



Seasonal and interannual variability of precipitation and rainfall erosivity in Northeastern Japan: insights from 14 years of observations after Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear accident (2011–2024)

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Abstract. The Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant (FDNPP) accident in March 2011, led to the deposition of about 2.0 PBq of ^{137}Cs across Fukushima Prefecture, resulting in widespread long-term environmental contamination. The accumulation of ^{137}Cs in the uppermost soil layer, led rainfall-driven soil erosion to become a major mechanism for ^{137}Cs redistribution across the landscape. Previous research (Laceby et al., 2016a), which analysed data over 1995–2015, identified 5 the June–October period as critical for rainfall erosivity. However, this analysis covered only the immediate five years period after the accident, leaving spatial and temporal patterns, event-scale dynamics, and long-term trends unquantified in the longer post-accidental context. To address this gap, the current research analysed 10-minute precipitation records from 58 weather stations located within a 110-km radius of the FDNPP, to include most of ^{137}Cs deposition onland, during the 14 years that followed the accident (2011–2024), calculating event-level precipitation amount and rainfall erosivity (EI_{30}), and 10 aggregating metrics across annual, monthly, seasonal, and extreme-event timescales. Between 2011 and 2024, median annual precipitation was 1318 mm, with erosive events contributing 917 mm and generating $3,290 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ of erosivity. The June–October period accounted for 61 % of erosive events, representing 46 % of annual precipitation (602 mm) but 86 % of annual erosivity ($2,698 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$), with a clear precipitation-erosivity relation ($r^2 = 0.62$). Erosivity was highly concentrated during a few extreme events: the three most erosive events of each year contributed 55 % of total annual erosivity 15 (1,753 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$; 224 mm), whilst the single most erosive event alone accounted for 28 % (912 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$; 94 mm). In 2011, 2015, and 2019, single events dominated annual erosivity, generated 38–44 % of annual erosivity. These findings 20 quantify the erosive drivers of ^{137}Cs remobilisation since the accident with at large spatial and a high temporal resolution, supporting the retrospective reconstruction and prediction of long-term contamination dynamics. The predominance of extreme rainfall events emphasises their role in controlling sediment and contaminant transport in the post-accidental Fukushima context. All datasets, reproducible analytical workflows, and scripts (R package RainErosivity) are openly available via Zenodo and GitHub, supporting research on rainfall-driven ^{137}Cs redistribution, sediment transfer, erosion risk assessment and long-term geomorphological evolution of catchments.



1 Introduction

25 In March 2011, the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant (FDNPP) accident led to the release of a considerable amount of radionuclides, of which about 20 % were deposited over Japan (Morino et al., 2013; Onda et al., 2020). Among these, ^{137}Cs remains of particular concern because of its relatively long half-life (30 years) and its potential impacts over the long term on the environment and human health. The total inland deposition of ^{137}Cs was estimated to 2.7 PBq, of which, 74 % were deposited within the Fukushima Prefecture (Kato et al., 2019; Taniguchi et al., 2019). It is estimated that about 83 % of the
30 Prefecture area ($11,430 \text{ km}^2$) received more than 5 kBq m^{-2} of ^{137}Cs , with 26 % being exposed to more than 100 kBq m^{-2} (Kato et al., 2019).

After deposition, ^{137}Cs is rapidly and quasi-permanently adsorbed to fine soil particles (silt and clay; Saito et al., 2014; Nakao et al., 2014, 2015). Consequently, 90–99 % of the radiocesium inventory has accumulated in the upper 5 cm of undisturbed soils (Kato et al., 2012; Lepage et al., 2015; Konoplev et al., 2016). This strong binding has limited the transfer of ^{137}Cs from
35 soil to plants, both in annual or perennial herbaceous and tree species (Yamashita et al., 2014; Tamaoki et al., 2016; Onda et al., 2020). As a result, deposited ^{137}Cs remained mainly concentrated in the upper organo-mineral soil layer, rendering it particularly vulnerable and susceptible to downstream transfers following water erosion during rainfall events (Wakiyama et al., 2019; Ikenoue et al., 2020).

During the last 14 years, river system in the eastern part of Fukushima Prefecture have demonstrated a high reactivity to
40 intense rainfall events (Chartin et al., 2013; Evrard et al., 2014, 2020). In the steep and mountainous catchments of this region, such intense events were associated with substantial soil erosion and sediment export, thereby contribute to the downstream transfer of contaminated material to the Pacific Ocean (Evrard et al., 2014; Uchiyama et al., 2022; Diacre et al., 2023). The transfer of ^{137}Cs in the river system occurs predominantly in particulate form (96.5 %; Taniguchi et al., 2019) associated to suspended sediment matter (Sakaguchi et al., 2015; Evrard et al., 2015). However, it has been determined that a limited
45 number of these high-intensity rainfall events were responsible for the majority of particulate ^{137}Cs fluxes (Sakaguchi et al., 2015; Kitamura et al., 2016; Konoplev et al., 2018), accounting for 82–99 % of total annual transfers (Yamashiki et al., 2014; Iwagami et al., 2017; Osawa et al., 2018).

The magnitude of radiocesium transport depends on several factors influencing soil erosion, including rainfall erosivity, topography, land use, and soil properties (Yoshimura et al., 2015; Wakiyama et al., 2019). To reflect the relationship between
50 precipitation (raindrop splash and runoff scour) and soil loss, Wischmeier and Smith (1958) developed the EI_{30} index. The annual R-factor was subsequently defined as the summation of these event-based EI_{30} values over a year (Wischmeier and Smith, 1958). This factor was later incorporated into the USLE and its subsequent revisions, RUSLE (Renard et al., 1997) and RUSLE2 (USDA–ARS, 2013). Conventionally, the R-factor is estimated as a long-term average annual erosivity, typically about 20 to 30 years (Renard and Freimund, 1994; Wischmeier and Smith, 1978), a practice designed to smooth out interannual
55 variability.



However, in the Fukushima region, heavy precipitation events, such as tropical storms, typhoons, or linear precipitation bands, have been highlighted as a key driver of radiocesium transfer at the catchment scale, exhibiting strong intra-annual variability associated with seasonal climatic patterns (Laceby et al., 2016a; Vandromme et al., 2023). Over the 1995–2015 period, Laceby et al. (2016a) reported that the majority of annual precipitation (60 %) and rainfall erosivity (86 %) occurred 60 between June and October, with tropical cyclones alone accounting for about 22 % of precipitation and 40 % of erosivity. Given this context, in the present study, EI_{30} values and annual and seasonal R-factors were utilised to compare the relative intensity of individual events or their cumulative impact over specific periods (e.g., annually, seasonally). This approach allows for the contextualisation of their occurrence, seasonality, and evolution since 2011, thereby assessing the potential for erosion and 65 subsequent radiocesium transfer. Nonetheless, other parameters, such as seasonal variations in vegetation cover and antecedent soil moisture, also modulate soil erosion capacity (Yoshimura et al., 2015; Vandromme et al., 2023). Erosive events occurring 70 during full canopy conditions generally produce less erosion than those that occurs early in spring or late in autumn.

Therefore, this study provides an updated characterisation of precipitation and rainfall erosivity from 2011 to 2024 within a 110 km radius region around FDNPP, comprising most catchments draining the main radioactive plume contaminated with ^{137}Cs . Based on high-resolution (10-min) rainfall records compiled from 58 weather stations, it aims to (i) quantify the 75 inter- and intra-annual variability of precipitation and rainfall erosivity, (ii) determine the most relevant temporal scale for regional and interannual comparisons, and (iii) assess the contribution of the most erosive rainfall events to seasonal and annual cumulative precipitation and rainfall erosivity. The resulting precipitation and rainfall erosivity metrics, computed at annual, monthly and seasonal scales, as well as for the most erosive events, are provided for the Fukushima region from 2011 to 2024. These metrics can then be used to conduct future research regarding rainfall erosivity and its implications for long-term management of sediment and radiocesium transfers in the region.

2 Materials and Methods

2.1 Study area

Of all the radiocesium released during the FDNPP accident, most of the ^{137}Cs deposited on terrestrial environments (2.7 PBq) accumulated within Fukushima Prefecture (2.0 PBq) (Kato et al., 2019; Taniguchi et al., 2019). The area investigated in this 80 study, located within a 110-km radius around the FDNPP ($17,000 \text{ km}^2$), received most of this initial fallout (Fig. 1).

Most of the deposition occurred in two main geographical regions of Fukushima Prefecture: the Hama-dori and Naka-dori regions, which are separated by the north-south-trending Abukuma mountain range (Nakao et al., 2014). The western boundary of the Naka-dori region is bordered by the Ōu mountain range. Hydrologically, the two regions differ. The Naka-dori region largely corresponds to the Abukuma River Basin ($5,200 \text{ km}^2$), whereas the Hama-dori region is drained by several small 85 coastal catchments (covering typically surface areas $\leq 700 \text{ km}^2$). These coastal catchments may generally be subdivided into two parts: a steep, mountainous upper section within the Abukuma mountain range, which transitions abruptly into a flat coastal plain. According to Köppen's climatic classification, from East to West, the coastal plains of the Hama-dori region are exposed

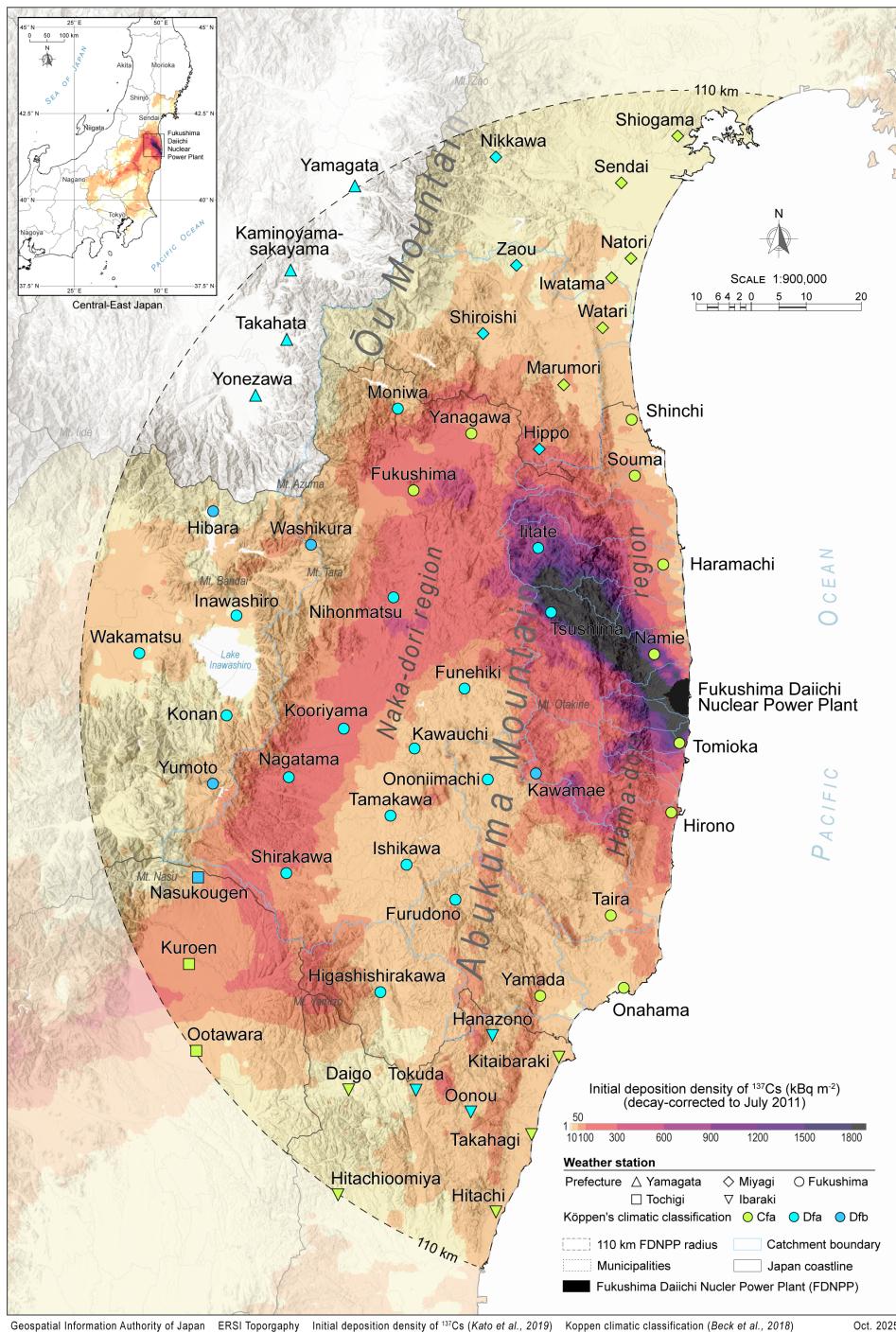


Figure 1. Location of the 58 weather stations within a 110-km radius around the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant (FDNPP) over the ^{137}Cs deposition on soils across Northeastern Japan after Kato et al. (2019). Cartographic data available from the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan - GSI.



to a Cfa temperate climate with no dry season and hot summer, which shifts to a Dfa cold climate with no dry season and hot summer when reaching the foothills of the Abukuma mountain range within the mountainous part of the Hama-dori region and the whole Naka-dori region (Beck et al., 2018). With increasing elevation, some areas of the Abukuma mountains transition from hot (Dfa) to warm summer (Dfb) (e.g. Kawamae or Hibara stations).

The regional precipitation regime is driven by tropical cyclones, with a few extreme events accounting for a large proportion of the annual rainfall volume and intensity (Chartin et al., 2013; Evrard et al., 2014). The period from May to October, corresponding to the Japanese typhoon season, contributes to about 60 % of the annual precipitation and 86 % of the rainfall erosivity, with a peak from July to September (Laceby et al., 2016a). Over the last 30-years period (1991-2021), the mean annual temperature in the Fukushima region was $13.4 \pm 0.5 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ (standard deviation = SD), ranging on average from $-1.5 \pm 0.9 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $30.5 \pm 2.1 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ in January and August, respectively. The mean annual precipitation was to $1207 \pm 216 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ (SD) (Chalaux-Clergue et al., 2024a).

100 2.2 Weather stations

Precipitation and temperature records every 10 minutes from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2024 were downloaded from 58 automated weather stations, available from the Automated Meteorological Data Acquisition System stations (AMeDAS) operated by the Japanese Meteorological Agency (JMA) or stations operated by Prefectural Authorities, within a 110 km radius around the FDNPP (JMA, 2024, in Japanese) (Fig. 1). Previous research has shown the reliability of the 10 min rainfall dataset 105 from JMA, indicating that further correction was not required (Shiono et al., 2013; Duan et al., 2015; Laceby et al., 2016a; Chartin et al., 2017).

2.3 Precipitation and rainfall erosivity

Erosive events were identified and extracted from the data according to two criteria: (1) individual events were required to accumulate precipitation greater than 12.7 mm (Wischmeier and Smith, 1978; Panagos et al., 2015) and (2) cumulative precipitation of less than 1.27 mm over a period of 6 h was required to discretize events (Wischmeier and Smith, 1978; Renard and Freimund, 1994; Yin et al., 2017). To account for the potential occurrence of snowfall, precipitation records were removed when the temperature was below $0 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, when available (Meusburger et al., 2012).

The event rainfall erosivity, EI_{30} in $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$, was calculated for each erosive event that occurred over the study period for each weather station. It was calculated as the product of the energy of the precipitation event (E , in MJ ha^{-1}) and 115 its maximum 30-minutes intensity (I_{30} , in mm h^{-1}) (Brown and Foster, 1987; Renard and Freimund, 1994; Yin et al., 2017):

$$EI_{30} = \left(\sum_{r=1}^l e_r v_r \right) I_{30} \quad (1)$$

where e_r represents the surface precipitation energy per unit of precipitation ($\text{MJ ha}^{-1} \text{ mm}^{-1}$), and v_r is the volume of precipitation (mm) during a given time interval (i.e., 10-min in the current research) for the r^{th} time interval of the event from



1, the first precipitation record during the event, to l , the last record of the event. For each time interval, e_t was calculated using
120 the RUSLE2 corrected formula of Brown and Foster (1987) Yin et al. (2017) (0.082 vs. 0.05):

$$e_r = 0.29 (1 - 0.72 e^{-0.082 i_r}) \quad (2)$$

where i_r is the precipitation intensity (mm h^{-1} , i.e., $6 \times v_i$).

For each period (year, month or season), the R-factor was then calculated as the sum of the EI_{30s} of events that occurred over a defined period (i.e., year, month, or season):

$$125 \quad R = \sum_{i=1}^n EI_{30i} \quad (3)$$

where i is the i^{th} erosive event out on n events that occurred during the period.

The identification of erosive events and calculation of event rainfall erosivity and event cumulative precipitation were performed in R language using the RainErosivity package (Chalaux-Clergue, 2025, version 1.1.0).

130 2.4 Calculation of metrics

All statistical analyses were performed at the station level before being aggregated to broader spatial and temporal scales. For each monitoring station, annual, monthly, and seasonal (June-October) precipitation and rainfall erosivity totals, were first calculated individually according to the temporal resolution. These station-level values were then used to derive annual, monthly or seasonal regional metrics by computing the corresponding median, 25th and 75th quantiles (interquartile range - IQR), mean and standard deviation (SD) across all stations operating during the temporal resolution under consideration. In addition, long-term pluriannual metrics were obtained by aggregating all station-level data over the entire study period and calculating the same summary metrics. This hierarchical approach allowed preserving the local variability while ensuring a consistent comparison of temporal and spatial patterns. The use of medians was intended to highlight persistent differences between the different temporal resolutions and to reduce the influence of extreme events, thereby improving the interpretation
135 of seasonal patterns and typical behaviours.

To check for temporal and spatial consistence across the years, months or seasons and to assess which of those display statistically similar behaviours at the station-level, non-parametric Sign pairwise tests were performed on station-level values. The sign test assesses the occurrence of consistent differences between pairs of observations, without any assumption on the
145 nature of their distribution.

The sign test compares the station pairs values, assigning a positive or negative sign depending on whether one station's value exceeded the other or not. The number of positive differences was reported as the number of successes out of the number of station pairs to perform a two-sided exact binomial test (eq. Bernouilli experiment) with a confidence level of 0.5 (performed



with the `binom.test` function from `stats` package). A Bonferroni correction, corresponding to the number of comparisons 150 realised (i.e., 91 for 14 years; 66 for 12 months), was applied on the p values resulting from the binomial test. Then, pairs with a p value greater than $\alpha = 0.5$ were considered to be non-statistically different. Based on these results, non-statistically different years were grouped accordingly. It was ensured that for each pair comparison only operating stations were considered.

This approach allowed to identify non-statistically distinguishable years, months or seasons at the station level, which allowed to identify zones/stations sharing temporal and spatial consistency among the region.

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All processing, analyses and modelling were performed using the R programming environment (R Core Team, 2025, version 4.5.1) in RStudio (Posit team, 2025, version 2025.09.1+401).

3 Results

3.1 Annual and Monthly variability

160 3.1.1 Precipitation

Annual precipitation across the 58 weather stations within a 110 km radius around FDNPP exhibited moderate interannual variability over the 2011-2024 period (Fig. 2.A.c). The median annual cumulative precipitation ranged from 1,119 165 [1,012-1,293] mm yr⁻¹ (IQR) in 2018 to 1581 [1382-1763] mm yr⁻¹ in 2014, with a pluriannual median of 1,318 [1,148-1,501] mm yr⁻¹ and a mean of $1,360 \pm 301$ mm yr⁻¹ (SD) (Appendix Table A1). The low difference (3 %) between pluriannual median and mean values supports this moderate interannual variability.

Among the fourteen years under consideration, nine to ten years (64-71 %) were within the same sign-test statistical groups (i.e., groups b, f, and i), indicating similar values and spatial distributions at the station level (Fig. 2.A.c). Nonetheless, two narrower groupings, c-e and d-h, respectively included the years with the highest (2014, 2019, 2020, 2021) and lowest cumulative precipitation (2018, 2022, 2023, 2024), highlighting differences, although moderate, in precipitation regimes.

170 At the station level, annual precipitation showed a spatial gradient across the study area (Fig. 3.a; Appendix Table A1). The highest annual cumulative precipitation was often recorded at Washikura (Fukushima Pref., central-eastern part of the study area), Nasukougen (Tochigi Pref., south-eastern part) and Hanazono (Ibaraki Pref., southern part). In contrast, the lowest values were consistently recorded at Yanagawa (Fukushima Pref., central-northern part), Inawashiro (Fukushima Pref., central-eastern part), and Kaminoyamasakayama (Yamagata Pref., north-eastern part). The constancy of these spatial contrasts and patterns 175 throughout most years, indicated the occurrence of stable regional precipitation patterns at the annual scale.

At the monthly scale, cumulative precipitation exhibited a pronounced seasonal pattern (Fig. 2.A.a and b). The driest months were February and January, closely followed by December and November, while the wettest months were September and July.

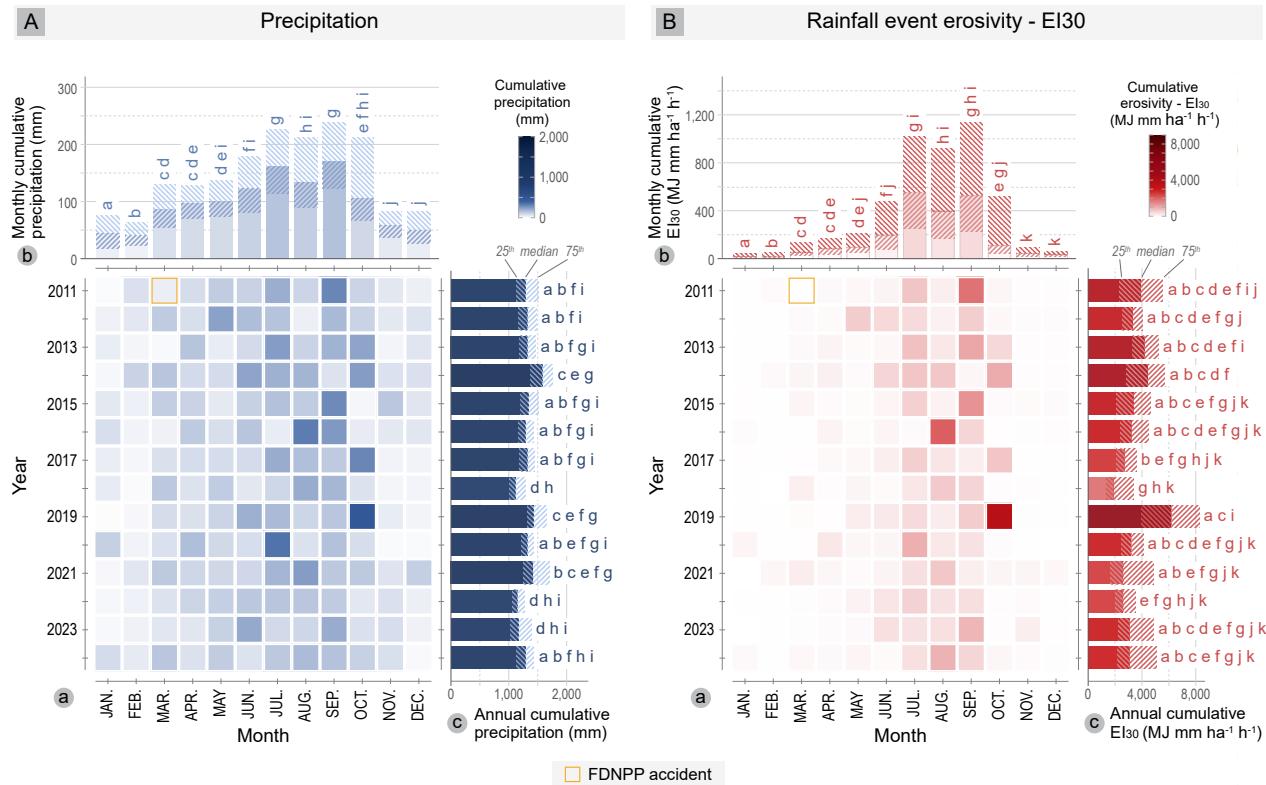


Figure 2. Inter-annual variability of (a) cumulative monthly median of [A] precipitation and [B] rainfall erosivity (2011-2024), together with (b) monthly and (c) annual distributions (median, 25th and 75th percentiles), with station-level paired Sign test groupings (p value ≥ 0.05) from 58 weather stations located within a 110 km radius around FDNPP.

180 Median monthly totals ranged from 39 [23-64] mm mo^{-1} in January to 170 [123-238] mm mo^{-1} in September and 162 [114-227] mm mo^{-1} in July (Appendix Table A2). Sign tests groupings statistically distinguish between the group of months from June to October, forming a high-precipitation period that was clearly separated from the low-precipitation months from November to February (Fig. 2.A.b). Within this high-precipitation period, a further subdivision was made between July and September (group g), corresponding to the wettest months, and June, August, and October (groups f, h, i).

185 Monthly IQR were also higher during the June to October period, increasing from 98 mm mo^{-1} in June to 146 mm mo^{-1} in October, highlighting some interannual variability. In addition, the highest total monthly precipitation recorded between June and October showed a clear spatial pattern (Appendix Fig. 4.a and Table A2). The highest values for the period from June to August were recorded at Washikura (Fukushima Pref., central-eastern part), with 575 mm mo^{-1} in June 2014, 622 mm mo^{-1} in July 2020, and 932 mm mo^{-1} in August 2016. Similarly, the highest monthly cumulative precipitation for September and 190 October was recorded at Hippo (Miyagi Pref., central part), with 673 mm mo^{-1} in 2015 and 902 mm mo^{-1} in 2019. More exceptionally, high precipitation was recorded in May 2012 at Oonou (Ibaraki Pref., central-southern part) with 536 mm mo^{-1} . Conversely, local monthly minima showed limited temporal recurrence across stations.

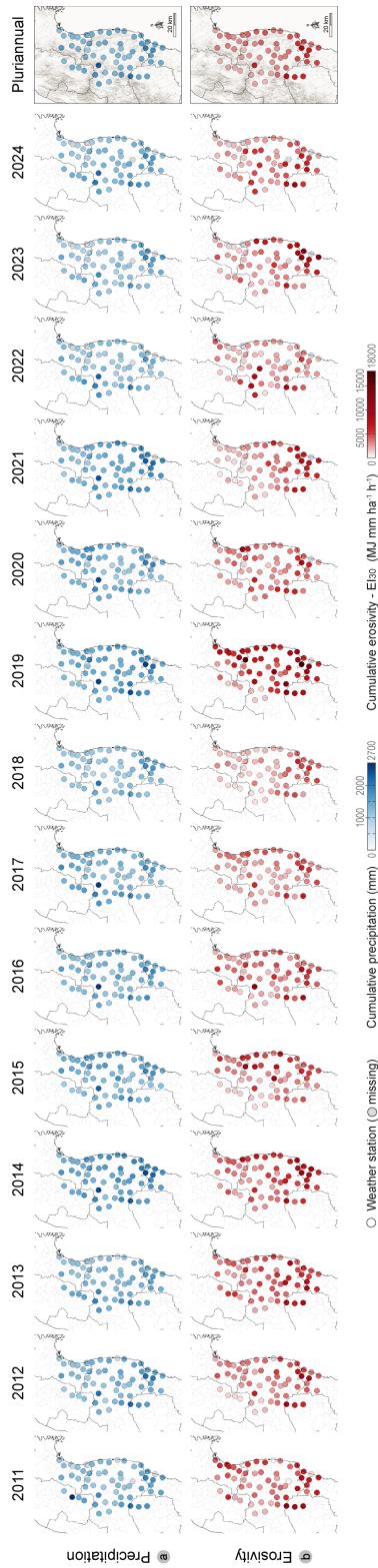


Figure 3. Annual records and pluriannual median values of annual cumulative (a) precipitation and (b) rainfall erosivity over the period 2011-2024 across the 58 weather stations located within a 110-km radius around FDNPP.

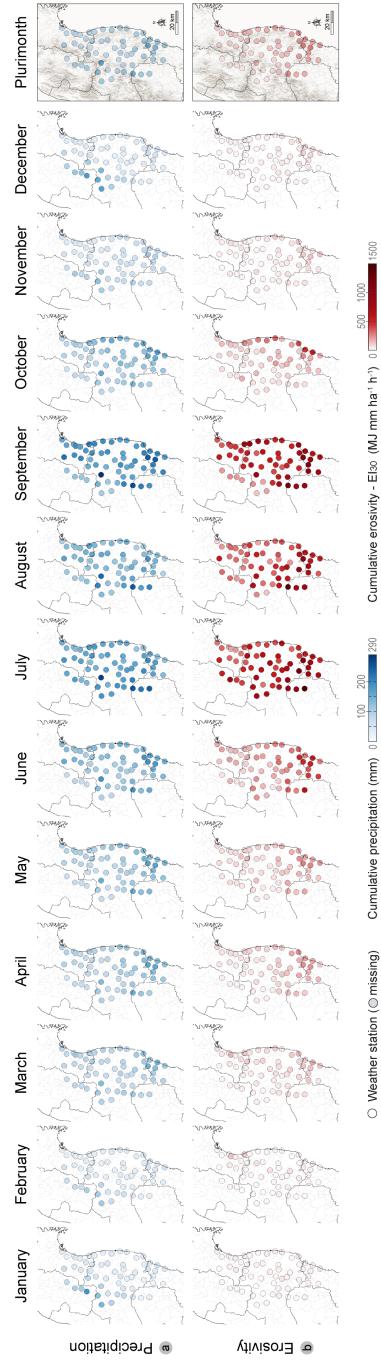


Figure 4. Monthly records and plurimonthly median values of cumulative (a) precipitation and (b) rainfall erosivity over the period 2011-2024 across the 58 weather stations located within a 110-km radius region around FDNPP.



3.1.2 Rainfall erosivity

Between 2011 and 2024, a median of 37 [23-31] (IQR) erosive events occurred annually across the region, generating a median
195 annual rainfall erosivity (EI₃₀ or R-factor) ranging from 1,908 [1,388-3,392] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹ in 2018 to 6,159 [3,970-8,270] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹ in 2019 (Fig. 2.B.c). The pluriannual median of 3,290 [2,273-4,947] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹ and the mean of 3,868 ± 2,327 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹ differed by 15 % which, along with high IQR (2674 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹) and SD, indicated a high interannual variability (Appendix Table A3).

Despite this high variability, ten to twelve (71-86 %) years among those investigated remained within the same sign-test
200 statistical groups (i.e., groups a, b, c, e, f, g, and j), indicating high similarities at the station level (Fig. 2.B.c). Nonetheless, two narrower groupings, h and i, respectively included the years with the highest (2011, 2013, 2019 in i) and lowest total cumulative precipitation (2017, 2018, 2022 in h), highlighting that these two extreme regimes may be differentiated at the station level.

At the station level, the highest annual cumulative rainfall erosivity was the most frequently recorded in the southern part of the study area (i.e., Daigo, Hanazono, Hitachi, Kuroen, Nasukougen, Ootawara, and Yamada), and least frequently in the
205 central-western (e.g., Kawauchi, Nihonmatsu, Washikura) or central-northern regions (e.g., Shinchi) (Fig. 3.a; Appendix Table A3). During most years, the local maxima commonly amounted to around 10,000 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹ (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2023, and 2024), or between 6,000 and 9,000 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹ (2017, 2018, 2020, 2021, and 2022). Clearly, 2019 provided an exception, as the Hanazono station recorded a value of 18,004 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹, which was 5.5 times higher than the pluriannual median.

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At the monthly scale, rainfall erosivity exhibited a very pronounced seasonal pattern (Fig. 2.B.b). The least erosive months were February, November, January, and December, while the most erosive months were September and July. Median total monthly values ranged from 32 [19-48] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ mo⁻¹ in February to 124 [77-182] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ mo⁻¹ in July and 140 [88-207] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ mo⁻¹ in September (Appendix Table A4). This strong seasonality was also reflected in
215 the frequency of erosive events, with a median of one event per month from November to February; two events from March to May, and even three to four events per month during the June-October period. Sign tests also confirmed the strong seasonality by statistically distinguishing low- and high-erosivity months. The low-erosivity period, from November to March, was divided into three groups (groups a, b, k) despite similar median values (19-44 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ yr⁻¹). The high-erosivity period, from June to October, revealed finer distinctions: July and September provided the most erosive group (g), showing some overlap
220 with August (groups h and i), while June and October were grouped together (f and j) and showed some similarity with May (e). Spring months, from March to May, were globally grouped together (c, d, e), marking a transitional phase between the two main erosive seasons.

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Monthly IQR were also the highest during June to October period, increasing from 98 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ mo⁻¹ in June to 155 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ mo⁻¹ in October, highlighting the occurrence of some interannual variability. In July and September, IQRs represented about 0.8-0.9 times their respective medians, whereas for June, August, and September, this ratio ranged



from 1.1 to 1.9, further indicating the occurrence of pronounced interannual variability among these months (Fig. 2.B.c and Appendix Table A4)).

During high-erosivity months, the highest monthly records were generally observed in the southern part of the study area (Hanazono in June 2012, Shirakawa in July 2019, and Hitachi in September 2023) or in the central part (Washikura in August 230 2016 and Hippo in October 2019) (Fig. 3.a, Appendix Table A2). In July and August, local maxima reached around 10,000 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1} \text{mo}^{-1}$ in 2016 at Washikura and in 2023 at Hitachi, respectively, and nearly 15,000 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1} \text{mo}^{-1}$ in October 2019 at the Hippo station. Outside of this period, high monthly erosivity total values were also recorded during spring months. This was observed for instance at Taira station (Fukushima Pref., southern part) with 5,402 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1} \text{mo}^{-1}$ in April 2013, and at Ootawara (Tochigi Pref., south-east part) with 3,582 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1} \text{mo}^{-1}$ in May 2012. Conversely, 235 local monthly minima showed limited temporal or spatial recurrence across stations.

3.2 Typhoon season dynamics (June-October)

3.2.1 Seasonal contribution and interannual variability

During the five-month period from June to October, the median number of erosive events ranged from 13-15 events in 2011, 2012, 2015, 2018 and 2022, to 17-19 events in 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2020 and 2021, with a pluriannual median of 16 240 [14-19] events (IQR), representing about 61 % of the median annual number of events (Fig. 5).

Seasonal rainfall erosivity (from June to October) represented a pluriannual median of 2,698 [1,826-4,076] $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ and a mean of $236 \pm 2,121 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$, accounting for 86 and 83 % of total annual cumulative (Fig. 5.B.a). Seasonal median cumulative values ranged from 1,560 [1,016-2,756] $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ in 2018 to 5,681 [3,765-7,377] $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ in 2019, along with relative contribution to the total annual values ranging from 70 % in 2021 to 93 % in 2019. The difference 245 between the pluriannual median and mean was about 17 %. Together with the wide IQR (2,250 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$) and standard deviation, this finding highlights the strong interannual variability in seasonal erosivity (Appendix Table A5). Nonetheless, across the period, the relative contribution of the season to annual values ranged from 70 % in 2021 to 93 % in 2019.

Despite this high variability, nine to eleven years were found within the same sign test statistical groups (i.e., groups a, b, 250 c, f, g, and j), indicating overall spatial consistency in seasonal erosivity patterns (Fig. 5.B.a, 6.c). Three narrower groupings: h, c, and d (with c and d differing only by the inclusion of 2015 in group c), respectively regrouped years with lower (2012, 2018, 2021, 2022) and higher seasonal totals (2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2023). Lower-erosivity years (group h) exhibited total seasonal values around 2,000-2,308 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$, whereas higher-erosivity years ranged from 2,675 [1,817-4,352] $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ in 2023 to 3,722 [2,484-4,884] $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ in 2014. In addition, group i included only 2011 255 and 2019, despite the difference between their median values differing by a factor 1.6 (3,444 [2,190-4,869] and 5,681 [3,765-7,377] $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ respectively), thereby indicating the occurrence of strong spatial similarities between these two seasons (6.c). Furthermore, 2019 median value exceeded the pluriannual seasonal median by a factor of 2.1. Finally, apart from

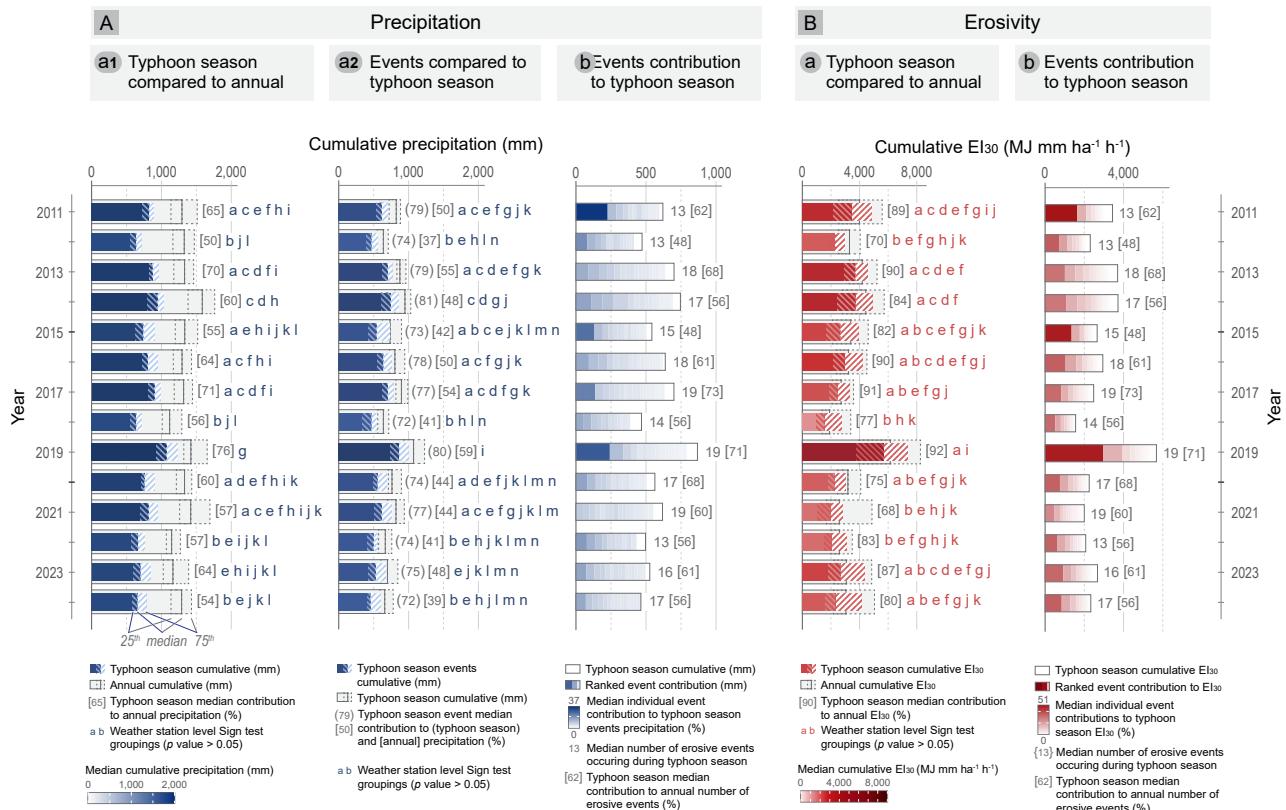


Figure 5. Annual summaries over the period 2011-2024 for [A] precipitation and [B] rainfall erosivity during (a) the typhoon season (June-October) (median, 25th and 75th quantiles), with station-level sign test groupings (p value ≥ 0.05), together with (b) ranked erosive event contribution (in %) to typhoon season cumulative median. Data was compiled for 58 weather stations located within a 110 km radius region around FDNPP.

those years with low seasonal value (2012, 2018, 2021, 2022), all years - including the highly erosive years such as 2019 - 260 were classified within group a, suggesting a broadly similar spatial distribution of rainfall erosivity during these five months at the station scale despite the magnitude of interannual variability.

Seasonal precipitation (from June to October) represented a pluriannual median of 793 [665-944] mm and a mean of 820 \pm 224 mm, both accounting for about 60 % of annual totals (Fig. 5.A.a). Seasonal median cumulative values ranged 265 from 640 [552-711] mm in 2012 or 2018 to 1,075 [937-1,234] mm in 2019, with relative contribution to annual values ranging from 72 % in 2024 to 80 % in 2019. The sign-test groupings were more scattered than at the annual scale, indicating greater spatial heterogeneity in seasonal precipitation patterns. Most groups included six to seven years (e.g., a, c, e, f, h, j, k, and l). However, three smaller groupings: b, c, and d (with c and d differing by the inclusion of 2016 and 2021 in group c, and 2020 in group d), distinguished years with lower (2012, 2018, 2022, 2024) and higher (2011, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2020, 2021)

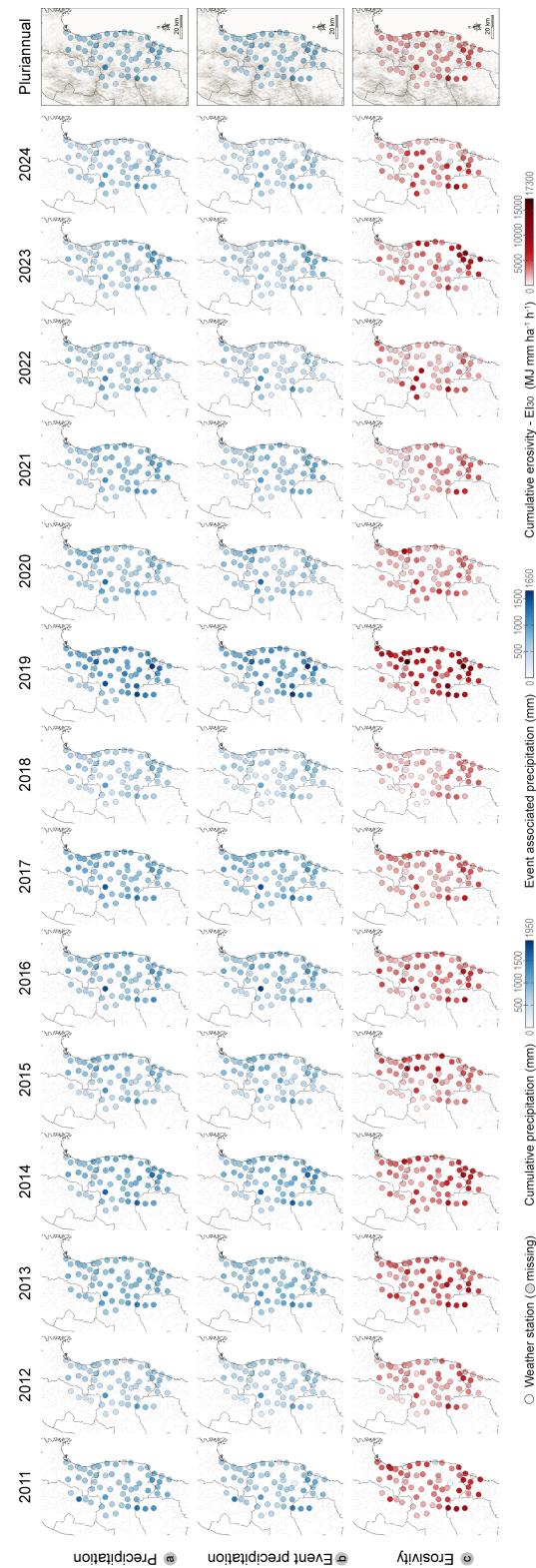


Figure 6. Annual records and pluriannual median values of typhoon season (June–October) cumulative (a) precipitation, (b) event-related precipitation, and (c) rainfall erosivity over 2011–2024 across 58 weather stations within a 110-km radius region around FDNPP.



270 seasonal totals. Moreover, group g only included 2019, which was the higher seasonal value of 1,075 [937-1,234] mm, being 1.4 times higher than the pluriannual seasonal median.

When considering only precipitation related with erosive events, median and mean seasonal values were 602 [474-749] mm and 626 ± 217 mm, respectively, corresponding to about 75 % of seasonal and 46 % of annual cumulative precipitation. The event-related precipitation ranged from 464 [409-604] mm in 2024 to 868 [740-997] mm in 2019. The relative contributions of 275 these events to seasonal and annual cumulated precipitation ranged, respectively, from 72 % in 2024 to 81 % in 2014 and from 37 % in 2012 to 59 % in 2019. The statistical groupings of years were even more scattered in this case (Fig. 5.A.b), suggesting that precipitation related to erosive events exhibited more complex spatial and temporal variability than when considering total 280 precipitations (Fig. 6.a and b). While a few large groups (e, j, k) included up to nine years, smaller and overlapping groups became more common (four to six years), reflecting nuanced similarities and dissimilarities among years. For instance, 2012, previously included in three groups, was now found in five groups. Yet, lower-precipitation years (b, h, m, n) could still be distinguished from higher-precipitation years (a, c, d, f, g), although the large number of groups indicated some spatial variability between these years (Fig. 6.b). In addition, 2019 again formed a distinct group (i), with a median event-related precipitation of 868 [740-997] mm, being 1.4 times higher than the pluriannual seasonal median.

285 At the annual scale, rainfall erosivity and total precipitation exhibited a moderate positive correlation at the station level ($r^2 = 0.47$) ($n = 795$; Fig. 7.a). However, when restricting the analysis to precipitation associated with erosive events only, the correlation increased to $r^2 = 0.61$ ($n = 795$), reflecting a better relationship between event-related precipitation and erosivity. A comparable pattern was observed for the June-October period, with correlation coefficients of $r^2 = 0.62$ for total seasonal 290 precipitation and $r^2 = 0.63$ when considering only precipitation associated with erosive events ($n = 795$; Fig. 7.b).

290

3.2.2 Event-scale contribution

Although the June to October period concentrated most of the erosive events, precipitation, and rainfall erosivity, the number of 295 such events showed no significant correlation with total seasonal precipitation ($r^2 = 0.48$), seasonal event-associated precipitation ($r^2 = 0.53$), or rainfall erosivity ($r^2 = 0.18$) at the station level ($n = 795$). This lack of correlation suggests that interannual variations in seasonal erosivity were primarily controlled by the intensity and characteristics of individual events rather than by their frequency.

In fact, during most years, a few high-intensity events accounted for a disproportionate share of the total seasonal rainfall 300 erosivity (Fig. 5.A.c and B.c). Over the study period, the three most erosive events contributed individually, in median, 28, 14, and 9 % of annual erosivity, equivalent to 35, 17, and 11 % of seasonal erosivity. Their respective median rainfall erosivity were 912, 443, 278 $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$, associated with median precipitation amounts of 94, 62, and 49 mm (Appendix Table A9). In addition, the uppermost and the three most erosive events displayed a high correlation between precipitation and rainfall erosivity, of $r^2 = 0.61$ and 0.68 ($n = 790$), respectively (Fig. 7.c and d).

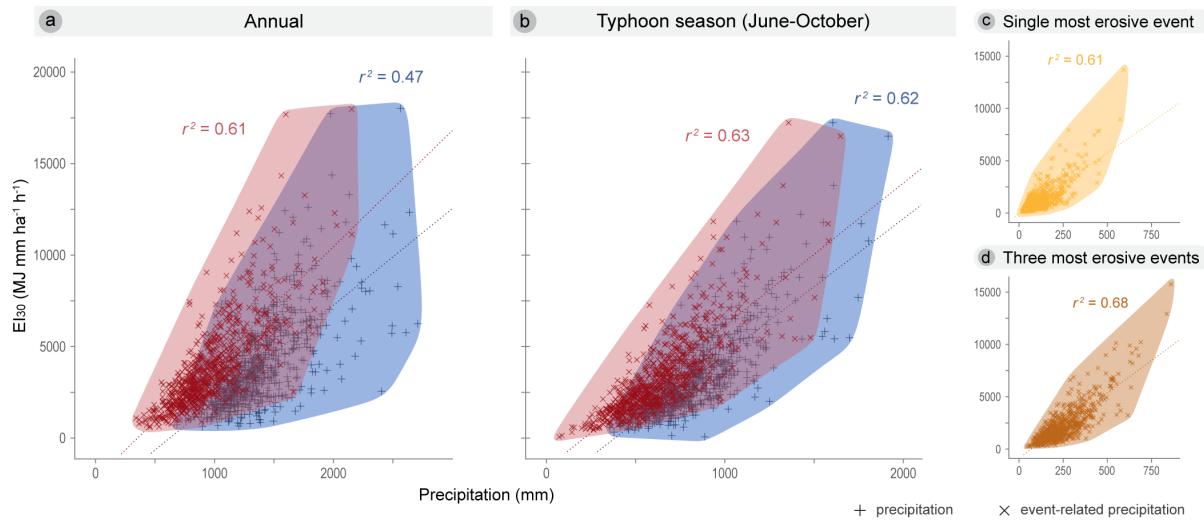


Figure 7. Relationship between rainfall erosivity (R-factor) and overall precipitation (blue x) or event related precipitation (red +) at the (a) annual scale ($n = 795$), (b) the scale of the typhoon season (June-October) ($n = 795$), during (c) the single most (EI_{30} ; $n = 790$) and (d) the three most erosive events ($n = 790$) of each typhoon season for 58 weather stations over 2011-2024. r^2 indicates multiple squared Pearson linear correlation from fitted linear model.

These three most erosive events contributed cumulatively 55 % and 67 % of annual and seasonal erosivity, respectively. This 305 corresponds to a cumulative median rainfall erosivity of 1,753 [1,106-2,744] $MJ\ mm\ ha^{-1}\ h^{-1}$ and a mean of $2,208 \pm 1,704\ MJ\ mm\ ha^{-1}\ h^{-1}$. Their contribution varied across years, from 36 % (53 %) in 2021 to 58 % (63 %) in 2016 and 2017, and more exceptionally up to 65 % (79 %) in 2015, 67 % (77 %) in 2021, and 68 % (76 %) in 2019 (Appendix Table A9).

In terms of rainfall amount, these three events showing the highest erosivity represented a smaller proportion of the total seasonal and annual values, with median contributions of about 38 % and 17 %, respectively. Further, these values corresponded 310 to 224 [170-305] mm in median and $247 \pm 113\ mm$ in mean cumulative precipitation. Their relative contribution to total annual (and seasonal) values varied moderately over the period, ranging from 11 % (27 %) in 2021 to 21 % (38 %) in 2017, and more exceptionally reaching 26 % (53 %) in 2011 and 27 % (47 %) in 2019.

The sign test showed similar groupings between their event-related precipitation and rainfall erosivity. Groupings were relatively scattered, with fourteen and eleven groups for erosivity and precipitation, respectively. Most groups encompassed nine to 315 eleven years (e.g., e, j, k for erosivity; a, b, e, f, g, j for precipitation), reflecting high interannual variability. Years characterised by lower event erosivity and precipitation were generally clustered in distinct groups (h, k and b, d, h, l, n), whereas higher-intensity years were merged in c, d, i and a, c, f groups, respectively. The year 2015 appeared in both low- and high-intensity regimes (b, c, k and a, b, c, l, n). In contrast, 2011 and 2019 clearly stood out as from the high-intensity regime, being grouped together and alone for both precipitation (group a) and erosivity (group g). However, both years were also attributed to broader 320 erosivity groups (e.g., a), which included several lower-intensity years, indicating that despite their exceptional magnitude,



2011 and 2019 shared some spatial similarities at the station level with the occurrence of less erosive events (Fig. 8).

When considering the single most erosive event of each season, it generated a median and mean rainfall erosivity of 912 [518-1,602] MJ mm $ha^{-1} h^{-1}$ and $1,287 \pm 1,243$ MJ mm $ha^{-1} h^{-1}$, respectively (Appendix Table A10). The relative contribution 325 of this dominant event varied considerably among years, ranging from 24 % of annual values and 28-32 % of seasonal values in 2014 and 2018, to 30 % and 34 % in 2016, and more exceptionally up to 38 % and 46 % in 2015, to 44 % and 48 % during both 2011 and 2019. The most erosive event recorded in 2019 generated a median of 2,968 [1,545-3,926] MJ mm $ha^{-1} h^{-1}$ from 241 [193-302] mm of precipitation, while the 2011 event reached 1,643 [1,149-2,562] MJ mm $ha^{-1} h^{-1}$ from 226 [158-258] mm, and the 2015 event reached 1,350 [609-1,569] MJ mm $ha^{-1} h^{-1}$ from 131 [100-166] mm. Nonetheless, the 2015 330 event did not markedly differ from other erosive years (e.g., 2014, 2016, 2023), and its grouping with 2011 and 2019 likely reflected differences in the spatial distribution of precipitation rather than its intensity alone (Fig. 9.b).

In terms of precipitation, these most erosive events represented a smaller proportion of cumulative precipitation, contributing 335 in median 16 % and 7 % of seasonal and annual precipitation, respectively. This corresponded to a median precipitation of 94 [58-156] mm and a mean of 118 ± 83 mm. The relative contribution of these events to annual and seasonal precipitation varied from 4 % and 9 % in 2021 to 8 % and 13 % in 2013. More exceptionally, in 2015 and 2017, this contribution reached 10-11 % and 20-24 %, respectively, while 2011 and 2019 stood out with the highest contributions, 15 % and 32 % in 2011 to 16 % and 29 % in 2019, respectively.

The sign tests showed consistent patterns although scattered groupings for precipitation (thirteen groups) and erosivity (nine 340 groups), confirming the strong interannual variability. Nonetheless, a large number of groups included between nine and twelve years for precipitation (b, c, d, f, g, i, k, l, m) and between ten and thirteen for erosivity (b, c, d, e, i), highlighted common event characteristics. In contrast, 2011 and 2019 formed distinct, isolated groups in precipitation (a) and erosivity (a and g). Conversely, 2015 occupied an intermediate position, overlapping with both high- and moderate-intensity regimes (c-g, l for precipitation; a-e, i for erosivity), suggesting the occurrence of spatially heterogeneous conditions (Fig. 9.b).

345 Regarding the spatial distribution of the most erosive events, these heavy storms were generally observed in the southern part of the study area (e.g. Hanazono, Nasukougen, Ootawara, Kuroen, Hitachi) or in the central area (e.g. Ishakawa, Hippo, Nihonmatsu, Kawauchi, Washiku-ra), and more exceptionally in the northern area (e.g. Shinchi, Natori) (Fig. 9.b, Appendix Table A10). For several years, both the three most erosive events and the single most erosive event, were recorded at the same 350 weather stations, such as Hanazono in 2012, Shinchi in 2014 and 2020, Washikura in 2016, Hippo in 2019, and Hitachi in 2023 (Appendix Table A9 and A10). Apart from 2019, the other years were generally years with lower erosivity. Furthermore, in 2011, 2015 and 2015 the annual highest erosive event maxima were recorded in the central-northern part of the area (i.e., Natori and Hippo), while when considering the three most erosive events in 2011 and 2015, the stations

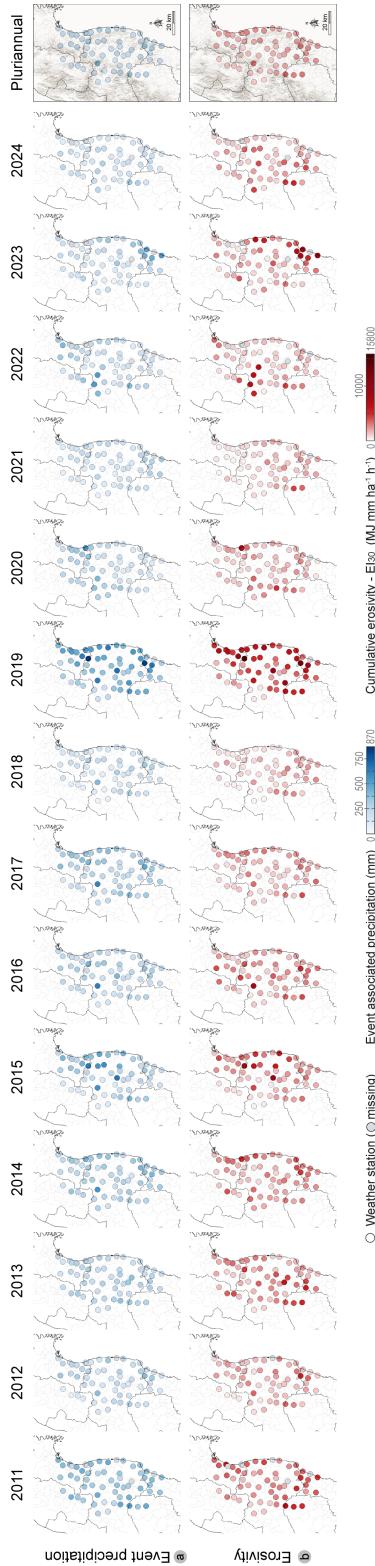


Figure 8. Annual records and pluviannual median values of the three most erosive event (a) related precipitation and (b) rainfall erosivity over the period 2011-2024 across the 58 weather stations located within a 110-km radius region around FDNPP.

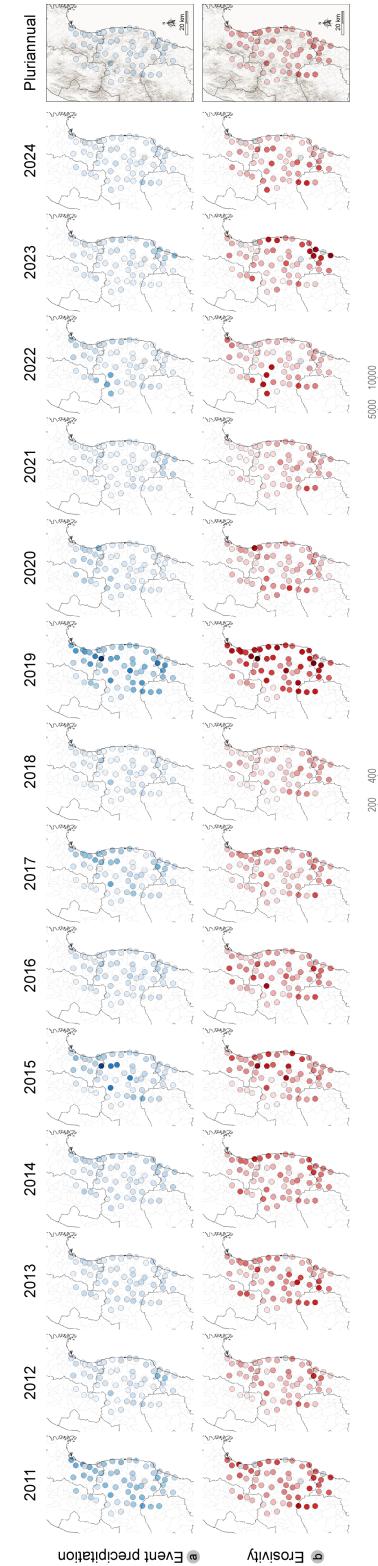


Figure 9. Annual records and pluviannual median values of the single most erosive event (a) related precipitation and (b) rainfall erosivity over the period 2011-2024 across the 58 weather stations located within a 110-km radius region around FDNPP.



where they were recorded were located in the southern area (i.e., Nasukougen, Kawauchi). For both the single most and the three most erosive events, in 2019, the Hippo station recorded the absolute maximum erosivity of the entire period, reaching 355 $13,690 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ (594 mm) and $15,761 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ (860 mm), respectively (Fig. 8.b and 9.b).

4 Discussion

4.1 Magnitude and annual variability of precipitation and erosivity

At the annual scale, precipitation and rainfall erosivity exhibited significant interannual variability throughout the study period (2011-2024). Across the 110 km radius region around the FDNPP distributed among the eastern part of Fukushima Prefecture, 360 the southern part of Yamagata and Miyagi Prefectures, and the northern part of Tochigi and Ibaraki Prefectures, the median and mean annual precipitation across the 58 stations ranged from $1,119$ to $1,581 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$, which is consistent with the regional climatology of the Tōhoku region (Kim et al., 2010; Duan et al., 2015; Laceby et al., 2016a). However, the 2011-2024 annual mean ($1,360 \pm 301 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$) was about 4 % lower than the long-term mean reported by (Laceby et al., 2016a) for 1979-2015 (1,420 $\pm 235 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$).

365 Rainfall erosivity displayed comparatively larger variability than precipitation, with median annual values ranging from $1,908$ to $6,159 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$, which was consistent with ranges of values reported by previous studies. Shiono et al. (2013) modelled a mean annual range of $2,500$ - $7,500 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$, while Yamaguchi et al. (2014) and Laceby et al. (2016a) reported values comprised between $1,866$ - $7,159 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ and $1,986$ - $4,217 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$, respectively. However, the mean annual erosivity over 2011-2024 ($3,881 \pm 2,320 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) exceeded previous estimates of Yamaguchi et al. (2014) by 15 % over 2001-2011 ($3,366 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$; 23 stations) and by 370 5 % Laceby et al. (2016a) over 1995-2015 ($3,696 \pm 1,327 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$; 42 stations), despite the fact that similar areas were considered in these investigations. Yoshimura et al. (2015), estimated rainfall erosivity between July 2011 and November 2012 across four sites in Kawamata Town (Fukushima Pref., central-west part) as ranging between $2,783$ - $4,107 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$, which is consistent with annual total values recorded in 2011 and 2012 (median: $3,884$ [2,341-385 5,556] and $3,303$ [2,531-4,049] $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$; mean: $4,150 \pm 2,326$ and $2,308 \pm 1,903 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$). This result is consistent with that of previous works, as both rainfall and erosivity were shown to exhibit strong interannual fluctuations, as indicated by large SD or IQR values (Shiono et al., 2013; Laceby et al., 2016a). In this context, the use of median values thus provide a more robust representation than mean values, as they are less sensitive to skewed distributions. Nonetheless, some increase in total cumulated values likely reflects the growing influence of recent high-intensity events, increasing annual total values during the most recent period (e.g. 2015 and 2019).

385 These observations align with climate projections for Tōhoku region, and broader Japan, showing the occurrence of a climatic transition from humid continental (Dfa/Dfb) to humid subtropical (Cfa) conditions (Beck et al., 2018). Future projections indicate a slight decrease in mean annual precipitation in the coming decades (Kim et al., 2010; Hatsuzuka and Sato, 2019). However, both interannual variability and the intensity of high-precipitation events are expected to increase (Shiono et al.,



2013; Duan et al., 2015; Kawase et al., 2023; Suzuki et al., 2024). Although most projections show a decrease in monthly total precipitation and a lower frequency of extreme events, an increase in their cumulative precipitation is projected (Hatsuzuka and Sato, 2019; Kawase et al., 2023; Suzuki et al., 2024). Consequently, annual total precipitation or rainfall erosivity are likely becoming metrics that are less representative of the hydrological situation, as interannual variability and contrasts are becoming less driven by total precipitation and are instead becoming increasingly controlled by the frequency and characteristics of extreme precipitation events.

4.2 Seasonal concentration of precipitation and erosivity

Precipitation and rainfall erosivity were strongly concentrated in the summer months, from June to October, which were statistically distinct from the rest of the year. This was mainly observed because of the frequent occurrence of extreme events such as typhoons generating a high rainfall volume with a high erosivity during these months. Within this period, two subgroups could be distinguished: (i) the core typhoon season (July-September), accumulating most of the seasonal rainfall and erosivity, and (ii) the transition months (June and October), characterised by generally lower total rainfall although being occasionally characterised by the occurrence of heavy events (e.g. October 2019).

During these five months, a median of 16 erosive events occurred each year, representing about 61 % of the annual number of events. Although the event frequency was weakly related to total seasonal precipitation ($r^2 = 0.48$) or total rainfall erosivity ($r^2 = 0.18$), these events contributed disproportionately to annual erosivity values, accounting in median for 86 % (range: 70-93 %) of annual rainfall erosivity and, more moderately, for 46 % (range: 37-59 %) of annual precipitation. However, when considering all precipitation occurring during the season, the season contribution to the annual total reached 61 % (range: 50-76 %), among which precipitation associated with erosive events represented 76 % (range: 72-81 %) of seasonal precipitation. These results were consistent with those of Laceby et al. (2016a), who reported similar seasonal contributions (86 % of annual erosivity and 60 % of total precipitation) for the 1995-2015 period. In agreement with these results, correlations between total annual precipitation and erosivity were low ($r^2 = 0.39$ in Laceby et al., 2016a; $r^2 = 0.47$ in this study), although they increased significantly when restricted to precipitation associated with erosive events at the annual scale ($r^2 = 0.61$) or when considering the typhoon season only ($r^2 = 0.62-0.63$). This reinforces the importance of considering event-related and/or seasonal precipitation when estimating rainfall erosivity in regions dominated by extreme precipitation dynamics such as that of Fukushima Prefecture.

Furthermore, the typhoon season showed a substantial interannual variability associated with rainfall erosivity and precipitation, with median seasonal erosivity ranging from 1,560 to 5,681 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ and precipitation ranging from 640 to 1,075 mm or from 464 to 868 mm when considering event-related precipitation only. These ranges were consistent with the seasonal erosivity estimates provided by Shiono et al. (2013) for June-August and September-November (each 1,000-2,500 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹; cumulative 2,000-5,000 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹). Projections by the same authors for 2031-2050 suggest increases of 0-50 % in summer and 50-100 % in autumn erosivity, which are already comparable to those recorded during several recent years showing local maxima of about 11,000 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ (2011, 2015, 2016, 2023), although these remained



420 below the 2019 maximum of 17,244 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹. Comparisons with other studies remain limited, as most studies have focused on annual (Yamaguchi et al., 2014; Laceby et al., 2016a), monthly (Hatsuzuka and Sato, 2019; Suzuki et al., 2024), periodic (Yoshimura et al., 2015), or event scales (Chartin et al., 2017; Loa and Kawagoe, 2021).

4.3 Extreme erosive event dominance

Within the typhoon season, a large proportion of rainfall erosivity originated from a limited number of high-intensity events. 425 Over the 2011-2024 period, the three most erosive events of each typhoon season accounted for a median of 67 % (range: 53-76 %) of the seasonal rainfall erosivity and 55 % of the total annual values, with interannual variations ranging from 36 % to 68 %. These events cumulatively generated a median rainfall erosivity of 1,753 [1,106-2,744] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ (mean = 430 2,208 ± 1,704 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹) and precipitation of 224 [170-305] mm (mean = 247 ± 113 mm), corresponding to about 17 % of the annual precipitation. When considering the single most erosive event of each season only, its median contribution reached 35 % (range: 26-51 %) of the typhoon-season total and 28 % (range: 10-37 %) of annual rainfall erosivity, with a median erosivity of 912 [518-1,602] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ and a mean of 1,287 ± 1,243 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹. In terms of rainfall, this dominant event accounted for about 8 % of annual precipitation (median = 94 [58-156] mm; mean = 118 ± 83 mm).

These contributions were consistent with those previously reported in the region. Laceby et al. (2016a) calculated that major tropical cyclones contributed 40 % of the annual rainfall erosivity (mean = 1,462 ± 637 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹) and 22 % of the 435 annual precipitation (mean = 422 mm) between 1995 and 2015. The slightly higher contributions to annual erosivity found in the current research for the most erosive events likely result from the higher values observed between 2015 and 2024 as well as from potential methodological differences, as our approach identified events statistically among all erosive rainfall events rather than focusing exclusively on tropical cyclones. This broader definition allows the inclusion of intense events that did not coincide with typhoon events that may occasionally generate comparable rainfall erosivity levels.

440

Nonetheless, the magnitude of the most erosive events identified in the current study aligns well with previous estimates for individual typhoons. Chartin et al. (2017) reported rainfall erosivity values for the main typhoon of each year between 2011 and 445 2015. The mean erosivities reported by Chartin et al. (2017) for the Roke typhoon in 2011 (ID-1105) (1,695 ± 1,066 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹, 39 stations) and the Etau typhoon in 2015 (ID-1518) (1,581 ± 1,577 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹, 40 stations) were comparable to the values obtained here for the most erosive events of the same years (2011: 1,929 ± 1,098 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹, 53 stations; 2015: 1,617 ± 1,449 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹, 58 stations). Loa and Kawagoe (2021) investigated Typhoon Hagibis in 2019 (ID-1919) using 60 min precipitation data, and reported mean values of 2,354 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ within the Abukuma catchment and local maxima exceeding 10,000 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹ in its northern part, which remains in the same range of values as the mean value calculated over the entire region (3,135 ± 2,297 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹) and which is consistent with the local 450 maximum measured at Hippo station (13,690 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹), close to the northern part of the Abukuma catchment.

In contrast, the mean erosivity values reported by Chartin et al. (2017) for the main events that occurred in 2012 (Jelawat) and 2013 (Wipha & Francisco; ID-1326) (262 ± 197 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹, 36 stations; and 549 ± 317 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹, 39 stations) were significantly lower than those obtained in the current research (928 ± 707 and 1,311 ± 854 MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹).



For 2014, which included two major typhoons (Phanfone & Vongfong; ID-1418 and 1419), Chartin et al. (2017) reported
455 cumulative mean erosivity values ($1,034 \pm 759 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$, 40 stations) slightly lower although remaining within the standard deviation of the corresponding most erosive events identified here ($1,198 \pm 670 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$, 58 stations). These differences likely reflect methodological differences in the identification of dominant erosive events, particularly during years characterised by high spatial variability or by the occurrence of multiple events of similar intensity. In this study, the primary objective was to assess major interannual trends and similarities, and to compare the relevance of annual versus seasonal scales
460 for deriving representative erosivity metrics. Nevertheless, a more detailed characterisation of the succession of erosive events within each year, and at the regional scale, would be also valuable. Such an approach, however, presents methodological challenges, since individual events do not start simultaneously across the entire study area and may differ substantially in spatial extent and intensity, as highlighted on multiple occasions throughout this work. In addition, while typhoons were often highlighted and studied other precipitation events, such as low-pressure events or linear precipitation bands (線状降水帶 - senjo
465 kousuitai in Japanese), were also reported to generate exceptionally high cumulative precipitation (JMA, 2025). However, these events are less reported as international level although being listed (<https://www.bousai-top.com/>, in Japanese) and studied in Japan (Nishii). Therefore, developing an approach without any preconceptions about the nature of the event could be appropriate.

470 The years 2011 and 2019 consistently emerged as the most erosive of the study period, with 2019 standing out across all metrics, with the occurrence of typhoon Roke and Hagibis. Although 2015 appeared less remarkable when considering annual or seasonal total precipitation, its most erosive event (Etau), showed statistical similarities with those of 2011 and 2019. In the literature, these three events were often reported as the most impactful during the period since Fukushima accident (Chartin et al., 2017; Evrard et al., 2020; Vandromme et al., 2023; Chalaux-Clergue et al., 2024b). Notably, during each of these years,
475 the most erosive event alone accounted for 46-48 % of the seasonal erosivity and 44 % (2011 and 2019) to 38 % (2015) of the annual total values, whereas in other years, the most erosive events typically contributed 26-35 % of the seasonal and 24-30 % of the annual erosivity. This recurrent pattern, where a single event dominates the seasonal erosivity with a similar relative magnitude despite contrasting seasonal or annual total values, highlight the similarities of these exceptional typhoons.

480 Nevertheless, the use of the R-factor or EI_{30} , presents limitations, particularly with regard to its direct relationship with river sediment transport in steep, mountainous environments, such as those found in Japan, which differ significantly from the conditions in which it was developed (Wischmeier and Smith, 1958). Although the R-factor was developed to reflect the impact of erosive rainfall on sheet and rill erosion on hillslopes, it was not directly designed to account for complex processes such as gully erosion and mass movement events (e.g. landslides and debris flows), which occur in the Fukushima region
485 (Vandromme et al., 2023). Consequently, although the R-factor and EI_{30} allow comparison between events or periods, their direct use to characterise the soil erosion and sediment transport in such steep and geomorphologically active regions requires careful consideration and necessitates complementary modelling approaches.



4.4 Implication for sediment and ^{137}Cs dynamics

The river systems draining the eastern part of Fukushima Prefecture have demonstrated their strong reactivity to intense rainfall events (Chartin et al., 2013; Evrard et al., 2014, 2020). Since 2011, sediment and ^{137}Cs transfers in this region have mainly occurred during a limited number of events, corresponding mainly to tropical storms and typhoons (Osawa et al., 2018; Yamashiki et al., 2014; Kitamura et al., 2016), that exceeded regional erosivity thresholds was estimated to range between 60 and 100 mm (Evrard et al., 2014). These major events were identified as the main drivers of most of the annual sediment and radiocesium exports (Yamashiki et al., 2014; Sakaguchi et al., 2015; Iwagami et al., 2017; Osawa et al., 2018). According to the intensity of the events and generated runoff volumes, the eroded material can be temporary stored within the river system and remobilised by the following events (Golosov et al., 2022). Strong erosive rainfall events were also shown to generate a high sediment connectivity pattern across the landscape, which may occasionally connect regions that are distant from the river system (Chartin et al., 2017), such as forested land that may supply a perennial source of contaminated material to river systems (Laceby et al., 2016b; Huon et al., 2018; Chalaux-Clergue et al., 2024b). However, not all extreme events necessarily lead to high ^{137}Cs exports. Deep-rill or gully erosion may predominantly mobilise subsurface layers that are less contaminated than the topsoil as they were sheltered from the initial atmospheric radioactive fallout (Oda et al., 2022; Vandromme et al., 2023). In addition, seasonal factors such as the density of the vegetation cover or the soil antecedent moisture may modulate erosion intensity, with typhoons occurring during full canopy conditions being less erosive than those occurring during early spring or late in autumn (Yoshimura et al., 2015). Nevertheless, since few extreme events occur in the late-autumn or winter months, the risk of severe contamination transfers through erosion outside of the typhoon season appears to remain limited.

Over the longer term, the supply of contaminated sediment to river systems has gradually decreased due to past successive erosive exports or decontamination and, to a lesser extent following the physical decay of ^{137}Cs , reducing the inventory of potential contaminated material (Osawa et al., 2018; Taniguchi et al., 2019). In parallel, the large-scale decontamination of farmland has removed contaminated material from locations that are highly connected to the river system (Chartin et al., 2017; Vandromme et al., 2023). Accordingly, the ^{137}Cs activity measured in river sediments continuously decreased by 90 % between 2011 and 2020 (Yoshimura et al., 2015; Taniguchi et al., 2019; Evrard et al., 2020). Nonetheless, according to Ueda et al. (2021), only a limited proportion of the initial ^{137}Cs deposited has been flushed away to the Pacific Ocean through the rivers by 2021. In fact, 12 years after the accident, about 67 % of the initial ^{137}Cs was still stored under forests, which cover about 80 % of landscapes in the region (Onda et al., 2020; Vandromme et al., 2023). As a consequence, forests may act as persistent source of ^{137}Cs intermittently supplying contaminated material during intense storms to river systems (Huon et al., 2018; Vandromme et al., 2023; Chalaux-Clergue et al., 2024b). In addition, under the increased occurrence of extreme events, the evolution of water reservoir dam management practices may impact the sediment accumulation and their downstream propagation (Chalaux-Clergue et al., 2024b; Hazet et al., 2025). For instance, as discussed in Chalaux-Clergue et al. (2024b), large water releases during the 2015 and 2019 events observed at the Mano Dam Reservoir, likely reduced reservoir sediment trapping efficiency during such events, and likely facilitated the downstream export of both sediment and ^{137}Cs .



Projected changes in regional climate will likely impact sediment and contaminant dynamics across the landscape. As discussed earlier, fewer but more intense rainfall events are expected to occur in the coming decades (Hatsuzuka and Sato, 2019; Kawase et al., 2023; Suzuki et al., 2024). This may modify sediment residence times and release along the river system and 525 sediment connectivity across landscapes. The combination of increasing erosivity and longer dry periods could also favour slope destabilization, wildfires, or drought-induced soil degradation, which may then enhance the potential for contaminated sediment mobilisation during erosive events (Evrard et al., 2023). These evolving conditions underline the importance of maintaining long-term sediment and river monitoring, and integrating event-scale variability into risk assessments for contaminated catchments.

530

Finally, the precipitation and rainfall erosivity datasets produced in this study provide an updated characterisation of precipitation and erosivity metrics around the FDNPP area over the 2011 to 2024 period. This could support future research on sediment and ^{137}Cs transfers in the Fukushima region. Following the approach of Laceby et al. (2016a), this dataset could be 535 used to generate annual, monthly and event-scale *R*-factor maps through spatial interpolation at the regional scale, which could then provide an improved basis for modelling studies of sediment and radiocesium dynamics. The datasets are freely available on Zenodo. However, given the complex mountainous context of the region, with a pronounced topographic variability, spatial interpolation of point-based station data is complex and may present limitations (e.g., R^2 ranging from 0.56-0.86 in Laceby et al., 2016a and 0.83-0.95 in Chartin et al., 2017) (Page et al., 2022). In this context, the increasing accessibility of radar-based 540 precipitation products, which, currently offers spatial resolutions down to 1 km^2 and temporal resolutions of 5 min, along with weather station data, offers promising perspectives to enhance such analyses (Turini et al., 2021; Cremonini et al., 2023; Palarz et al., 2024). These data would enable high-resolution, spatially explicit assessments of regional climatology (Fairman et al., 2015) and precipitation and rainfall erosivity patterns from event to annual scales (Auerswald et al., 2019).

5 Conclusions

The precipitation and rainfall erosivity were analysed within a 110 km radius region around the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear 545 Power Plant (FDNPP), using 10-minute precipitation data from 58 JMA weather stations covering the period from January 2011 to December 2024. Precipitation and erosivity dynamics were examined and compared at annual, monthly, and seasonal scales, and the characteristics of the uppermost and three most erosive events of each year were investigated.

The median annual precipitation amounted to 1318 mm, including a contribution of 917 mm from erosive events associated 550 with an erosivity of $3290 \text{ MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$, and marked with interannual variability. However, 61 % of erosive events (16 events) occurred between June and October, accounting for 46 % of annual precipitation (602 [474-749] mm) and 86 % of annual erosivity (2,698 [1,826-4,076] $\text{MJ mm ha}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$). The typhoon season (June-October) statistically stood out and appeared to be the most relevant temporal scale for conducting regional analyses of precipitation and rainfall erosivity ($r^2 = 0.62$) and should be preferred to the annual scale ($r^2 = 0.47$). However, at both annual and seasonal scales, considering only precipitation associated with erosive events also provided a consistent framework ($r^2 = 0.61$ and 0.63, respectively). Nevertheless, most of



555 the annual erosivity was generated by a limited number of events. The three most erosive events contributed, in median, 55 % of the annual total (1,753 [1,106-2,744] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹; 224 [170-305] mm), while the single most erosive event alone accounted for 28 % (912 [518-1,602] MJ mm ha⁻¹ h⁻¹; 94 [58-156] mm). Exceptional years, such as 2011, 2015, and 2019 were particularly dominated by a single event, which contributed up to 38-44 % of annual erosivity.

560 In over a decade since the accident, the region nearby the FDNPP has remained exposed to major erosive events, which continue to drive sediment and radiocesium redistribution. A more detailed characterisation of the spatial and temporal dynamics of these events, supported by spatially-distributed data, such radar-based rainfall products, should enhance our understanding of their local variability and impact. Ongoing climate change, which is likely to increase the intensity of extreme events and to raise disturbances, such as droughts and wildfires, could further increase soil disturbance and sediment transfers. This highlights the need for sustained observation and modelling at regional and event scales.

565 *Code and data availability.* Raw precipitation records from the 58 JMA weather stations used in this study, along with all derived datasets, are available on Zenodo (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17573969>) (Chalaux-Clergue et al., 2025)). The derived datasets include station-level (i) the characteristics of all identified rainfall erosive events, and (ii) station-level annual and pluriannual metrics, over annual, monthly, and typhoon season period, as well as metrics for the single most and the three most erosive events. The R Markdown (Rmd) file, encompassing the code for precipitation analysis, metric calculation, and plot generation, is available in the Supplement. The functions developed to 570 identify precipitation events and compute their specific characteristics (including start and end date-time, duration, cumulative precipitation, I_{30} , and EI_{30}) were compiled within the R package RainErosivity (version 1.1.0; Chalaux-Clergue, 2025). This package is freely accessible on GitHub (<https://github.com/tchalauxclergue/RainErosivity>) and has been archived on Zenodo (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14745960>).



Appendix A: Tables

Table A1. Annual summary of cumulative precipitation within a 110-km radius region around FDNPP over the period 2011-2024. Statistics are based on 10-min data from 58 weather stations (data from the Japanese Meteorological Agency). ‘25th’ and ‘75th’ indicate the 25th and 75th quantiles, respectively. ‘SD’ indicates standard deviation. Sign tests were performed on station-level values and ‘Sign test group’ indicates statistically undistinguishable groups with a *p* value ≥ 0.05 . Regional statistics were calculated using station-level values including all years aggregated.

Year	Number of station	Cumulative precipitation (mm)							Local minimum	Local maximum
		Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Sign test group	Name		
2011	53	1296	1136	1512	1362	311	a, b, f, i	Inawashiro	1006	Kaminoyamasakayama 2709
2012	57	1328	1165	1471	1349	290	a, b, f, i	Inawashiro	934	Nasukougen 2194
2013	57	1332	1177	1462	1342	222	a, b, f, g, i	Yanagawa	988	Nasukougen 1953
2014	58	1584	1382	1763	1608	295	c, e, g	Shiogama	1140	Hanazono 2502
2015	58	1334	1199	1520	1381	251	a, b, f, g, i	Kaminoyamasakayama	1015	Washikura 2234
2016	58	1294	1170	1432	1344	272	a, b, f, g, i	Yanagawa	988	Washikura 2639
2017	58	1318	1183	1445	1360	273	a, b, f, g, i	Yanagawa	970	Washikura 2611
2018	58	1119	1012	1293	1162	249	d, h	Yanagawa	757	Washikura 2068
2019	57	1424	1322	1654	1521	326	c, e, f, g	Kaminoyamasakayama	1122	Hanazono 2566
2020	57	1331	1216	1434	1365	273	a, b, e, f, g, i	Tamakawa	915	Washikura 2494
2021	57	1420	1261	1696	1490	320	b, c, e, f, g	Yanagawa	970	Washikura 2404
2022	54	1146	1071	1272	1220	270	d, h, i	Yanagawa	836	Washikura 2236
2023	54	1164	1025	1391	1198	265	d, h, i	Natori	684	Hanazono 1898
2024	54	1289	1138	1431	1312	274	a, b, f, h, i	Yanagawa	890	Washikura 2182
<i>Regional summary:</i>		1318	1148	1501	1360	301	-	-	-	-



Table A2. Annual summary of cumulative precipitation within a 110-km radius region around FDNPP over the period 2011-2024. Statistics are based on 10-min data from 58 weather stations (data from the Japanese Meteorological Agency). '25th' and '75th' indicate the 25th and 75th quantiles respectively, 'SD' indicates standard deviation. Sign tests were performed on station-level values and 'Sign test group' indicates statistically undistinguishable groups with a p value ≥ 0.05 . Number of months out of the theoretical maximum of 812. Regional statistics were calculated using station-level values with all years aggregated.

Month	Number of month	Cumulative precipitation (mm)											
		Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Sign test group	Local minimum		Local maximum			
								Name	Year	Name	Year		
January	789	43	18	76	55	46	a	Higashishirakawa	2019	0	Hanazono	2020	270
February	788	39	23	64	49	36	b	Hirono	2018	2	Hitachi	2014	188
March	792	86	54	130	94	54	c, d	Iwatama	2013	0	Hanazono	2018	380
April	791	96	70	128	105	48	c, d, e	Souma	2023	22	Hanazono	2013	377
May	791	99	74	138	111	60	d, e, i	Yanagawa	2013	18	Oonou	2012	536
June	795	122	80	178	137	75	f, i	Fukushima	2018	26	Washikura	2014	575
July	795	162	114	227	178	96	g	Taira	2016	15	Washikura	2020	622
August	795	133	90	212	159	102	h, i	Ishikawa	2012	10	Washikura	2016	932
September	795	170	123	238	191	98	g	Yamagata	2014	26	Hippo	2015	673
October	795	105	66	212	154	135	e, f, h, i	Souma	2015	0	Hippo	2019	902
November	795	58	36	83	65	42	j	Shiroishi	2020	0	Washikura	2023	250
December	779	49	27	82	62	51	j	Shirakawa	2020	0	Yonezawa	2014	366
<i>Regional summary:</i>		92	52	150	114	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Table A3. Annual summary of cumulative rainfall erosivity (EI₃₀ or R factor) within a 110-km radius region around FDNPP over the period 2011-2024. Statistics are based on 10-min data from 58 weather stations (data from Japanese Meteorological Agency). ‘25th’ and ‘75th’ indicate the 25th and 75th quantiles, respectively. ‘SD’ indicates standard deviation. Sign tests were performed on station-level values and ‘Sign test group’ indicates statistically undistinguishable groups with a *p* value ≥ 0.05 . Regional statistics were calculated using station-level values including all years aggregated.

Year	Number of year	Number of events				Cumulative precipitation (mm)				Cumulative erosivity (EI ₃₀ : MJ mm ha ⁻¹ h ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹)				Local minimum	Local maximum	Name	
		Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Sign test group					
2011	58	21	19	24	21	7	852	715	1055	887	323	3884	2341	5556	4150	2326	a, b, c, d, e, f, i, j
2012	57	28	23	35	29	8	916	710	1104	935	324	303	2531	4049	3618	1903	a, b, c, d, e, f, g, j
2013	58	26	24	29	26	4	936	846	1063	966	153	4213	3319	5221	4458	1793	a, b, c, d, e, f, i
2014	58	30	27	33	30	4	1168	965	1409	1208	311	4446	2808	5731	4665	2087	a, b, c, d, f
2015	58	30	26	33	30	5	946	742	1180	978	271	388	2114	4615	3693	2112	Kiukata
2016	58	28	25	33	29	6	960	824	1104	992	261	3226	2386	4522	3705	1797	a, b, c, d, e, f, g, i, k
2017	58	26	23	29	26	4	926	832	1035	950	204	2718	2090	3586	3048	1287	b, e, f, g, h, j, k
2018	58	25	22	28	25	5	768	578	918	778	256	1908	1388	3392	2422	1356	g, h, k
2019	57	26	25	30	28	5	1068	912	1279	1116	329	6159	3970	8270	6633	3728	a, c, i
2020	57	26	22	29	26	4	896	797	1036	959	249	3191	2469	4091	3586	1595	a, b, c, d, e, f, g, j, k
2021	57	31	27	36	31	6	1006	850	1369	1094	338	295	1689	4879	3386	2101	a, b, e, f, g, j, k
2022	54	24	22	28	25	4	751	671	889	804	199	2597	2000	3498	3113	1879	e, f, g, h, j, k
2023	54	26	22	29	26	5	795	650	959	839	254	3081	2219	4860	4016	2843	a, b, c, d, e, f, g, j, k
2024	54	30	25	33	30	6	882	772	1042	930	227	3052	2184	5054	3644	1897	a, b, c, e, f, g, j, k
<i>Regional summary:</i>	27	23	23	31	27	6	917	768	1119	961	291	3290	2273	4947	3868	2327	-



Table A4. Monthly summary of cumulative rainfall erosivity (EI₃₀ or R-factor) within a 110-km radius region around FDNPP over the period 2011-2024. Statistics are based on 10-min data from 58 weather stations (data from the Japanese Meteorological Agency). ‘25th’ and ‘75th’ indicate the 25th and 75th quantiles, respectively. ‘SD’ indicates standard deviation. Sign tests were performed on station-level values and ‘Sign test group’ indicates statistically undistinguishable groups with a *p* value ≥ 0.05 . Number of months out of the theoretical maximum of 812. Regional statistics were calculated using station-level values with all years aggregated.

Month	Number of events						Cumulative precipitation (mm)						Cumulative erosivity (EI ₃₀ ; MJ mm ha ⁻¹ h ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹)						Local minimum					
	Number of month	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Sign test group	Name	Local minimum	Name	Year	Local maximum	Name	Year
January	428	1	1	2	1	1	39	21	62	48	35	22	11	51	76	184	a	Ishikawa	2013	1	Hanazono	2020	1680	
February	426	1	1	2	1	1	32	19	48	40	29	19	9	59	72	167	b	Kawachi	2023	1	Onahama	2021	1592	
March	640	2	2	4	3	1	68	42	110	80	51	54	24	131	112	157	c,d	Hibara	2017	1	Hanazono	2018	1266	
April	765	2	2	3	3	1	72	46	108	82	51	82	38	171	168	316	c,d,e	Iitate	2019	1	Taira	2013	5402	
May	769	2	1	3	2	1	67	43	100	80	56	94	50	212	209	344	d,e,j	Hibara	2020	5	Otsuwa	2012	3582	
June	773	3	2	4	3	2	87	48	140	104	73	196	75	474	358	459	f,j	Yanagawa	2018	4	Hanazono	2012	4512	
July	751	4	2	5	4	2	124	77	182	139	87	552	252	1020	761	736	g,i	Yumoto	2016	8	Shirakawa	2019	5021	
August	753	3	2	5	4	2	88	50	171	121	100	400	168	929	751	974	h,i	Natori	2011	7	Washikura	2016	10561	
September	787	4	3	5	4	2	140	88	207	159	99	525	234	1142	920	1171	g,h,i	Takahata	2014	8	Hitachi	2023	9286	
October	714	3	2	4	3	1	82	42	197	136	134	108	41	515	609	1359	e,f,j	Iwatama	2016	5	Hippo	2019	14894	
November	606	2	1	2	2	1	42	24	67	51	35	44	21	91	87	142	k	Washikura	2019	3	Yamada	2021	1463	
December	491	1	1	2	2	1	38	22	56	46	32	32	16	62	57	94	k	Inawashiro	2014	1	Taira	2021	894	
<i>Regional summary:</i>	2	1	4	3	2	1	71	39	127	97	85	114	37	411	390	768	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	



Table A5. Summary of typhoon season (June–October) cumulative precipitation and erosive related cumulative precipitation and erosivity (EI_{30}) and their median and mean relative contributions (in %) to annual total (in brackets) or to cumulated precipitation during the typhoon season (in parentheses) among the 58 weather stations located within the 110-km radius region around FDNPP over the period 2011–2024 (data from Japanese Meteorological Agency). '25th' and '75th' indicate the 25th and 75th quantiles respectively, 'SD' indicates standard deviation, 'Sign test group' indicates Sign test statistically undistinguishable groups (p value ≥ 0.05). Number of station out of the 58 weather stations. Regional medians were statistics from station-level values aggregated across all years.

Table A6. Summary of typhoon season (June–October) cumulative precipitation and erosivity related cumulative precipitation and erosivity (EI_{30}) relative contribution to monthly (in braces), seasonal (in parentheses), and annual (in brackets) total values among the 58 weather stations located within the 110-km radius region around FDNP over the period 2011–2024 (data from the Japanese Meteorological Agency).

Number of events	Seasonal cumulative precipitation (mm)						Cumulative precipitation (mm)						Cumulative erosivity (E _{ER} , MJ mm ha ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹)						
	Number of events			SD			Median			25 th -75 th Mean			SD			Median			
	Month	Median	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD
Erosive events																			
July	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
August	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
September	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	4	120	171	113	171
October	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
November	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
December	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Recover events																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Local maximum																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Local minimum																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Name																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Name																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Name																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Name																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Name																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Name																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223	141	4	123	110	2	4	124	173	113	183	78
March	752	138	180	111	98	219	166	220	102	3	20	112	2	5	120	166	113	171	71
April	785	110	170	131	124	238	192	249	141	9	4	122	114	3	5	124	170	113	168
May	709	118	166	125	225	168	191	171	110	3	16	100	1	2	182	178	110	160	
June	146	119	111	98	217	170	215	121	3	270	172	2	5	240	320	172	183	107	
Name																			
January	771	125	816	116	101	80	130	74	3	18	100	2	4	38	72	117	141	48	104
February	799	166	210	121	122	232	186	223											

Table A7. Summary of median erosivity (El_{30}) of the typhoon season (June–October) erosive events ranked according to their intensity along with their relative contribution to seasonal (in parentheses) and annual (in brackets) total values among the 58 weather stations located within the 110-km radius region around FDNPP over the period 2011–2024 (data from Japanese Meteorological Agency). Regional statistics were calculated using station-level values all years aggregated.



Table A8. Annual summary of median cumulative precipitation of the typhoon season (June–October) erosive events, ranked by their erosivity intensity (EI₃₀). Relative contributions to erosive events (in braces), seasonal (in parentheses) and annual (in brackets) total values are shown. Statistics are based on data from 58 weather stations within a 110 km radius region around the FDNPP over the period 2011–2024 (data from the Japanese Meteorological Agency). Regional medians were calculated from station-level values aggregated across all years.

Year	Median rank of events	Relative typhoon season erosive events cumulative precipitation (mm)												n
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
2011	13	228 (10)	62 (10)	39 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	24 (4)	24 (3)	24 (2)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	17 (2)
2012	13	203 (10)	56 (10)	44 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	30 (3)	30 (2)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	17 (2)
2013	13	80 (10)	75 (11)	43 (10)	30 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	30 (3)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	17 (2)
2014	13	111 (10)	56 (11)	43 (10)	30 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	30 (3)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	17 (2)
2015	13	131 (10)	78 (12)	43 (10)	30 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	30 (3)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	17 (2)
2016	18	91 (10)	67 (10)	60 (11)	43 (10)	40 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
2017	19	126 (10)	57 (11)	43 (10)	30 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	30 (3)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
2018	14	85 (10)	64 (10)	54 (11)	43 (10)	44 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
2019	19	200 (10)	59 (11)	43 (10)	30 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	30 (3)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
2020	17	82 (10)	45 (10)	39 (11)	43 (10)	42 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
2021	19	49 (10)	41 (10)	46 (11)	43 (10)	34 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
2022	13	77 (10)	100 (10)	52 (12)	36 (8)	52 (10)	36 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
2023	16	72 (10)	45 (10)	58 (11)	43 (10)	43 (8)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
2024	16	30 (10)	45 (10)	46 (11)	44 (10)	48 (10)	30 (7)	30 (6)	30 (5)	30 (4)	20 (1)	20 (1)	20 (1)	16 (2)
Regional medians														0 (16)
Annual medians														0 (16)



Table A9. Annual summary of the three most erosive events that occurred during the typhoon season (June–October) within a 110 km radius region around the FDNNP over the period 2011–2024. Relative contributions to erosive events (in braces), seasonal (in parentheses) and annual (in brackets) total values are shown. Statistics are based on data from 58 weather stations (data from the Japanese Meteorological Agency). Regional medians were calculated from station-level values aggregated across all years. Sign test were performed on station-level values.

Year	Number of station	Cumulative precipitation (mm)						Cumulative erosivity (E _{Ag} ; MJ mm ha ⁻¹ h ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹)						Local minimum						Local maximum					
		Sign test group			Sign test group			Sign test group			Sign test group			Sign test group			Sign test group			Sign test group			Sign test group		
		Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean
2011	53	336 [53]	(53) [26]	308 [36]	396 [52]	347 [55]	(55) [43]	202 [45]	238 [43]	70 [15]	a [70]	b, e, f, h, i, j, k [26]	2788 [67]	(77) [67]	1779 [67]	3673 [67]	2897 [67]	(76) [67]	1316 [67]	a, c, d, g, k [67]	Hibara [67]	302 [66]	Nasukogen [66]	534 [688]	
2012	57	184 [45]	(42) [14]	156 [23]	238 [28]	207 [20]	(27) [28]	243 [35]	334 [34]	50 [18]	b, e, f, h, i, j, k [15]	1465 [68]	(68) [48]	1193 [68]	2058 [69]	1683 [69]	(48) [48]	903 [69]	b, c, d, e, h, i, j, k [60]	Kaminoyamakasyama [60]	61 [59]	Hamazono [59]	392 [539]		
2013	57	234 [35]	(35) [19]	207 [19]	278 [20]	243 [35]	(34) [18]	50 [18]	c, d, e, f, g, i, j, k [18]	2110 [62]	(62) [54]	1453 [62]	3004 [60]	2438 [60]	(54) [54]	1273 [60]	a, b, c, d, e, h, i, j, k [60]	Kitsukata [60]	342 [59]	Ishikawa [59]	6232 [6232]				
2014	58	269 [39]	(38) [17]	232 [38]	323 [39]	280 [39]	(38) [18]	72 [18]	c, d, e, f, g, i, j, k [18]	2088 [60]	(60) [49]	1598 [60]	2066 [62]	2311 [62]	(51) [51]	1019 [62]	a, b, c, d, j, k [62]	Shinichi [62]	219 [84]	Shinichi [84]	424 [424]				
2015	58	252 [48]	(46) [19]	192 [19]	343 [20]	281 [49]	(48) [20]	137 [19]	b, c, d, e, f, g, i, k [19]	2118 [79]	(79) [65]	1367 [79]	2938 [64]	2495 [77]	(77) [64]	1881 [64]	a, b, c, d, e, h, i, k [64]	Kawachi [64]	104 [295]	Kawachi [295]	664 [959]				
2016	58	213 [36]	(35) [17]	192 [28]	280 [24]	242 [37]	(36) [18]	80 [18]	b, c, d, e, f, g, i, j [18]	2018 [64]	(64) [58]	1232 [64]	2643 [66]	2231 [66]	(59) [59]	1323 [66]	a, b, c, d, e, h, i, k [66]	Hibara [66]	176 [537]	Washikura [537]	628 [8355]				
2017	58	262 [39]	(38) [21]	215 [37]	337 [28]	278 [40]	(38) [21]	87 [21]	c, d, e, f, g, i, j, k [21]	1502 [63]	(63) [58]	1038 [63]	2278 [61]	1732 [61]	(61) [56]	861 [61]	b, c, e, f, h, i, k [61]	Yanagawa [61]	179 [424]	Otawara [424]	322 [4123]				
2018	58	158 [38]	(36) [14]	117 [16]	196 [168]	168 [38]	(37) [14]	70 [14]	b, h, i, j, k [14]	1066 [65]	(65) [50]	673 [65]	1226 [65]	1226 [50]	(50) [730]	e, f, h, i, j [50]	Wakamatsu [50]	63 [231]	Furudono [231]	270 [2836]					
2019	57	410 [48]	(47) [27]	330 [51]	518 [426]	426 [49]	(48) [28]	148 [14]	a [14]	4468 [76]	(76) [68]	2541 [76]	6009 [69]	4753 [75]	(75) [69]	3003 [69]	a, g [69]	Hibara [69]	202 [551]	Hippo [551]	860 [15761]				
2020	57	196 [36]	(36) [16]	156 [258]	221 [38]	221 [37]	(37) [16]	88 [16]	b, c, d, e, f, h, i, j, k [16]	1421 [66]	(66) [59]	1058 [66]	2093 [65]	1758 [65]	(65) [48]	1095 [65]	b, c, e, f, h, i, j, k [65]	Hitachi [65]	126 [538]	Shinichi [538]	563 [7189]				
2021	57	164 [28]	(27) [11]	126 [208]	208 [170]	229 [28]	(28) [11]	60 [11]	b, h, i, j, k [11]	976 [53]	(53) [36]	622 [53]	1606 [55]	1204 [55]	(55) [38]	807 [55]	b, f, h, i, j, k [55]	Yanagawa [55]	134 [322]	Kuroen [322]	224 [4321]				
2022	54	199 [42]	(41) [17]	162 [264]	222 [100]	144 [42]	(18) [18]	100 [18]	b, c, f, h, i, j, k [18]	1336 [66]	(66) [51]	1005 [66]	2136 [67]	1878 [67]	(67) [56]	1551 [67]	b, c, d, e, f, h, i, j, k [67]	Wakamatsu [67]	57 [305]	Nihonmatsu [305]	310 [6876]				
2023	54	190 [35]	(34) [15]	126 [234]	207 [177]	136 [37]	(36) [17]	109 [17]	b, c, e, f, h, i, j, k [17]	1830 [68]	(68) [57]	1046 [68]	3089 [66]	2485 [66]	(66) [58]	2204 [66]	a, b, c, d, e, h, i, j, k [66]	Hiuchi [66]	46 [261]	Hiuchi [261]	550 [10134]				
2024	54	159 [36]	(35) [13]	134 [209]	209 [174]	136 [35]	(35) [13]	55 [13]	b, h, i, j, k [13]	1442 [65]	(65) [51]	1114 [65]	2290 [65]	1873 [65]	(65) [52]	1116 [65]	a, b, c, d, e, h, i, j, k [65]	Tomioka [65]	89 [542]	Kuroen [542]	287 [5260]				
<i>Regional summary:</i>		234 [40]	(38) [17]	170 [305]	247 [41]	(39) [18]	-	-	-	1753 [67]	(67) [55]	1106 [67]	2744 [66]	2208 [66]	(66) [55]	1704 [66]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Table A10. Annual summary of the most erosive event that occurred during the typhoon season (June-October) within a 110 km radius region around the FDNNP over the period 2011-2024. Relative contributions to erosive events (in braces), seasonal (in parentheses) and annual (in brackets) total values are shown. Statistics are based on data from 58 weather stations (data from the Japanese Meteorological Agency). Regional medians were calculated from station-level values aggregated across all years. Sign test were performed on station-level values.

Year	station	Cumulative precipitation (mm)						First leading typhoon season erosive event						Cumulative erosivity (E ₁₃₀ : MJ mm ha ⁻¹ h ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹)						Local minimum						Local maximum							
		Median		25 th		75 th		Mean		Median		25 th		75 th		Mean		SD		Sign test group		Name		Prec.		E ₁₃₀		Name		Prec.		E ₁₃₀	
		Number	station	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Sign test group	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Sign test group	Median	25 th	75 th	Mean	SD	Sign test group	Name	Prec.	E ₁₃₀	Name	Prec.	E ₁₃₀	Name	Prec.	E ₁₃₀			
2011	53	226	(33)	(32)	[15]	158	258	209	(33)	(32)	[16]	71	a	1643	(48)	(44)	1149	2562	1929	(50)	[44]	1098	a, d, g, i	Hihara	65	417	Natori	336	5580				
2012	57	80	(19)	(18)	[7]	46	122	91	(19)	(18)	[6]	55	b, c, d, f, h, i, j, k, l, m	733	(35)	(25)	522	1098	928	(37)	[25]	707	b, c, d, e, f, i	Kaminoyamakayama	19	132	Hanazono	285	4413				
2013	57	89	(14)	(13)	[8]	68	121	95	(13)	(13)	[7]	36	b, c, d, e, f, g, i, j, k, l, m	978	(29)	(27)	643	1671	1311	(32)	[29]	854	b, c, d, e, i	Kiakata	56	213	Ouawara	122	3754				
2014	58	111	(16)	(15)	[7]	91	151	117	(17)	(16)	[7]	43	b, c, d, e, f, g, i, k, l	1088	(28)	(24)	744	1442	1198	(32)	[27]	670	b, c, d, e, i	Iitate	96	313	Shineji	168	5337				
2015	58	131	(25)	(24)	[10]	100	166	158	(27)	(26)	[11]	114	c, d, e, f, g, i	1350	(46)	(38)	761	1896	1617	(49)	[40]	1449	a, b, c, d, e, i	Kiakata	60	141	Hippo	572	8941				
2016	58	91	(16)	(15)	[7]	74	122	99	(15)	(15)	[7]	34	b, c, d, e, f, g, i, k, l, m	1044	(34)	(30)	609	1569	1166	(35)	[31]	663	b, c, d, e, i	Hihara	65	274	Washikura	120	3238				
2017	58	136	(22)	(20)	[11]	63	218	141	(20)	(19)	[10]	83	c, d, e, f, g, i, k, l, m	820	(31)	(29)	466	1347	980	(34)	[31]	632	b, c, d, e, f, h, i	Yanagawa	25	149	Souma	240	2736				
2018	58	55	(15)	(14)	[5]	41	82	66	(15)	(14)	[6]	40	b, h, j, k, l, m	519	(32)	(24)	310	848	629	(33)	[26]	422	b, c, f, h, i	Hihara	34	100	Kuroen	66	1766				
2019	57	241	(29)	(29)	[16]	193	302	250	(29)	(28)	[16]	107	a	2968	(48)	(44)	1545	3926	3135	(49)	[46]	297	a, g	Hihara	66	207	Hippo	594	13690				
2020	57	82	(15)	(15)	[6]	58	127	97	(17)	(16)	[7]	53	b, c, d, f, g, i, k, l, m	757	(34)	(25)	554	1254	997	(35)	[27]	873	b, c, d, e, f, h, i	Hitachi	47	201	Shinchi	264	5968				
2021	57	49	(9)	(9)	[4]	35	72	64	(10)	(10)	[4]	45	b, c, h, j, k, l, m	461	(26)	(17)	349	810	598	(28)	[19]	428	e, f, h, i	Shiroishi	55	121	Ouawara	82	2174				
2022	54	77	(16)	(16)	[7]	48	136	101	(19)	(19)	[8]	71	b, c, d, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m	632	(33)	(27)	439	1192	1099	(37)	[31]	1448	b, c, d, e, f, h, i	Wakanatsu	21	133	Kiakata	276	4660				
2023	54	72	(16)	(15)	[7]	50	94	88	(16)	(15)	[7]	56	b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m	926	(31)	(27)	444	1660	1464	(36)	[32]	1617	a, b, c, d, e, f, h, i	Kowan	16	96	Hitachi	282	7927				
2024	54	70	(15)	(15)	[6]	54	96	76	(16)	(15)	[6]	34	b, c, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m	845	(34)	(27)	523	1151	1014	(35)	[28]	695	b, c, d, e, f, h, i	Tomioka	26	246	Kiakata	108	3278				
Regional summary:		54	(17)	(16)	[7]	58	156	118	19	(18)	[8]	83	-	912	(35)	(28)	518	1602	1287	(37)	[31]	1243	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	



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