

**Jared Orsi**  
**Associate Professor of History**

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## **Education**

Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of California Humanities Research Center, 1999-2000.

Ph.D., History, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1999.

Major: American West and Environment.  
Minor: Latin America.  
Languages: Spanish.

M.A., History, Northwestern University, 1994.

A.B., History, University of California, Davis, 1992, highest honors.

## **Scholarship in Progress**

*Citizen Explorer: Zebulon Pike, Nature, and Nation in the Early Republic* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming, 2013).

“Construction and Contestation: A Dialectical Narrative of Borderlands History,” article manuscript on U.S.-Mexico borderlands historiography, for submission to *History Compass*.

*An Environmental and Administrative History of Quitobaquito Springs*, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, a report under contract with the National Park Service, submission date 2014.

*National Parks beyond the Nation*, with co-editor of book and co-author of introduction to an anthology to be submitted to University of Oklahoma Press, 2013.

## **Monograph**

*Hazardous Metropolis: Flooding and Urban Ecology in Los Angeles* (University of California Press, 2004). Winner of Abel Wolman Award (Public Works Historical Society, 2005) and Donald H. Pflueger Award (Historical Society of Southern California, 2006).

## Edited Volume

*Reclaiming the City: Water History in the Urban North American West*, a special issue of the *Journal of the West*, 44 (Summer 2005). (Guest editor and author of introduction).

## Articles and Chapters

“An Empire and Ecology of Liberty: The Western Expedition of Zebulon Pike 1806-07,” in *Zebulon Pike, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the West*, eds. Matthew L. Harris and Jay H. Buckley (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2012), 139-60.

“Zebulon Pike and His ‘Frozen Lads’: Bodies, Nationalism, and the West in the Early Republic,” *Western Historical Quarterly* 42 (Spring 2011): 55-75.

“State Making and Unmaking (and Making It Back at All): Following Zebulon Pike across the Plains in 1806,” in *The Grasslands of the United States: An Environmental History*, ed. James E. Sherow (Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio, 2007), 159-175.

“Reading with Pike: The Mystery of His Affection for James Wilkinson,” *Wagon Tracks* 21 (May 2007): 17-20.

“Reflections on Hurricanes and Other Unnatural Disasters,” *Colorado Water* (October 2005): 21-23.

“Flood Control Engineering in the Urban Ecosystem,” in *Land of Sunshine: An Environmental History of Metropolitan Los Angeles*, ed. William Deverell and Greg Hise (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2005), 135-51, 316-20.

“Invisible Rivers: The Struggle of Early American Explorers to Map Colorado’s Rivers,” in *Citizens Guide to Colorado’s Water Heritage*, ed. Karla A. Brown (Denver: Colorado Foundation for Water Education, 2004), 9-13.

“Restoring the Common to the Goose: Citizen Activism and Protection of the California Coastline, 1969-1982,” *Southern California Quarterly* 78 (Fall 1996): 257-84. Reprinted in Gordon Morris Bakken and Brenda Farrington, *Environmental Problems in America’s Garden of Eden* (New York: Garland Press, 2000).

“From Horicon to Hamburgers and Back Again: Ecology, Ideology, and Wildfowl Management, 1917-1935,” *Environmental History Review* 18 (Winter 1994): 19-40.

## Book Reviews

*How Local Politics Shape Federal Policy: Business, Power, and the Environment in Twentieth-Century Los Angeles*, by Sarah S. Elkind, *California History* 90 (2012).

*Cities and Nature in the American West*, ed. by Char Miller, *Western Historical Quarterly* 42 (Autumn 2011): 405-06.

“*To Spare no Pains*”: *Zebulon Montgomery Pike and His 1806-1807 Southwest Expedition*, ed. by Tim Blevins, et al., *Colorado Springs Gazette* (forthcoming, November 13, 2007).

*A Whole Country in Commotion: The Louisiana Purchase and the American Southwest*, ed. by Patrick G. Williams, et al., *New Mexico Historical Review* 82 (spring 2007): 281-82.

*The Journal of Patrick Gass*, by Carol Lynn MacGregor, and *Contested Empire: Peter Skene Ogden and the Snake River Expeditions*, by John Reid Phillips, *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly* 49 (Spring 2006): 55-57.

*Border Oasis: Water and the Political Ecology of the Colorado River Delta, 1940-1975*, by Evan R. Ward, *Environmental History* 9 (April 2004).

*Acting for Endangered Species: The Statutory Ark*, by Shannon Petersen, *Journal of American History* 90 (June 2003): 315-16.

*Río L.A.: Tales from the Los Angeles River*, by Patt Morrison, *Southern California Quarterly* 85 (Spring 2003): 280-81.

*The Bulldozer in the Countryside: Suburban Sprawl and the Rise of American Environmentalism*, by Adam Rome, *Journal of American History* 89 (September 2002): 718.

*Fluid Arguments: Five Centuries of Western Water Conflict*, ed. by Char Miller, *Western Historical Quarterly* 33 (Summer 2002): 217-18.

*The Los Angeles River: Its Life, Death, and Possible Rebirth*, by Blake Gumprecht, *Environmental History* 5 (July 2000): 421-22.

*Ecology of Fear: Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster*, by Mike Davis, H-Net Reviews in the Humanities & Social Sciences, <<http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~urban/>>, September 1998.

*Energy and the Making of Modern California*, by James C. Williams, *Technology and Culture* 38 (July 1997): 797-99.

*The Heart of John Muir's World: Wisconsin, Family, and Wilderness Discovery*, by Millie Stanley, *Wisconsin Magazine of History* 79 (Autumn 1995): 60-62.

## **University Teaching**

Colorado State University Courses

U.S. History Since 1876  
Latin America  
Latin America Since Independence  
Historical Methods  
United States, 1876- 1917  
U.S. Environmental History  
Mexico  
Borderlands (U.S.-Mexico)  
Colorado History  
Field Trip Course: On the Trail of Zebulon Pike  
Senior Capstone Seminar on the history of North American exploration  
Senior Capstone Seminar on the history of justice in the U.S.  
Senior Capstone Seminar on the history of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument  
Graduate Reading Seminar: United States to 1877  
Graduate Research Seminar: United States  
Freshman Seminar on the history of justice in the U.S.

#### Courses Taught at Other Universities

History of the L.A. River, distinguished visiting professor, Occidental College, 2009  
Environmental History, distinguished visiting professor, Occidental College, 2008

Mexican Revolution, visiting lecturer, University of Wisconsin-Madison, fall 1996  
California history, visiting lecturer, California State University, Hayward, summer 1995

#### Teaching Assistantships

Environmental History (University of Wisconsin-Madison, spring 1996)  
U.S. History, to 1865 (Northwestern University, fall 1993)  
U.S. History, since 1865 (Northwestern University, spring 1994)

### **Research Grants and Fellowships**

“Administrative History/Environmental History of Quitobaquito, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument,” National Park Service and Organization of American History, 2013-2014.  
Colorado State University Professional Development Grant, Fall 2011.  
Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, John Topham and Susan Redd Buttler Faculty Award, 2007.  
Colorado State University Professional Development Grant, 2007.  
Colorado State University, Academic Enrichment Program stipend, 2006.  
Huntington Library, Los Angeles Corral of Westerners and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Research Fellowship, Summer 2005.  
Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, John Topham and Susan Redd Buttler Faculty Award, 2005.  
Santa Fe Trail Association Scholarly Research Grant, 2005.  
Colorado State University Professional Development Grant, 2005.  
Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Independent Research and Creative Work Award, 2003.

Colorado State University Instructional Development Grant, Spring 2003.  
Colorado State University Professional Development Grant, Spring 2003.  
Colorado Endowment for the Humanities, Research Grant, Fall 2002.  
Historical Society of Southern California/Haynes Foundation, Research Grants, 1998 and 2001.  
Colorado State University, Summer Research Stipend, 2001.  
Kevin Starr Research Fellow, University of California Humanities Research Institute, 1999-2000.  
University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of History, Conference Travel Grant, 1998.  
Society for the History of Technology, Conference Travel Grant, 1998.  
California Institute of Technology Institute Archives, Research Grant, 1997.  
University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of History, Dissertation Fellowship, 1995, 1997.  
University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of History, Domestic Research Grant, 1996, 1997.  
Huntington Library, Michael J. Connell Research Fellowship, 1996.  
Northwestern University Graduate School, Graduate Study Fellowship, 1992-1994.

## **Honors and Prizes**

Best Teacher Award, Colorado State University Alumni Association, 2012.

“Favorite Faculty of Staff Member,” Department of Residence Life, Colorado State University (nominated), 2011.

Ray Allen Billington Distinguished Visiting Professor, Occidental College and the Huntington Library, 2008-2009.

Donald H. Pflueger Award, Historical Society of Southern California, 2006.

“Favorite Faculty Member,” Residence Assistant Staff, Colorado State University (nominated), 2006.

Guest Coach (selected by players) for CSU women’s softball team, 2006.

Abel Wolman Award, Public Works Historical Society, 2005.

Outstanding Faculty Member designation, Colorado State University Greek Life, 2005.

Colorado State University Alumni Association Best Teacher Award (nominated), 2005.

Excellence in Teaching Award (tenure-track faculty category), College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University, Fall 2003.

Richard Lillard Prize for the best graduate-student paper presented at the Southern California Environment and History conference, California State University, Northridge, September 20, 1997.

Doyce B. Nunis Award for the best article by a young scholar in the *Southern California Quarterly* during the previous year (co-winner), March 1997.

William Turrentine Jackson Scholarship, for academic excellence in history, University of California, Davis, Department of History, 1992.

Regents Scholarship, for academic excellence, University of California, Davis, 1988-1992.

Fulmor Scholarship, for academic excellence, University of California, Davis, 1988-1992.

Phi Beta Kappa, 1991.

Phi Alpha Theta, 1991.

Edward Frank Kraft Scholarship, University of California, Davis, 1989.

## **Public Talks and Research Presentations**

“Pacific Environments, Imperial Landscapes,” commentator on panel papers, Western History Association annual conference, Oakland, California, October 16, 2011.

“Great Conversations,” invited lecture on Zebulon Pike in lecture series presented to College of Liberal Arts donors, Colorado State University, January 24, 2008.

“On the Trail of Zebulon Pike,” public lecture, Phi Alpha Theta, Colorado State University, April 4, 2007.

Panelist for discussion on the history of immigration policy in the United States, Colorado State University Police Department Diversity Workshop, November 2006.

“A New Peek at Pike: The Western Expedition and the Ecology of the Early Republic,” keynote address, Santa Fe Trail Association, Larned, KS, October 2006.

“Immigration: History and Human Rights,” panelist, Colorado State University Diversity Conference, October 3, 2006.

“A New Peek at Pike’s Western Expedition,” invited lecture, Littleton (Colorado) Public Library, September 2006.

“State of Nature: Zebulon Pike and the Ecology of the Early Republic,” American Society for Environmental History conference, St. Paul, March 30, 2006.

“A New Peek at Pike,” Colorado Historical Society, Denver, November 16, 2005.

“Hazardous Metropolis: Flooding and Urban Ecology in Los Angeles,” guest speaker for “Scholarly Sustenance,” a lecture series for Huntington Library donors, San Marino, CA, July 11, 2005.

- “Roundtable: Environmental Histories of Los Angeles,” panel chair, American Society for Environmental History conference, Houston, March 19, 2005.
- “Environmental Research: What Can History Contribute?” Environmental Research Colloquium, Colorado State University, November 9, 2004
- “Hazardous Metropolis,” Valley Pioneer Lecture Series, California State University, Northridge, October 28, 2004.
- “A New Peek at Pike: Exploring the Southern Borderlands of the Louisiana Purchase,” American West Program, Colorado State University, June 24, 2003.
- “California Conundrums: New Frontiers for Environmental History,” panel organizer and moderator, American Society for Environmental History conference, Providence, March 29, 2003.
- “Refrigerators in the Riverbed and Other ‘Useful Contraptions’: Stories from the Los Angeles Urban Ecosystem,” Center of the American West, University of Colorado, Boulder, December 6, 2001.
- “‘Necessary but Not Sufficient’: Floods, Politics, and Engineering in Los Angeles since 1969,” Western History Association conference, San Diego, California, October 5, 2001.
- “Unnatural Natural Disasters: Flooding in the L.A. Urban Ecosystem,” Conversations in Reclamation History Series, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, June 14, 2001.
- “In the Path of the Floods: Memory, Climate, and Ethnic Relations in Los Angeles, 1891-1914,” Organization of American Historians conference, Los Angeles, April 26, 2001.
- “Necessary but Not Sufficient: Floods, Politics, and Engineering in Los Angeles since 1969,” Historical Society of Southern California conference, Los Angeles, February 26, 2000.
- “Politics, Environment, and Memory: New Directions in California History,” California Studies Association conference, San Diego, February 11, 2000.
- “A Place We Hardly Knew: The History of the Los Angeles River,” panelist, Re-Envisioning the River Series, Occidental College, October 28, 1999.
- “Hazardous Metropolis: Flood Control and Urban Ecology in Twentieth-Century Los Angeles,” American Society for Environmental History conference, Tucson, April 16, 1999.
- “Hazardous City: Flooding, Technology, and Urban Ecology in Twentieth-Century Los Angeles,” International Congress for the History of Technology, Lisbon, Portugal, August 20, 1998.
- “City of a Thousand Rivers: Environmental Perceptions, Ecology, Urbanization, and the 1914 Los Angeles Flood,” Southern California Environment and History conference,

California State University, Northridge, September 20, 1997.

“Cattle, Climate, and Collapse: The Rise and Fall of Southern California Ranching, 1848-1865,” Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association conference, San Francisco, August 9, 1996.

“From Harvest to Habitat: Wetlands and Waterfowl Management in the Upper Midwest, 1917-1935,” Society of Wetlands Scientists conference, Portland, OR, June 2, 1994.

## **Departmental and University Service**

*Chair*, Graduate Studies Committee, 2011-present.

*Chair*, Ad Hoc Committee on Graduate Funding and Professional Development

*Chair*, Environmental History Search Committee 2007-2008.

*Chair*, Ph.D. Committee, 2002-2004 (member 2001-present).

*Chair*, Undergraduate Awards Committee, 2006-2007.

*Faculty Co-Advisor*, Phi Alpha Theta, 2000-present. Meet with students, organize guest speakers and other events, supervise raising of more than \$4000 annually to finance the History Department’s Norman F. Furniss lecture series.

*Faculty Advisor*, John XXIII University Parish Catholic Student Organization, 2003-present.

*Committee Membership*: History Tenure and Promotion Committee, 2006-present.

Faculty Affiliate of CSU Public Lands History Center

Graduate Outcomes Assessment Committee: 2011.

University Faculty Council (elected): 2005-2008, 2009-10.

College of Liberal Arts Strategic Planning Learning Task Force, 2005.

History Department Executive Committee, 2003-04, 2005-06, 2009-10.

. History Department Executive Committee, *ex officio* member 2011-13.

Latin American and Caribbean Studies Board, 2000-present.

Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2000-2002.

## **Additional Professional and Community Service**

*President, Board of Directors*, Theologian in Residence Program, 2010-present (vice president, 2009; member since 2006).

*Section Editor* (Environmental History) for Colorado On-Line Encyclopedia, 2011-present.

*Local Arrangements Committee*, Western History Association 2009 and 2012 Conferences, 2009-present.

*Program Committee*, Western History Association 2009 Conference, 2007-2009.

*Guest Instructor*, Bimson Humanities Seminar, “Frontiers and Borderlands: Historical and Geographic Literacy,” a seminar for K-16 educators, Colorado State University, June 2007.

*Nominations Committee*, Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association, 2007-2008.

*Chair*, University Ministry Advisory Council, Blessed John XXIII University Parish, 2004-2006 (member, 2003-2004).

*Faculty Consultant*, Colorado Digitization Program/Historic Newspapers Project, 2002-2004. Advise project that is placing Colorado newspapers from 1859 to 1923 on-line.

*Strategic Planning Participant*, Student Leadership and Civic Engagement Office, Colorado State University, November 2004 and January 2005.

*Guest Speaker*, Congregations Building Community "Point of Entry" fundraisers, February and May 2005. Presented economic and sociological data (compiled by a colleague) documenting effectiveness of community organizing in northern Colorado.

*Lead Historian*, Colonial History Strand, Project TEACH (Teaching Excellence in American and Colorado History), a professional development program for public educators in Northern Colorado, 2004. Cooperated with two other professors and one high school mentor teacher to plan curriculum and reading, lead discussions, and present lectures for week-long summer program to help K-12 teachers enhance colonial history curriculum.

*Search Committee*, for Campus Minister, Blessed John XXIII University Parish, 2004.

*Search Committee*, Theologian in Residence Program, Blessed John XXIII University Parish, 2004.

*Roundtable Participant*, National Endowment for the Humanities site visit to review programming of Colorado Endowment for the Humanities, September 2003.

*Instructor of Record*, "The West of John Wesley Powell: A Summer Teaching Institute," presented by Colorado Endowment for the Humanities and Colorado State University, June 2003. Prepared and graded written work and participated in discussions in a one-week professional development program for K-12 teachers.

*Guest Instructor*, Project TEACH (Teaching Excellence in American and Colorado History), a professional development program for public educators in Northern Colorado, May 2003. Presented lecture and led discussion for one-day workshop for K-12 teachers on exploration in the early republic.

*Classroom Visit*, Poudre High School, Fort Collins, October 3, 2002. Along with a colleague from the CSU history department, met with two classes of high school juniors to lead discussion on Latin American history.

*Local Arrangements Committee*, American Society for Environmental History conference, Denver, March 2002.

*Instructor of Record*, “Lewis and Clark: The Journey and Its Legacy, A Summer Teaching Institute,” presented by Colorado Endowment for the Humanities and Colorado State University, June 2001 and June 2002. Prepared and graded written work, participated in discussions, and presented one lecture in a one-week professional development program for K-12 teachers.

*Manuscript Reviewer*, University of Nebraska Press (2009), University of Arizona Press (2006), University of New Mexico Press (2005), Houghton Mifflin (2001-02), *Environmental History* (2002, 2007), *Agricultural History* (2000), *Pacific Historical Review* (2000).

*Volunteer Tutor*, History Lab, Evanston Township High School, Evanston, IL, Fall 1997-spring 1999.

*Research Assistant*, U.S. legal, industrial, and labor history, Arthur F. McEvoy, American Bar Foundation and University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School/History Department, 1993-1995.

*Archival Intern*, Sierra Club Records Project, Manuscripts Division, Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, summer 1991, summer 1992.

*Legislative Intern*, Sierra Club Legislative Office, Washington, D. C., Spring 1990.

*Undergraduate Peer Tutor*, in Calculus, History, and Writing, University of California, Davis, Learning Skills Center, 1990-1992.