Paleographic Constraints on Continental-Scale Source-to-Sink Systems: Northern South America and its Atlantic Margins

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ABSTRACT

Based on comprehensive literature review the authors present a series of paleogeographic maps to summarize the evolution of the “source-to-sink” systems in Northern South America. The maps are placed in a mega-regional geodynamic framework and capture the main orogenic, volcanic, erosional and depositional episodes in the continental interior, and along its active and passive margins from the Late Paleozoic to Late Cretaceous times. A series of cross sections focus on the evolution of the main intra-cratonic and foreland basins. Ongoing and planned fieldwork In Surinam and Guyana is aimed to collect new data to better constrain the erosional and depositional processes during the Jurassic/Cretaceous passive margin development in the southernmost segment of the Central Atlantic.