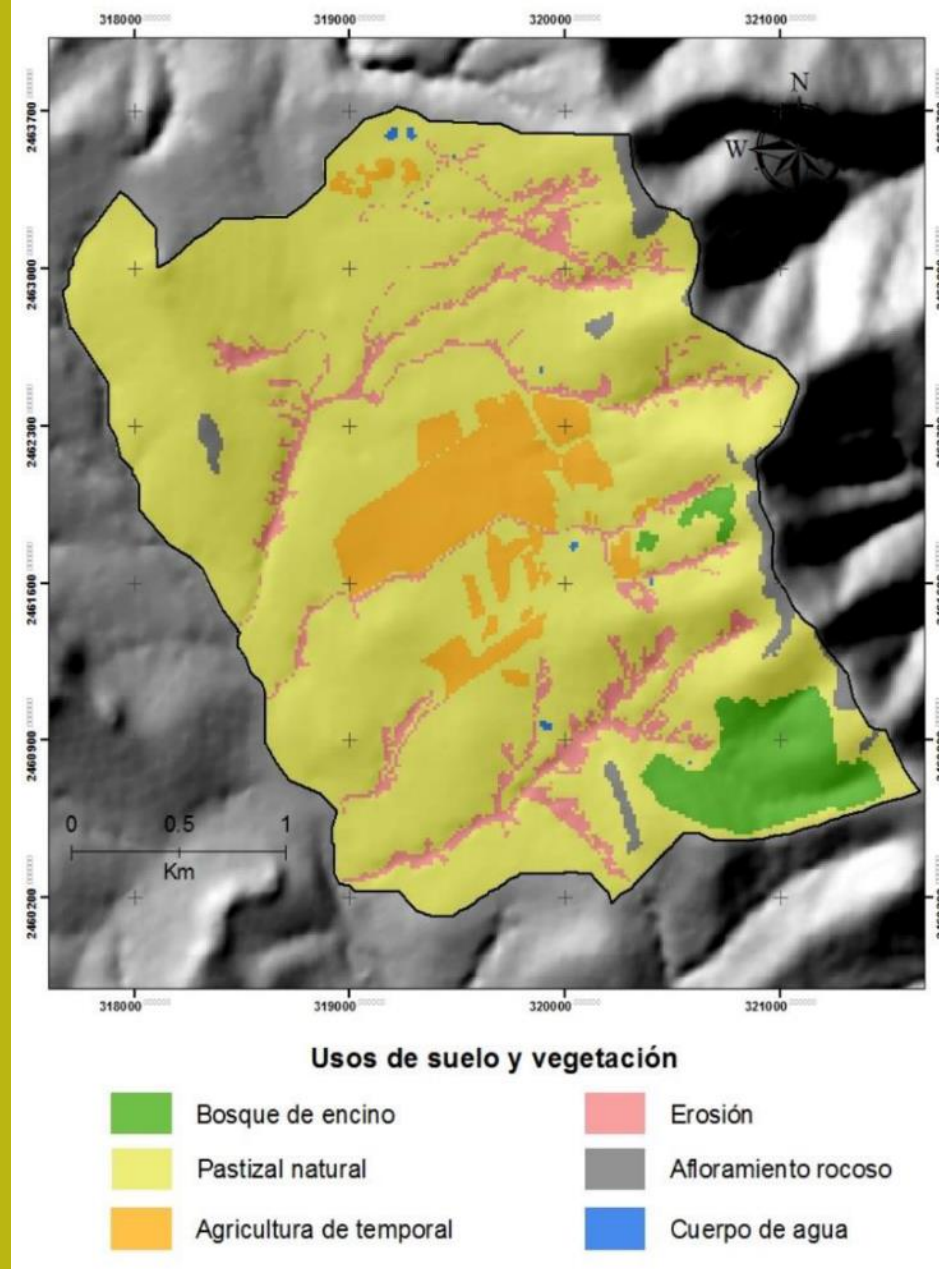
Details from the viewpoint of the previous slide

# Valles de la Palomas Gully erosion system

## Land use map at present time.

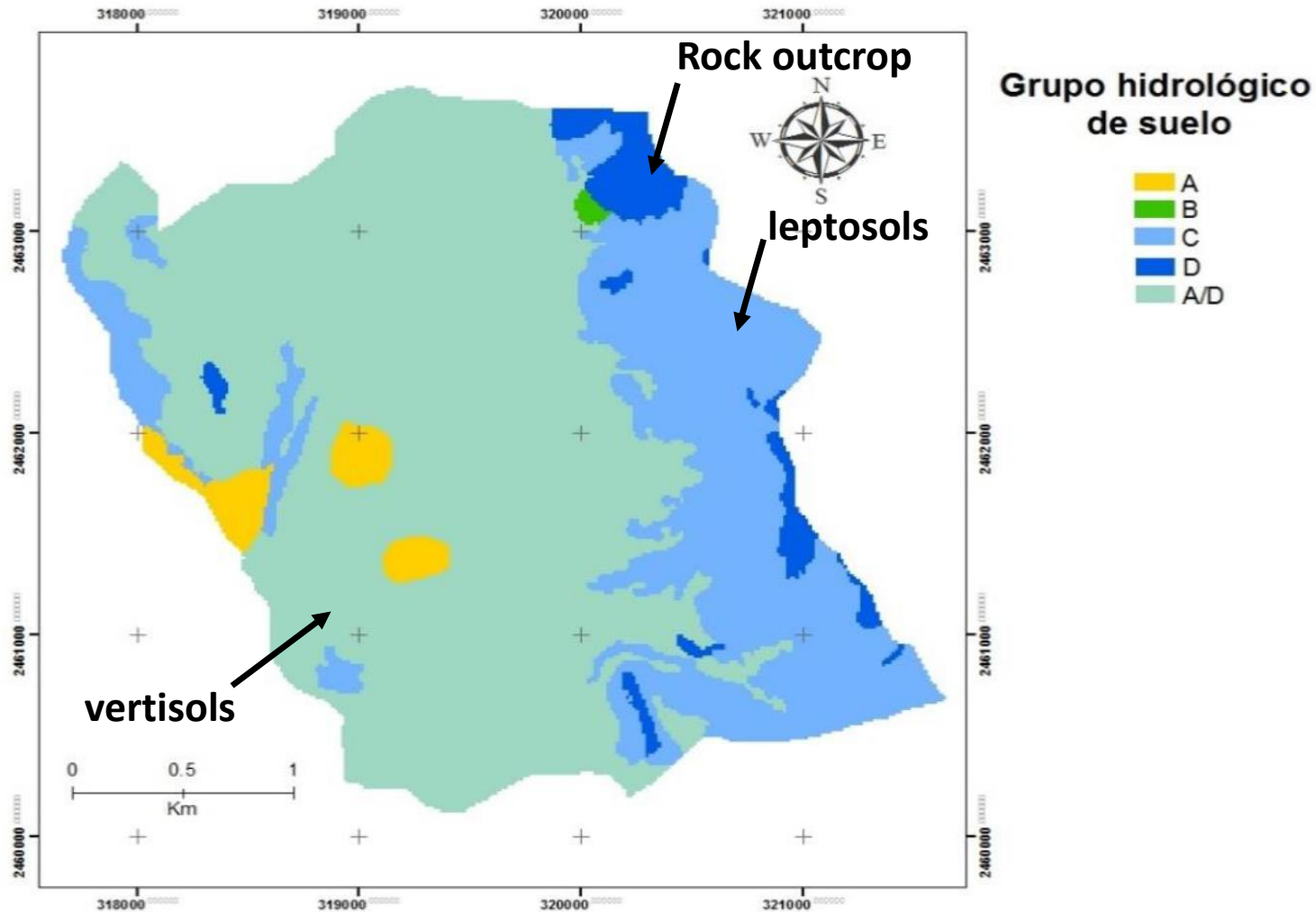
The area received in the  
last 300 years strong  
deforestation of previous  
oak forest

In order to produce  
charcoal for  
mining/metallurgical  
activities in San Luis  
Potosi area



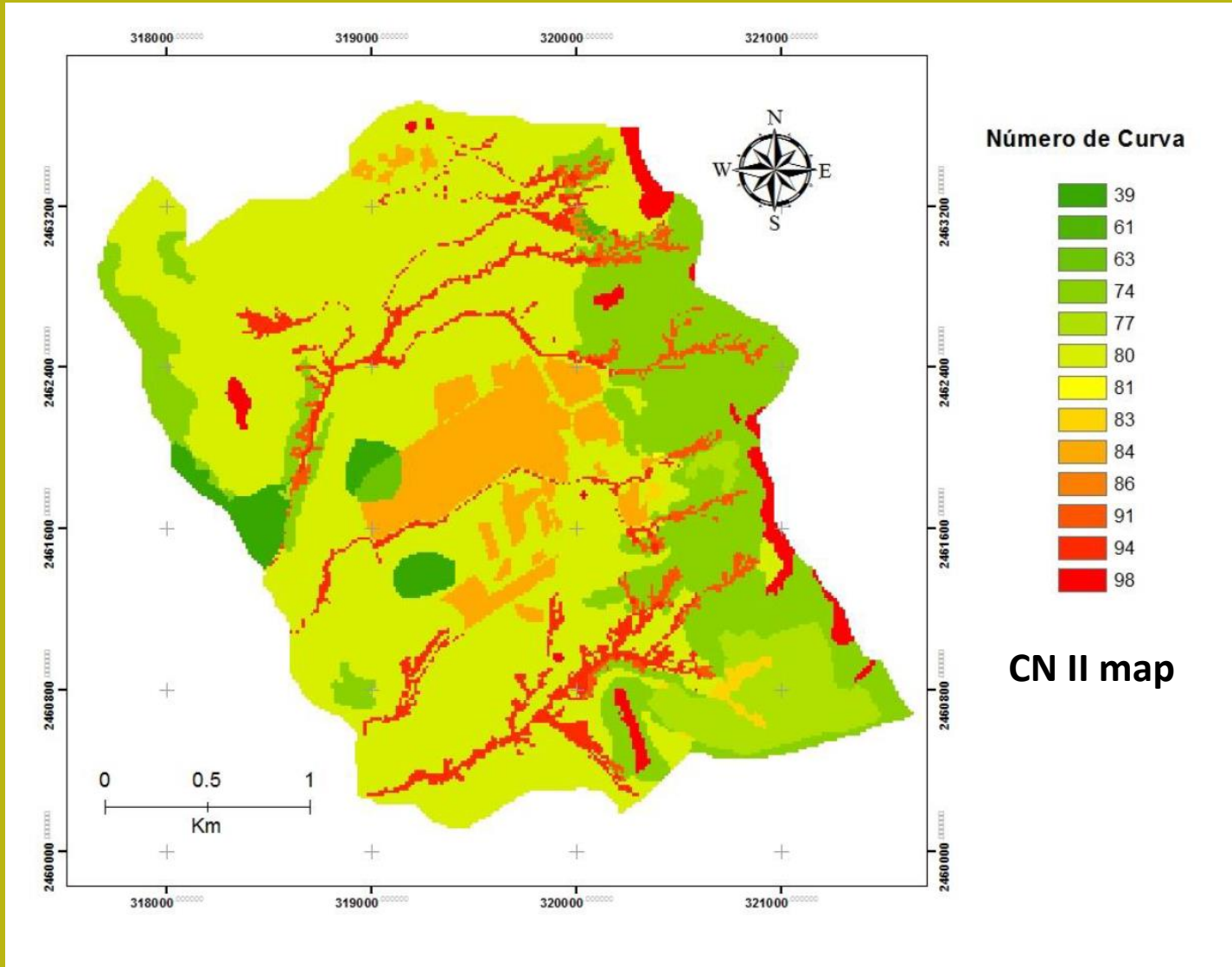


# Valles de la Palomas Gully erosion system

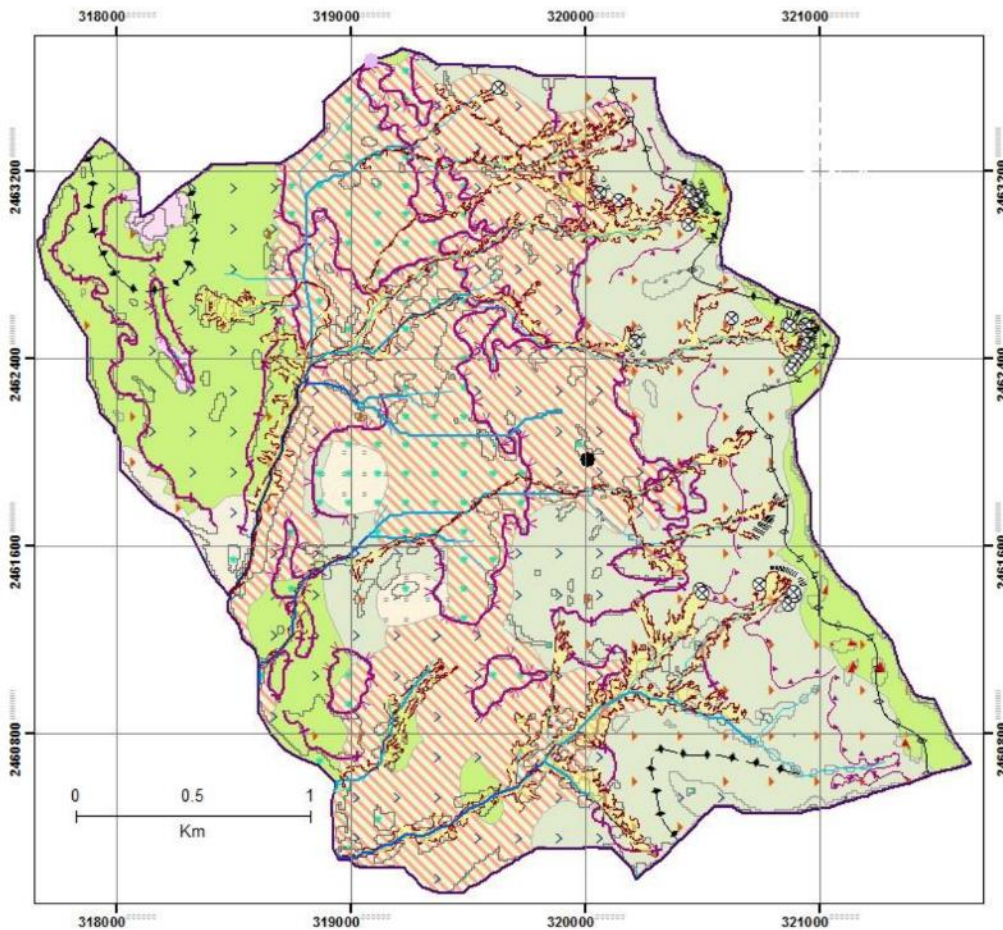


Hydrological soil group classified according to Bartolini et al. 2009

# Valles de la Palomas Gully erosion system



CN II map



# Valles de la Palomas Gully erosion system

## Geología

- Qal** Edad: Cuaternario  
Litología: Aluvión
- Qcl** Edad: Cuaternario  
Litología: Coluvión
- Qgr-Arb** Edad: Cuaternario (?)  
Litología: Gravas y arcillas residuales
- Tis** Formación: Ignim brta Santa María  
Edad: Terciario (Oligoceno)  
Origen: Volcánico  
Litología: Ignim brta
- KTah** Formación: Tam abra con hem atita  
Edad: Cretácico m edio (Albiano-Cenom aniano)  
Amb.sed: Sedm entaria plataform a  
Litología: Caliza con hem atita
- KTa** Formación: Tam abra  
Edad: Cretácico m edio (Albiano-Cenom aniano)  
Amb.sed: Sedm entaria plataform a  
Litología: Caliza - Lutita

## Geomorfología

- Zona de estudio**
  - Tipo de terreno**
    - Llano-suave (0-5%)
    - Accidentado (5-15%)
    - Escarpado (15-50%)
    - Muy escarpado (>50%)
  - Tipo de cima**
    - Redondeada
    - Escarpada
  - Cambio a una pendiente de:**
    - menos de 5 grados
    - 5 a 10 grados
    - 10 a 15 grados
  - Orden de escorrentia**
    - Primero
    - Segundo
    - Cuarto
  - Otros elementos:**
    - Erosión activa
    - Erosión laminar
    - Zonas de derrumbe
    - Cabeceas de cárcava
  - Localidad**
    - San Antonio de Egüa
    - Jesús María
- Proyección: UTM zona 14N  
Elaboración: Juana María Egüa del Pozo

← Geological and Geomorphological Map

# Using gully threshold for gully possible evolution on existing gully system

Gully threshold model of Torri and Poesen (2014), Rossi et al. (2015) was used with the final objective to assess future maximum extension of gully system

gully threshold survey above main head of gully system



# Using gully treshold for gully posible evolution on existing gully system

Model an survey are mainly based on:

***Torri, D., Poesen, J., 2014, A review of topographic threshold conditions for gully head development in different environments: Earth Science Reviews, 130, p. 73–85.***

***Rossi, M., Torri, D., Santi, E., 2015, Bias in topographic thresholds for gully heads: Natural Hazards, 79 (1), p. 51-69.***

With some integration.

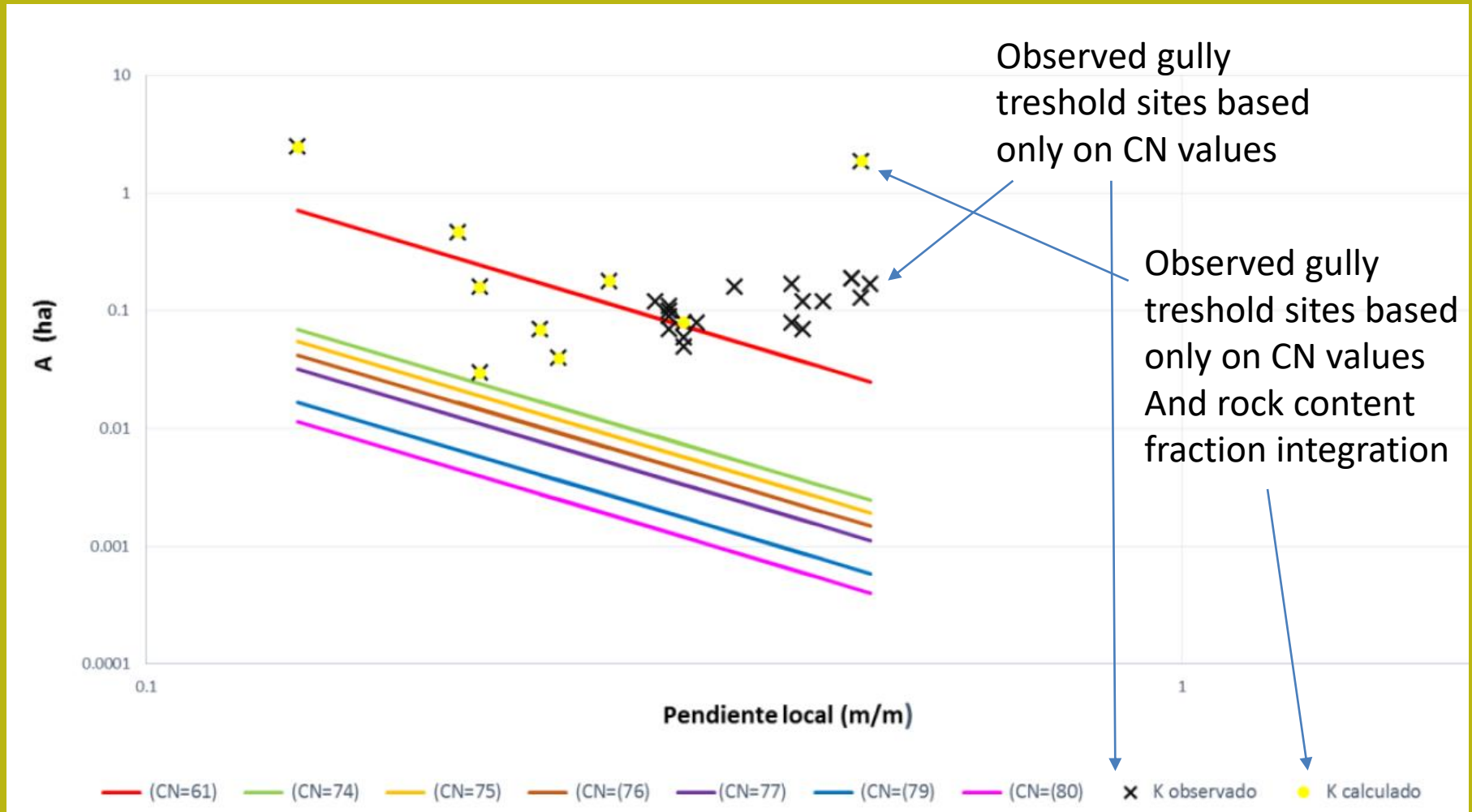
- ***Dichotomic soil HSG map for account vertisols in low gradient area***
- ***Use of texture and granulometric classification based full grain size analysis (block to clay distribution)***
- ***Comparison of CN based map of gully threshold with modified version based also on full rock contents.***

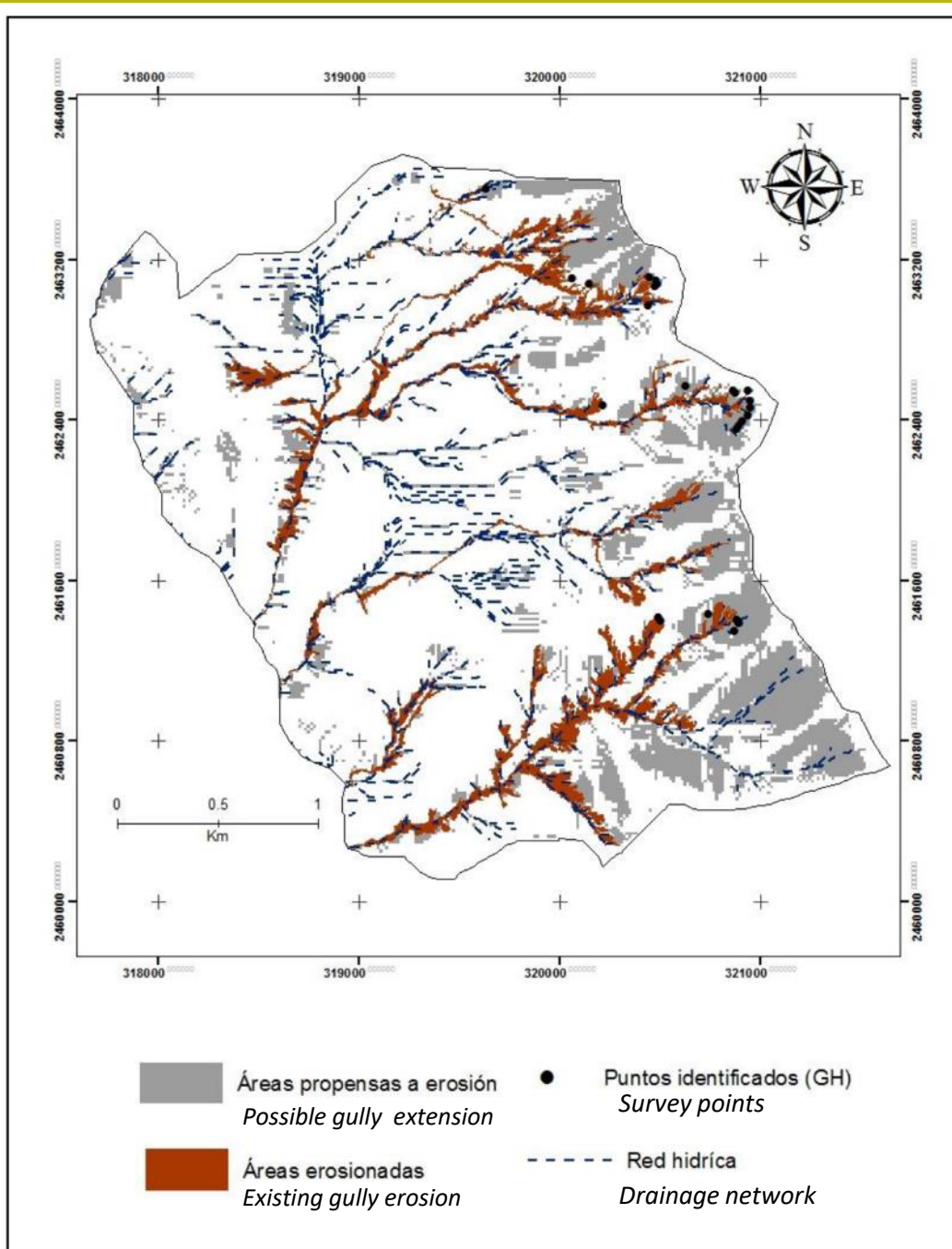
***Derived by Torri and Poesen(2014)***



$$A(ha) \geq \left( \frac{0.00104 \left( \frac{25400}{\overline{CN}} - 254 \right)^{1.15} - 0.04}{S} \right)^{2.63}$$

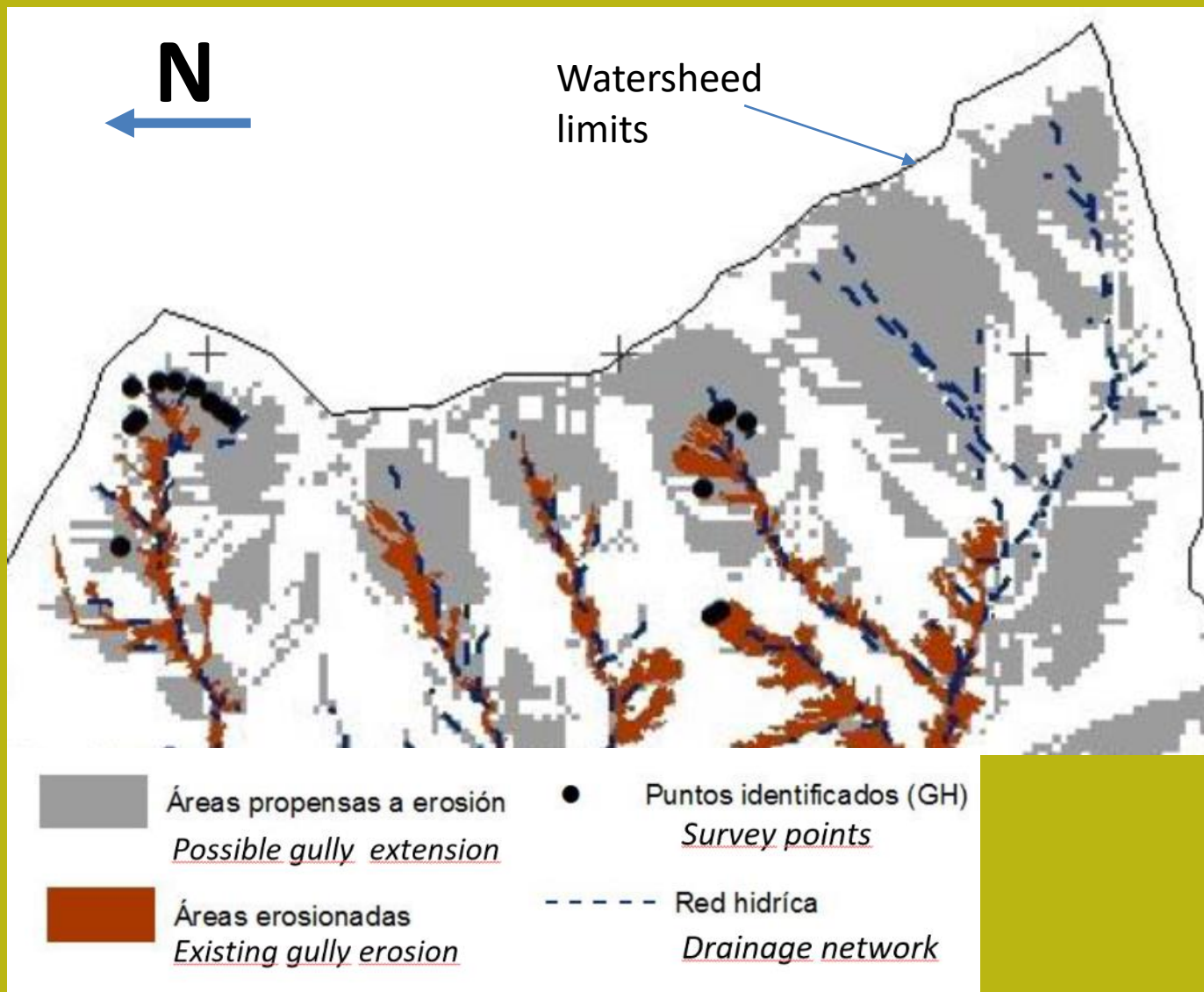
# Using gully treshhold for gully possible evolution on existing gully system





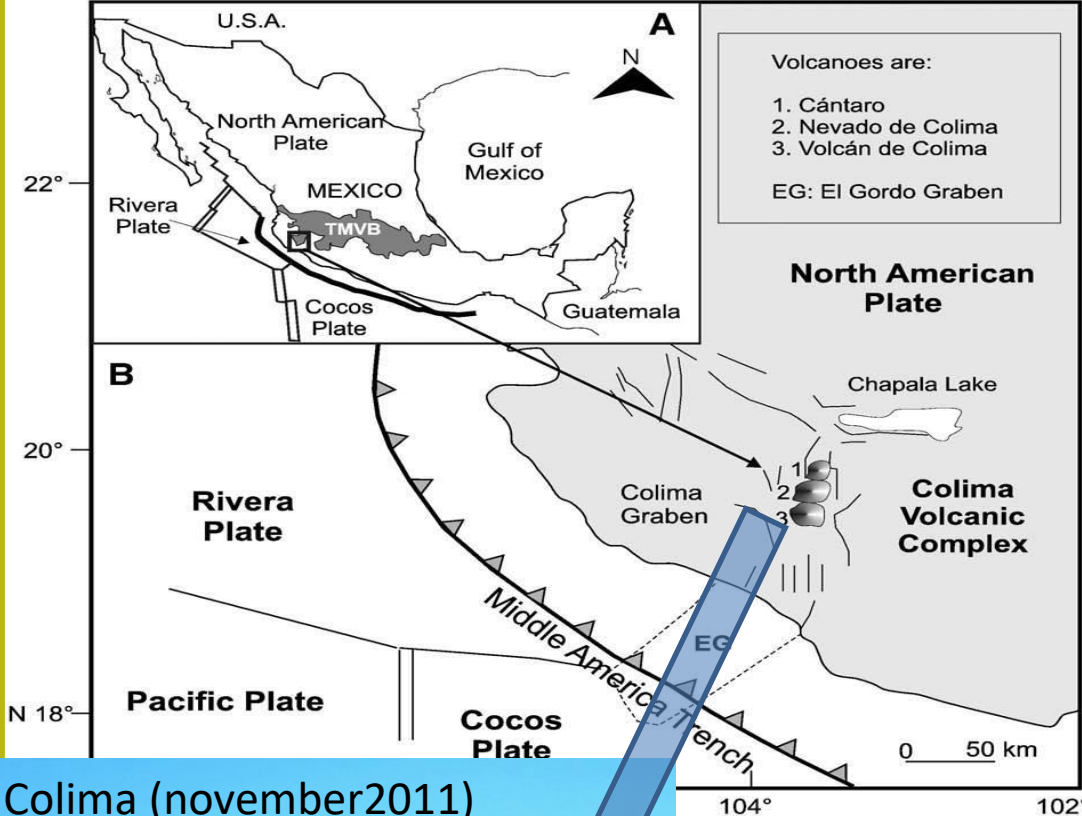
**Results of model  
Application:  
Possible future extensión  
of gully erosion system**

**Some Possible future  
planned  
soil conservation  
measures  
are not included.**

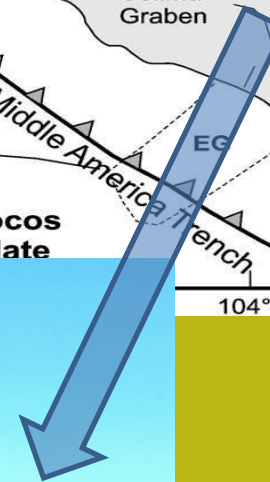


## Details of model results





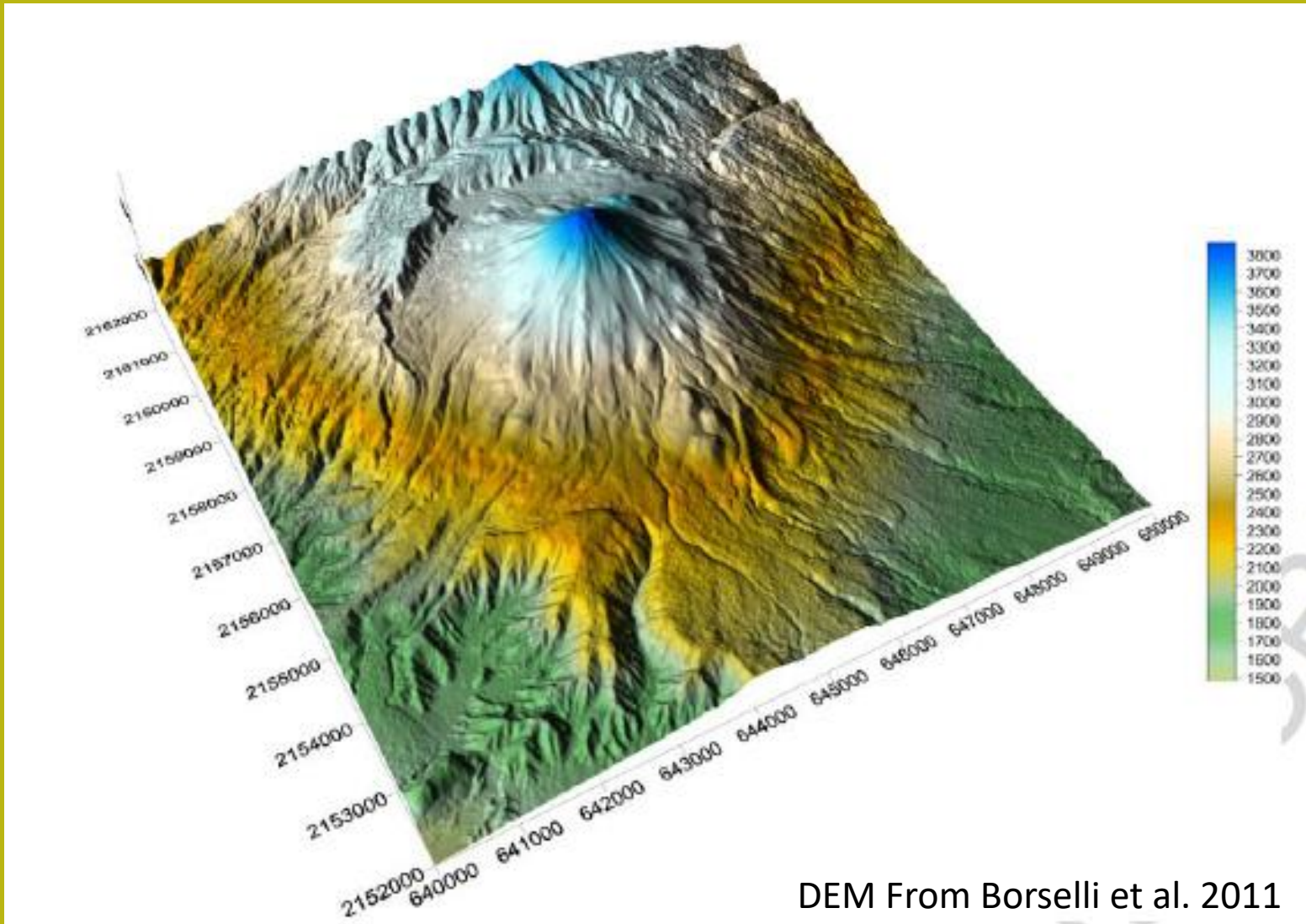
*From, Saucedo  
et al. 2010*



Volcan de Fuego, Colima (november2011)  
W view



**Volcan de fuego  
Colima, MX  
3900 m a.s.l.  
Active volcano**





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Short communication

## Preliminary report on the July 10–11, 2015 eruption at Volcán de Colima: Pyroclastic density currents with exceptional runouts and volume



L. Capra<sup>a,\*</sup>, J.L. Macías<sup>b</sup>, A. Cortés<sup>c</sup>, N. Dávila<sup>d</sup>, R. Saucedo<sup>e</sup>, S. Osorio-Ocampo<sup>f</sup>, J.L. Arce<sup>g</sup>, J.C. Gavilanes-Ruiz<sup>h</sup>, P. Corona-Chávez<sup>g</sup>, L. García-Sánchez<sup>f</sup>, G. Sosa-Ceballos<sup>b</sup>, R. Vázquez<sup>i</sup>

Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci., 18, 781–794, 2018  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/nhess-18-781-2018>  
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Natural Hazards  
and Earth System  
Sciences



Images from  
Capra et al. 2018

## Hydrological control of large hurricane-induced lahars: evidence from rainfall-runoff modeling, seismic and video monitoring

Lucía Capra<sup>1</sup>, Vello Coviello<sup>1,2</sup>, Lorenzo Borselli<sup>3</sup>, Víctor-Hugo Márquez-Ramírez<sup>1</sup>, and Raul Arámbula-Mendoza<sup>4</sup>

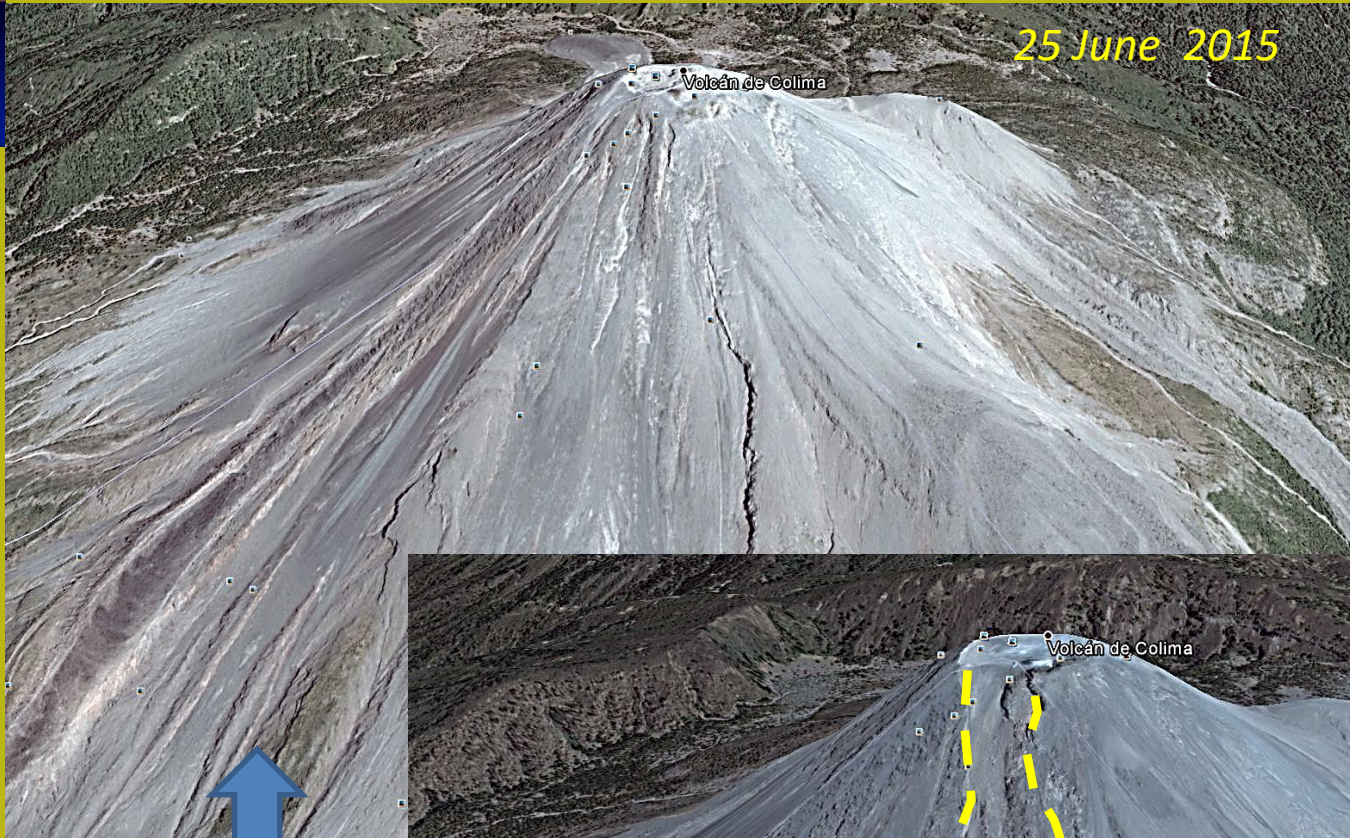
<sup>1</sup>Centro de Geociencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Campus Juriquilla, Querétaro, Mexico

<sup>2</sup>Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Facoltà di Scienze e Tecnologie, Bolzano, Italy

<sup>3</sup>Instituto de Geología, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico

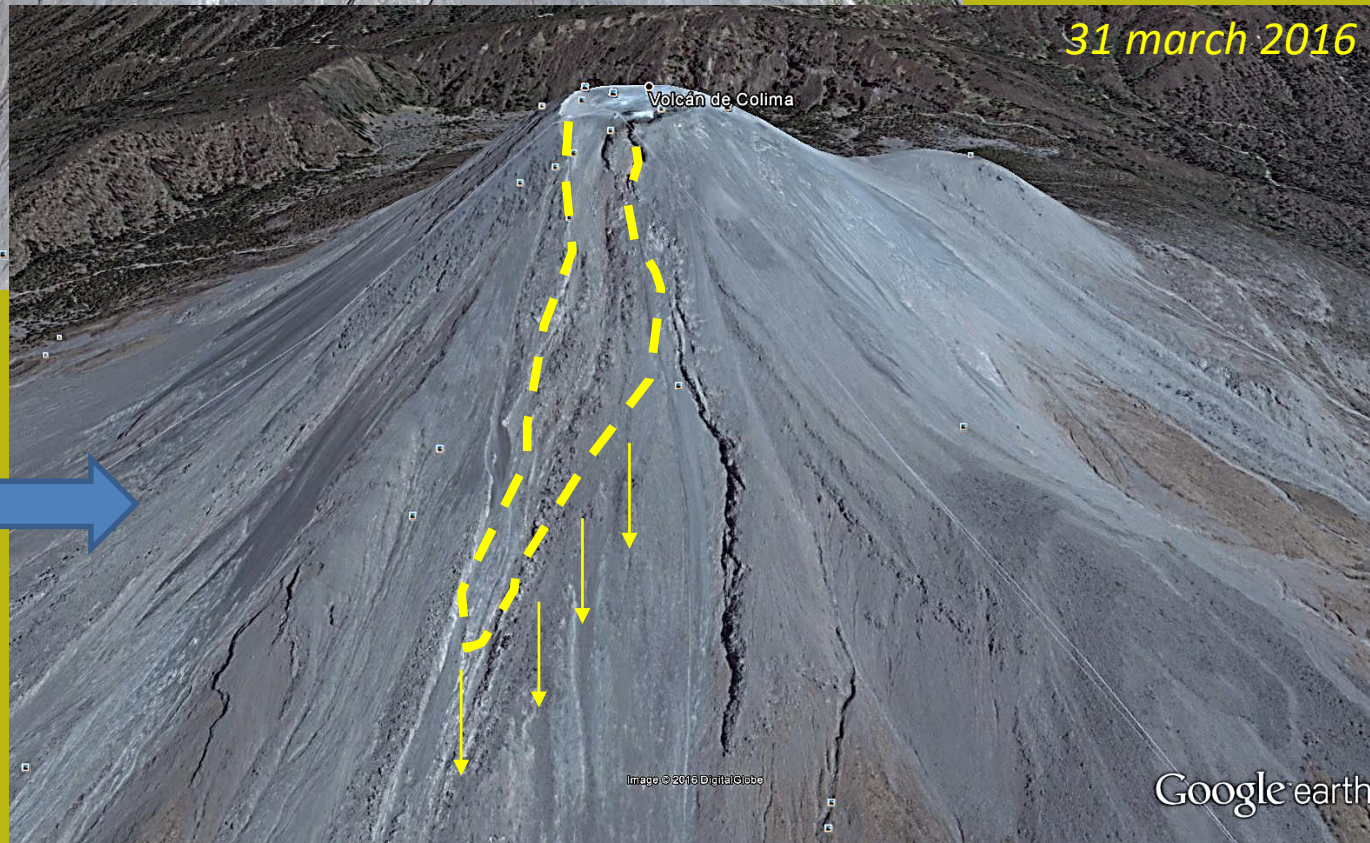
<sup>4</sup>Centro Universitario de Estudios e Investigaciones en Vulcanología (CUEIV), Universidad de Colima, Colima, Mexico

25 June 2015



Colima volcán  
de Fuego  
upper edifice

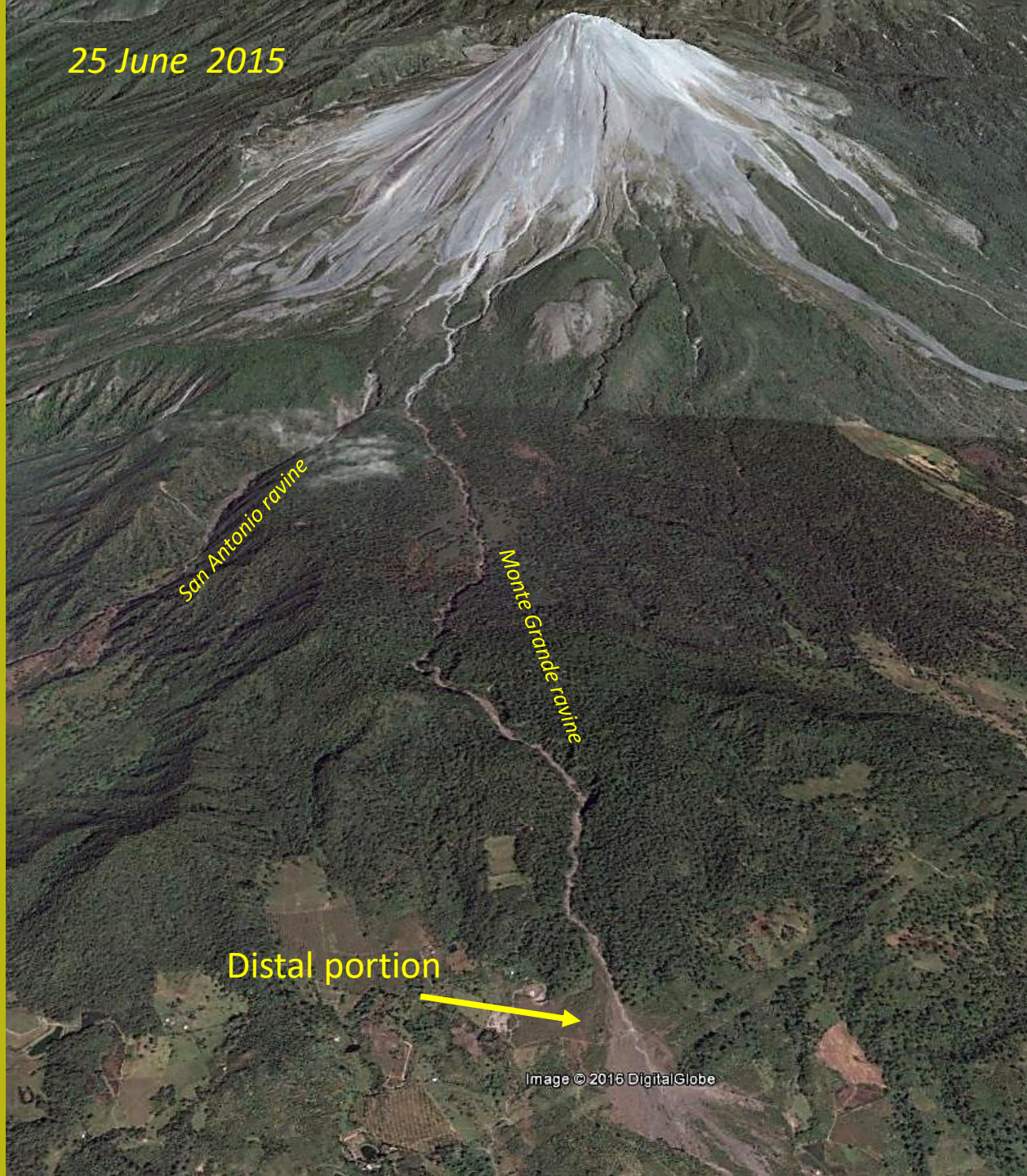
31 March 2016



Dome and side crater  
partial collapse 10 July  
2015, 10 km large  
runout and piroclastic  
flow, as block and ash  
flow SW view  
(images by Google  
Earth)

25 June 2015

Colima volcán  
de Fuego  
Full SW view  
(images by  
Google Earth)

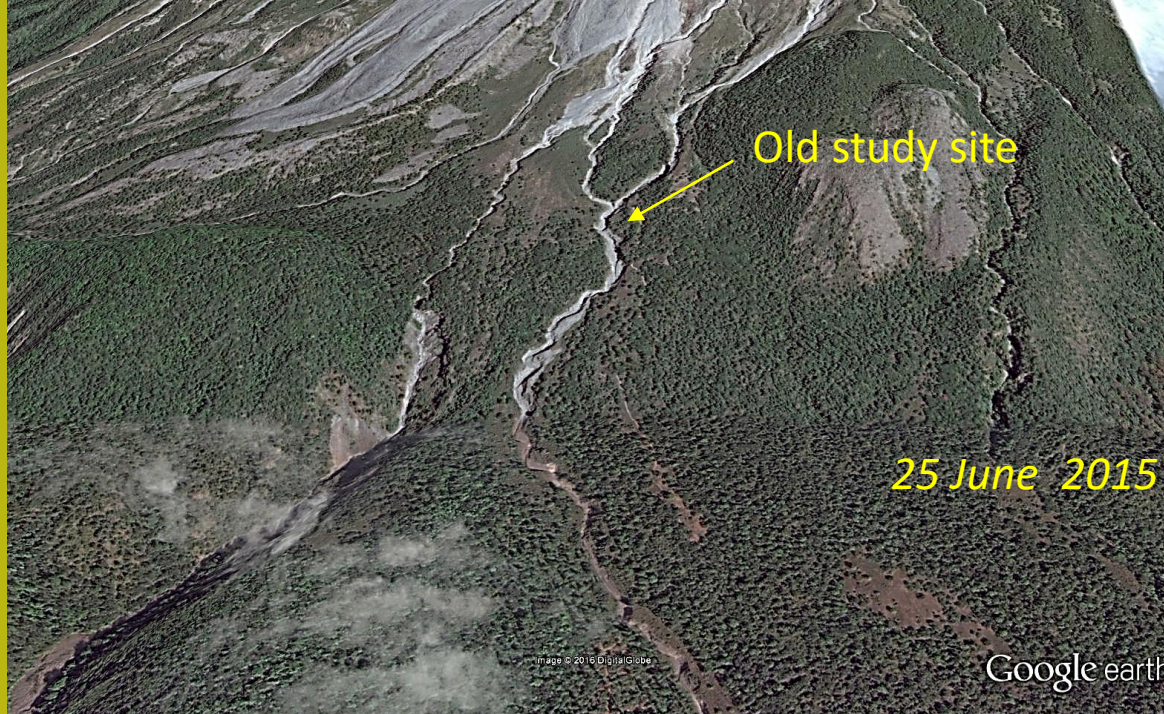


31 march 2016

Colima volcán  
de Fuego  
Full SW wiew  
(images by  
Google Earth)



Colima volcán  
de Fuego  
Median  
portion  
Montegrande  
And san  
Antonio  
Ravine  
(images by  
Google Earth)



**Capture Area details in the  
montegrande ravine  
With dynamics of lateral  
contributing areas**



**17/05/2017**  
**Google Earth**



In this type of geomorphological environment we developed in the framework of CONACYT:Proyecto Ciencia Basica CB-2012/184060 a study of connectivity in active volcanic areas.

Catena 157 (2017) 90–111



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## Flow connectivity in active volcanic areas: Use of index of connectivity in the assessment of lateral flow contribution to main streams



A.J. Ortiz-Rodríguez<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, L. Borselli<sup>b</sup>, D. Sarocchi<sup>b,c</sup>

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**Algorithm for calculating IC values in complex morphology and land use as in volcanic areas.. Ortiz- Rodriguez et al. (2017) Integrating methods of Borselli et al. (2008) and Cavalli et al. (2013)**

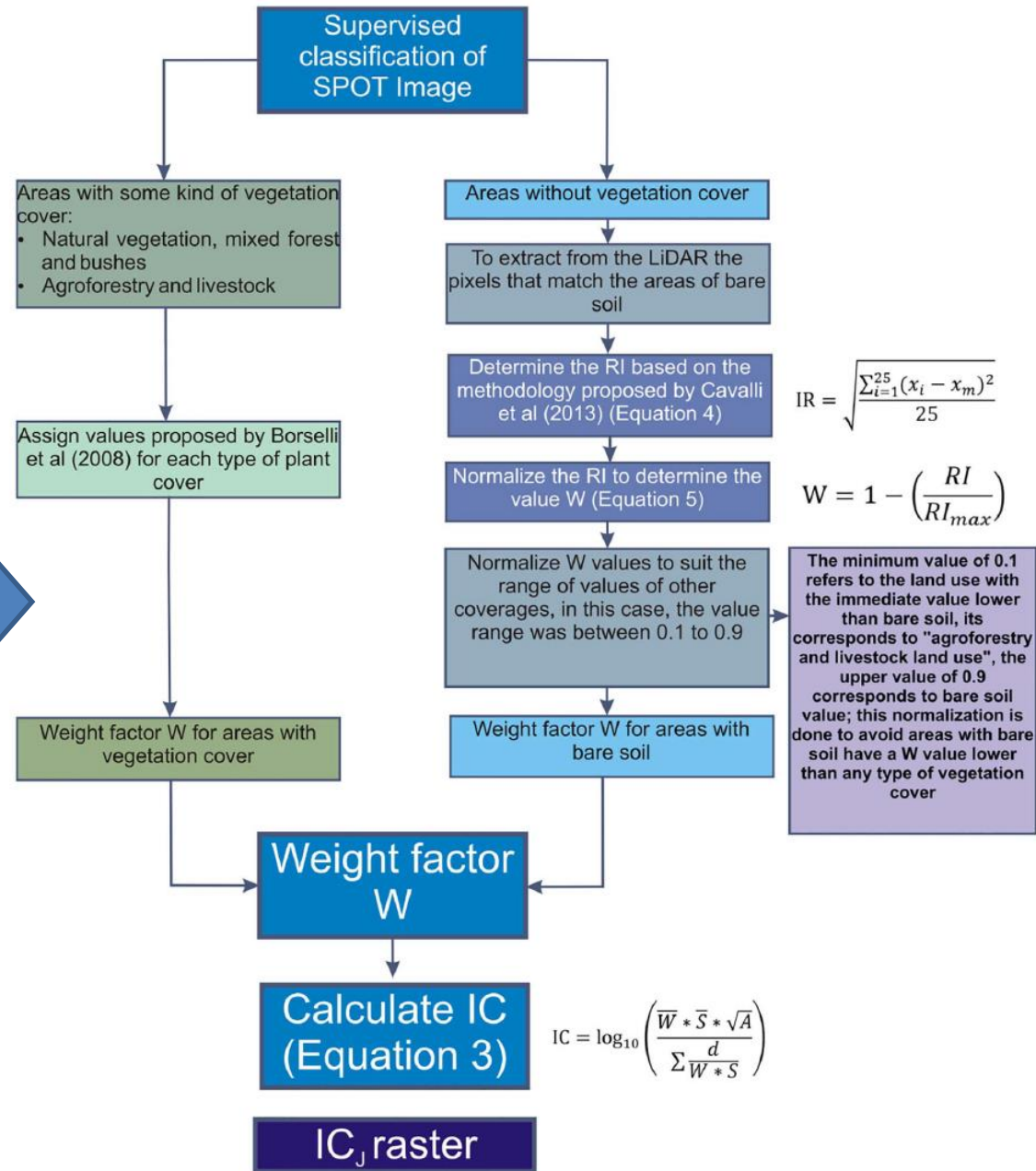


Fig. 8. Flowchart for calculating the weight factor W.

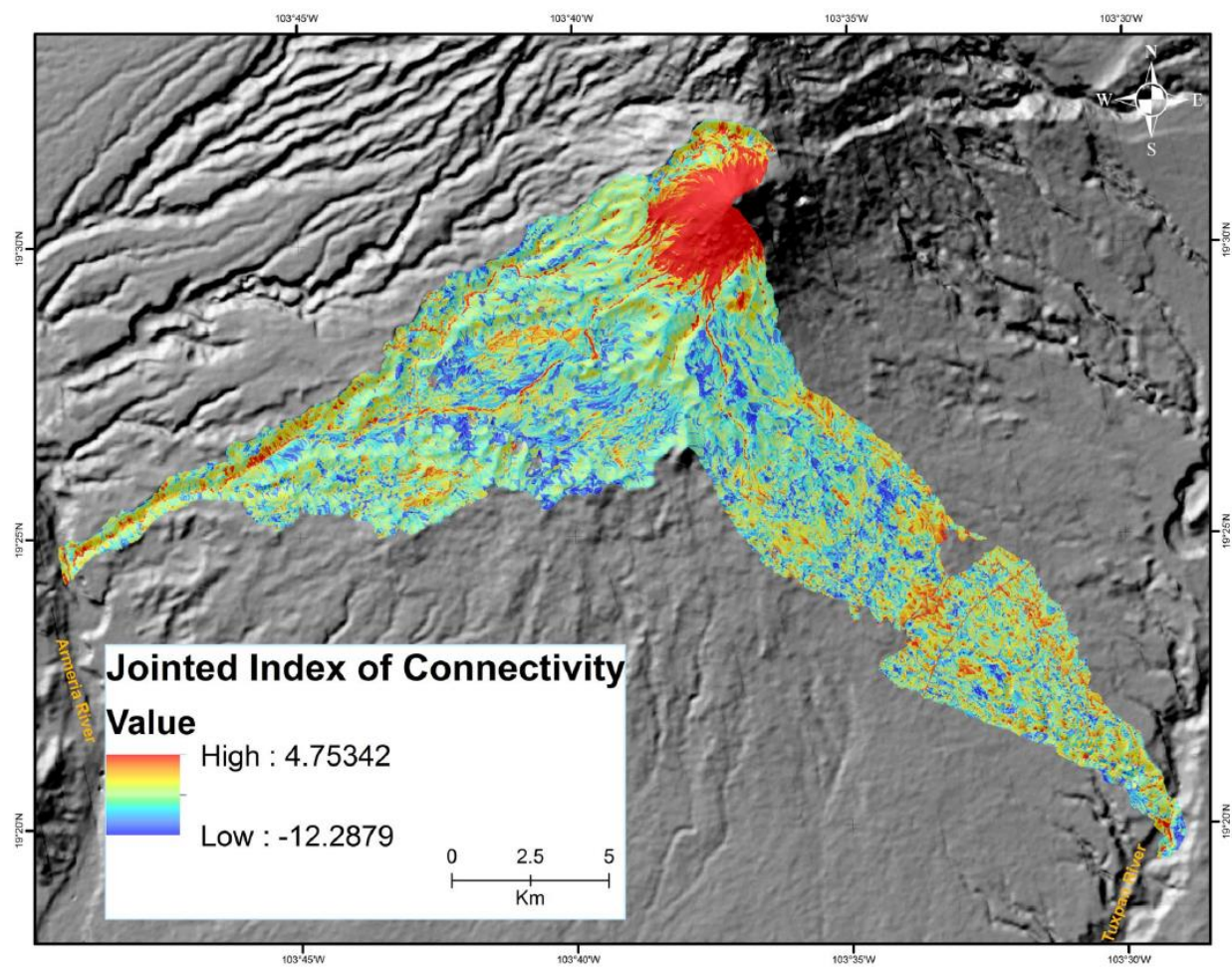
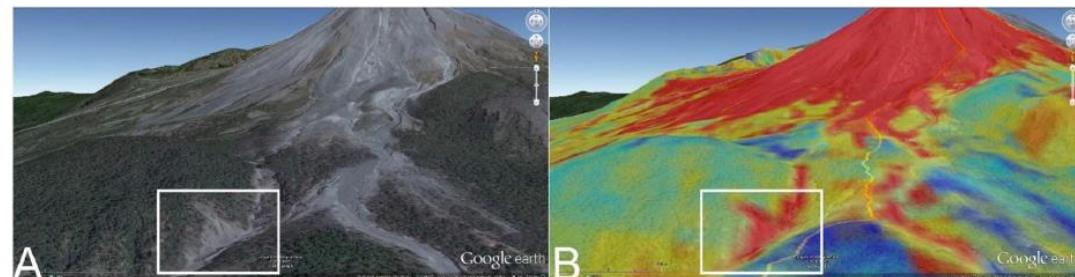


Fig. 11. Spatial distribution of joint index of connectivity ( $IC_j$ ).



Source images: DigitalGlobe and NASA (2016) and coverage of  $IC_j$ , developed in this research

Fig. 12. Example of lateral collapse and  $IC_j$ .

**Algorithm for  
calculating LHEI index  
values  
In complex morphology  
and land use  
as in volcanic áreas..  
Ortiz- Rodríguez et al.  
(2017)**

**Lateral Hydrological  
efficiency index (LHEI)**

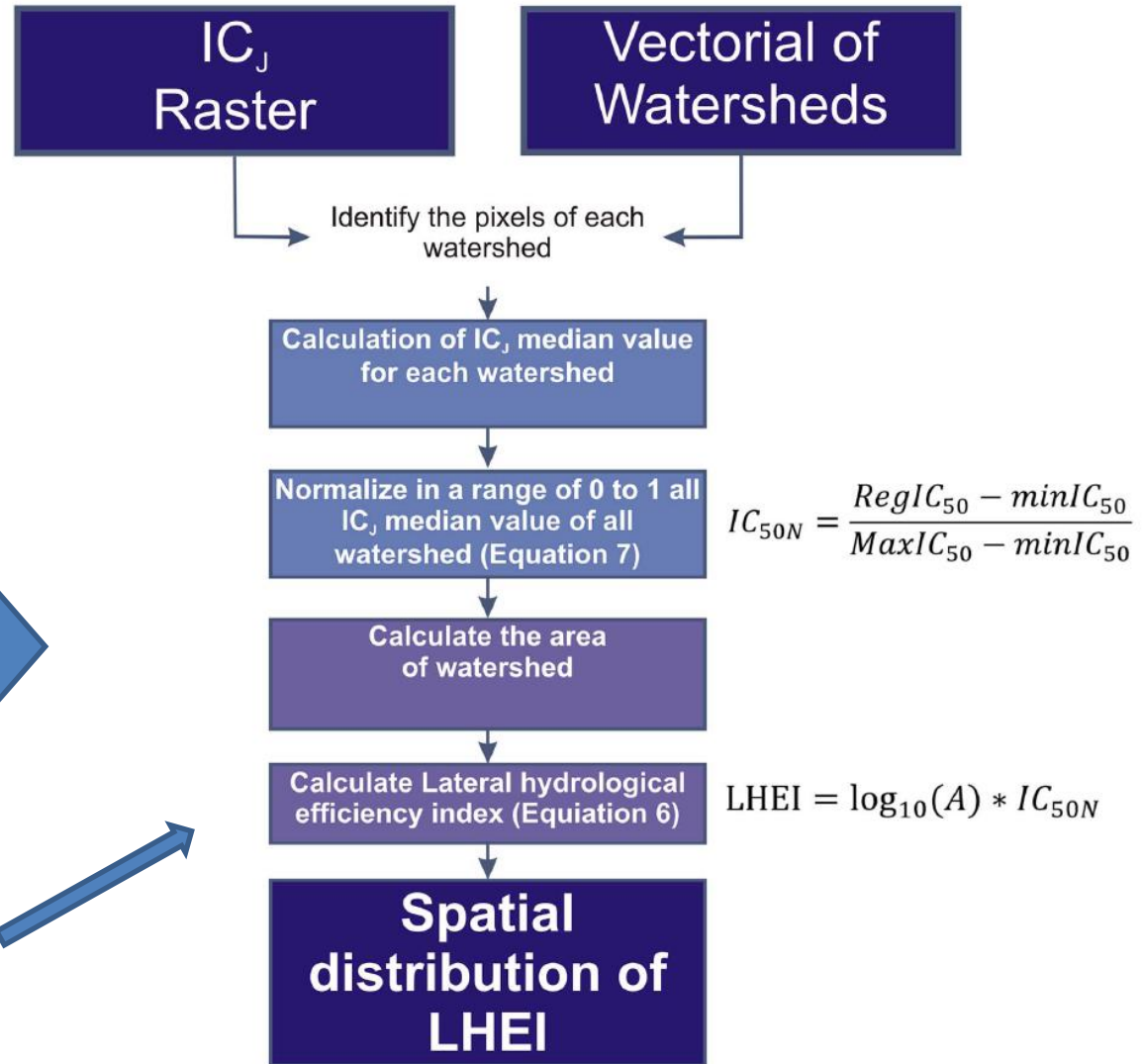


Fig. 10. Flowchart for calculating LHEI.

With respect to a median value of  $IC_j$  in a watershed, LHEI represents local statistics at sub watershed level and it allows a classification of different level of connectivity efficiency of the sub-watersheds with respect to mainstream.

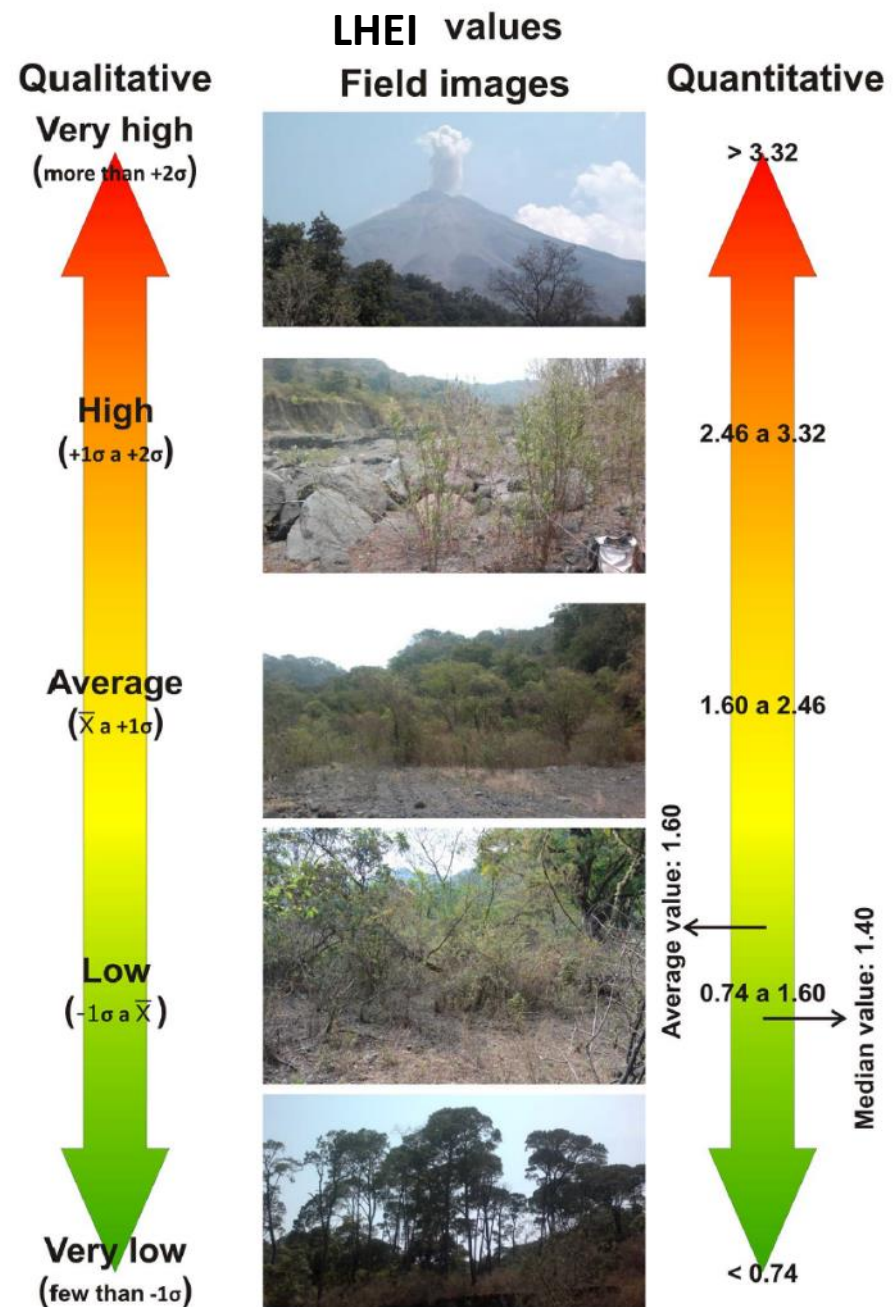


Fig. 17. Graphic scale of values and classes of LHEI values.

## Main conclusion of this projects:

### 1) Adjustments IC method proposed by Borselli et al. (2008)

for the analysis of connectivity in order to include details about areas devoid of vegetation and the characteristics of **various groundcovers enable better detail in characterizing areas that have highly dynamic geomorphology and therefore greater complexity.**

2) This modification enables the use of an index, the **LHEI**, which easily assesses hydrological efficiency at the watershed level and **identifies primary areas that provide sediment to streams**, material that is capable of being re-mobilized and assimilated in epiclastic processes that occur as in active volcanic areas.

3) The **application of the LHEI constitutes a quick way to recognize areas of greater efficiency outside the main source of material that makes it possible to identify areas where action can be taken that reduces connectivity and therefore risk to populations and infrastructure.**

## Suggested points for general discussion:

- Possible improvements of gully thresholds models.
- Possibility to adopt  $IC_j$ , and/or integrating it in Gully threshold models ..
- Possibility  $IC_j$  variant in order to take in account within storm dynamic connectivity (*work now in progress..*)
- Can improved connectivity maps help existing Gully erosion model (so non only gully threshold ones) ?

This presentation will be available at [http:// www.lorenzo-borselli.eu](http://www.lorenzo-borselli.eu)

North Appenine  
Italy - spring 2003  
Photo by L.B.

**Gracias por su atención !!!**

**Many thanks for Your attention !!!**

