

## **Oct 20 @ 12: Reworking the Range: Applying historical sources, data, and methods to rangeland management**

### **Dr. Tim Paulson**

*Assistant Professor, Department of History & Sociology, Irving K. Barber School of Arts & Sciences, University of British Columbia - Okanagan Campus*

Range scientists, range managers, and others often set goals for animal and plant communities on working and formerly-grazed rangelands based on a historical understanding of what was and ought to be there, but there is usually very little detailed, site-specific evidence to support these baselines. How can we use historical records and historical research methods to support land management and planning? My research seeks to use diverse archival collections, privately-owned collections, oral history interviews, and other historical sources to track change in environmental and social indicators on rangelands from about 1800 to the present. I tabulate, narrate, and visualize these complex, inconsistent datasets to present longitudinal understanding of historical change at multiple scales. My coauthors and I have completed a pilot study in California that applied the method to assess specific models of ecological change and I am currently working towards a second phase in British Columbia.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/24694452.2020.1782168>