

**Gheorghe Kucsicsa**, *Institutul de Geografie al Academiei Române, București*

**Mihaela Năstase**, *Regia Națională a Pădurilor - Romsilva, Serviciul Ariei Protejate, București*

**The Vinderel Catchment – an area with special geomorphological particularities in the “Munții Maramureșului” Natural Park**

ABSTRACT

This paper presents a characterization of the main present-day geomorphological processes, influencing land degradation, from Vinderel Catchment, a mountain area with special physical-geographical particularities within the “Munții Maramureșului” Natural Park. In this area, due to the historical deforestations in the past and to current grazing, to climatic conditions and favourable rocks, large areas are associated with erosion processes. Near the upper limit of the forests, especially between 1 500 and 1 650 meters altitude, the erosion forms are affecting about 130 hectares, respectively 15% of the total study area.