

**Appendix** for *Decline in ecosystem  $\delta^{13}C$  and mid-successional nitrogen loss in a two-century postglacial chronosequence*

Edward T. Malone<sup>1,2</sup>, Benjamin W. Abbott<sup>3\*</sup>, Megan J. Klaar<sup>4</sup>, Chris Kidd<sup>5</sup>, Mathieu Sebilo<sup>6</sup>, Alexander Milner<sup>1</sup>, & Gilles Pinay<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, UK.

<sup>2</sup>School of Geography, Queen Mary University of London, UK.

<sup>3</sup>Brigham Young University, Plant and Wildlife Sciences Department, Provo, USA

<sup>4</sup>School of Geography, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT, U.K.

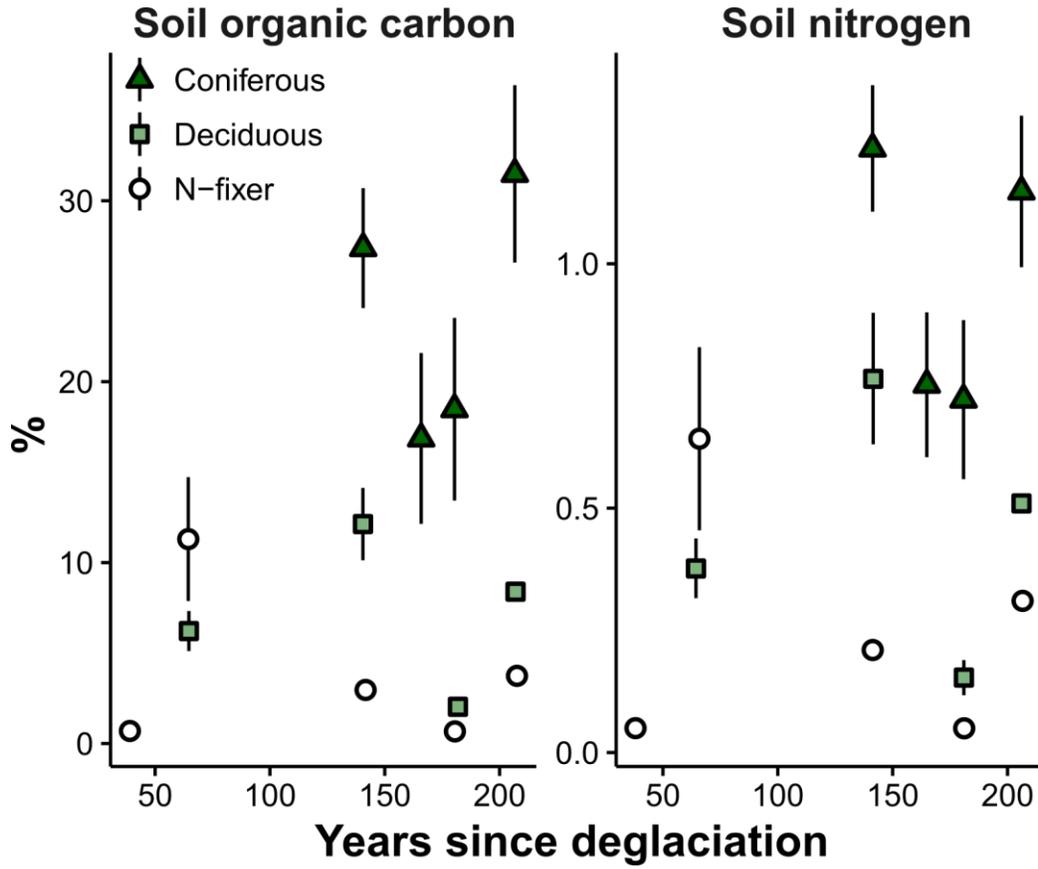
<sup>5</sup>Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland, College Park, MD. USA.

<sup>6</sup>Sorbonne Universités, UPMC Univ Paris 06, CNRS, UMR 7618, France

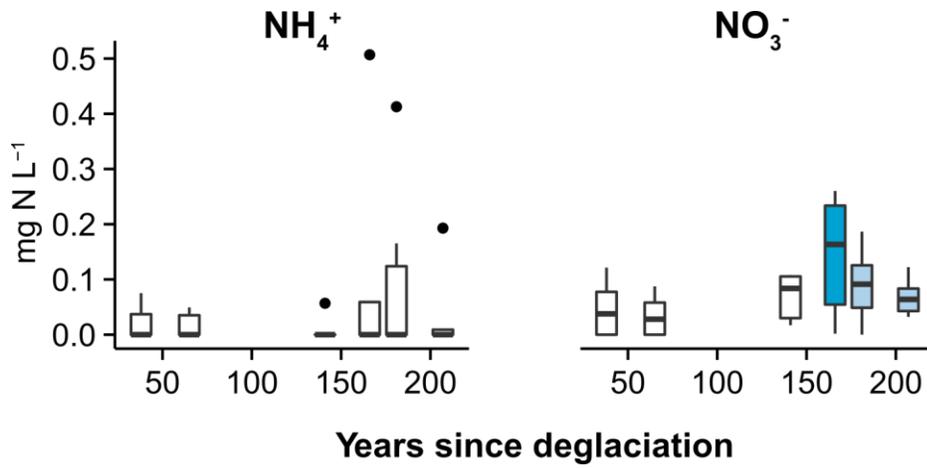
<sup>7</sup>RiverLy, Irstea Lyon, Villeurbanne, France

\*Corresponding author: [benabbott@byu.edu](mailto:benabbott@byu.edu)

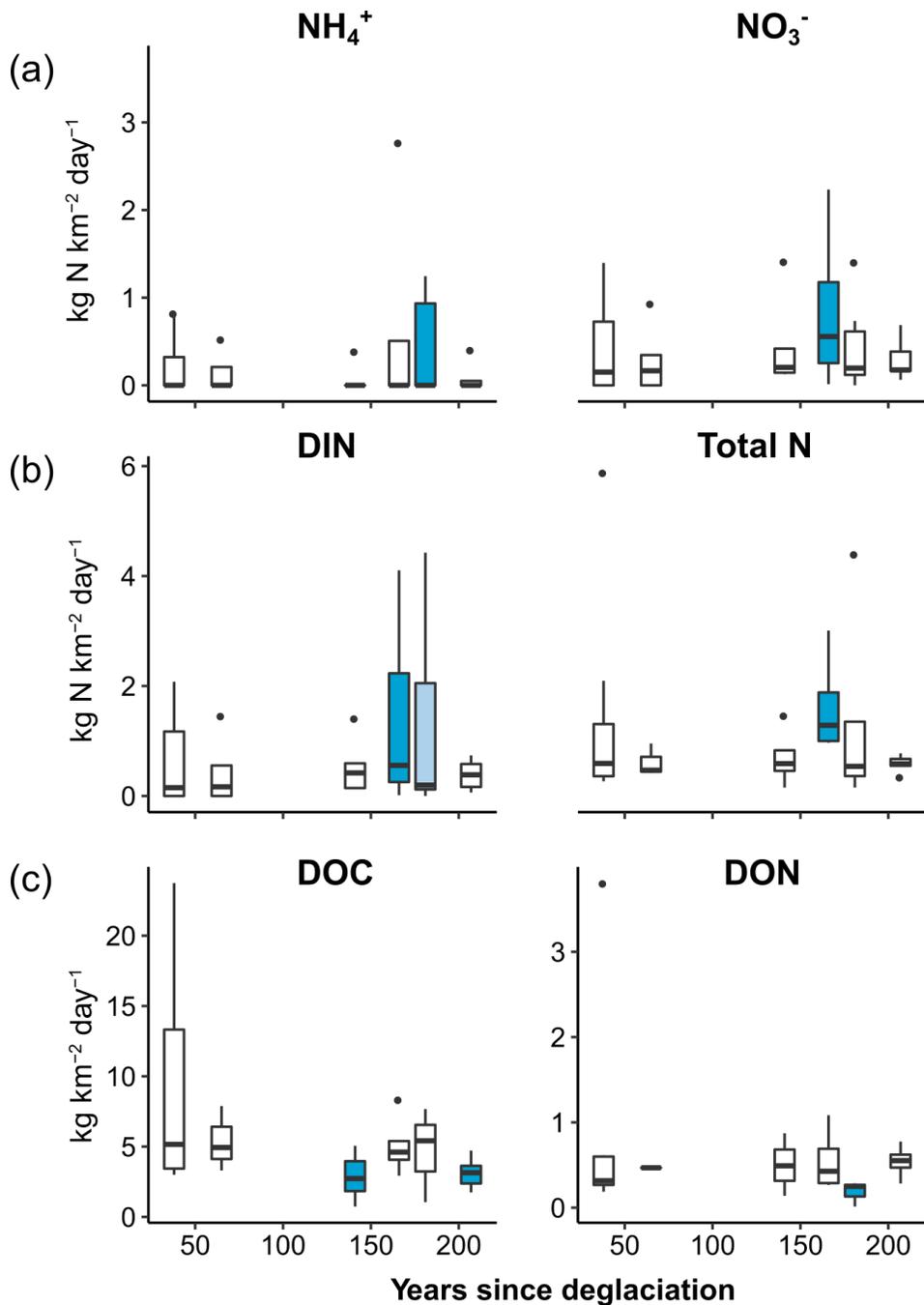
Supplementary figures



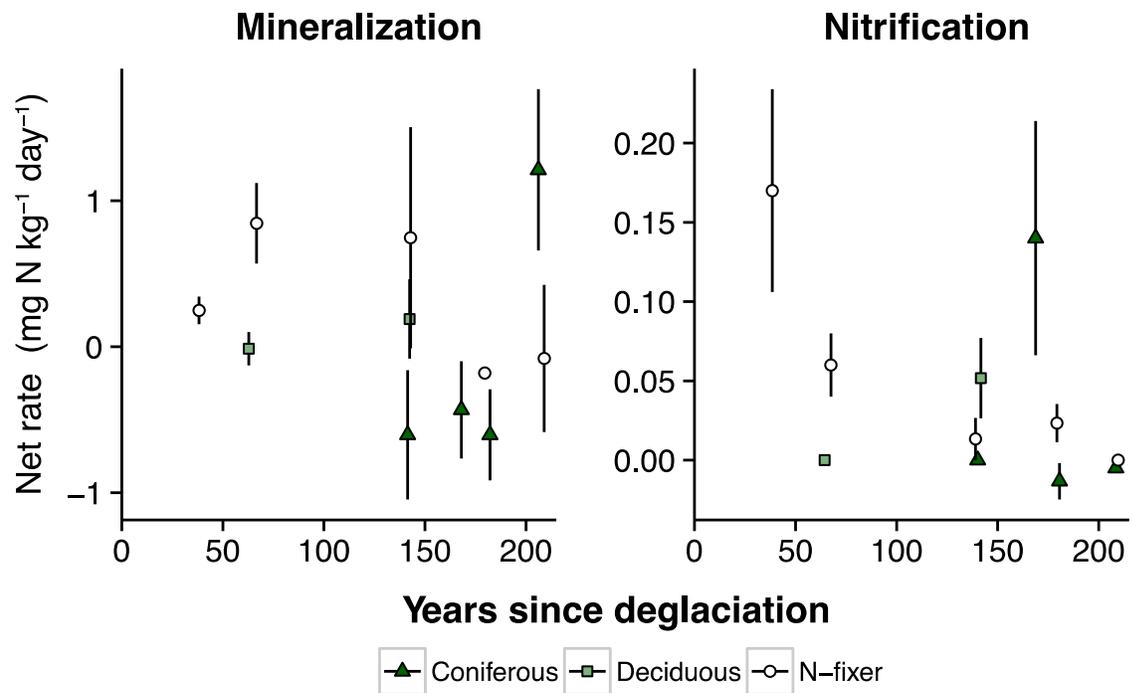
**Figure S1.** Soil carbon and nitrogen content by vegetation type for the six study sites (mean  $\pm$  SE; mean  $n = 7.7$ ).



**Figure S2.** Growing season ammonium and nitrate concentrations in streams draining six catchments along a post-glacial chronosequence. Box plots represent median, quartiles, minimum, and maximum within 1.5 times the interquartile range, and outliers beyond 1.5 times the interquartile range.



**Figure S3.** Growing-season stream yields of ammonium, nitrate, dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN), total nitrogen, dissolved organic carbon (DOC), and dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) over the chronosequence. Elemental yields were calculated on a daily time step by multiplying concentration by discharge and dividing by catchment size. Color represents statistical grouping ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ) based on mixed model analysis of variance (e.g. dark blue boxes differ from white boxes but light blue boxes do not differ statistically from either group). Box plots represent median, quartiles, 1.5 times the interquartile range, and points beyond 1.5 time the IQR (average  $n$  per boxplot = 7).



**Figure S4.** Net nitrogen mineralization and net nitrification (NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> accumulation, respectively) in unamended soils measured in a 24-day incubation (mean ± SE; mean *n* = 7.7)

Supplementary tables

**Table S1:** Number of sampling locations in each catchment for dominant vegetation types.

Site age	Number of samples (n)						
	Sediment	<i>Dryas drummondii</i>	<i>Alnus sinuata</i>	<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	<i>Pinus sitchensis</i>	Mixed	Mature*
38	9	3	15	-	-	-	-
60	-	-	15	9	-	-	-
136	-	-	3	3	12	9	-
161	-	-	-	-	15	-	-
176	-	-	3	3	9	3	9
201	-	-	3	3	15	-	-

\*Mature= mixed *P. sitchensis* and *T. heterophylla* forest; Mixed = mixed *P. trichocarpa* and *P. sitensis* forest

**Table S2.** Data transformations for summary statistics, multiple linear regression models, and correlations.

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Transformation</b>
<b>Soil and foliar parameters</b>	
Soil organic matter	Natural log
pH	Natural log
Gravimetric soil moisture	$\wedge 0.5$
C:N of soil organic matter	Natural log
Potential nitrification	$\wedge 0.5$
Potential denitrification	$\wedge 0.25$
Foliar $\delta^{13}\text{C}$	None
SOM $\delta^{13}\text{C}$	None
Foliar $\delta^{15}\text{N}$	None
SOM $\delta^{15}\text{N}$	$\wedge 0.25$
C enrichment factor	None
N enrichment factor	None
Elevation	Natural log
Soil organic carbon	$\wedge 0.25$
Soil organic nitrogen	$\wedge 0.25$
<b>Hydrologic parameters</b>	
$\text{NO}_3^-$	None
$\text{NH}_4^+$	$\wedge 0.5$
Dissolved organic carbon	None
Dissolved organic nitrogen	$\wedge 0.5$
Conductivity	None
pH	None
Discharge	Natural log
Temperature	None