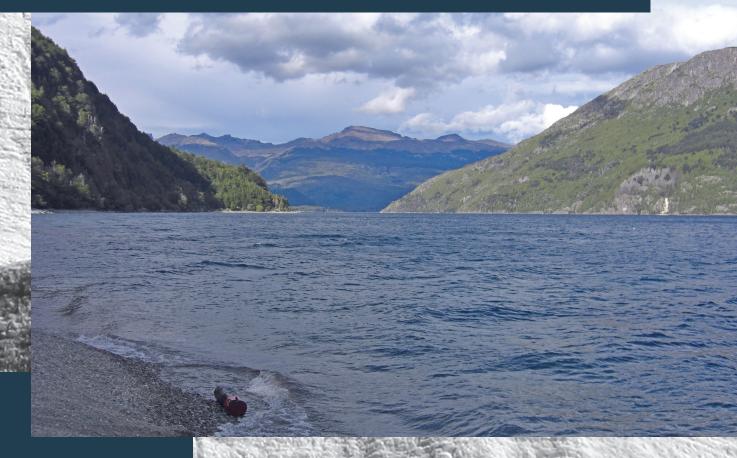
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Cover photo. Lake Futalaufquen, in Los Alerces National Park, is one of the most important lacustrine systems of glacial origin in Northern Patagonia, Argentina. The westerlies at these latitudes define a strong west—east precipitation gradient and transport ash clouds from the Southern Volcanic Zone. Given the lake's geographical location and limited human activities, the geochemical and mineralogical characterization of its sediments can reveal information about environmental processes during the last 1600 years in a region of great relevance for studying past climate. Photo: Marina Arcagni. (See the article by Daga et al., pages 1–18, in this issue.)