

Michael W. Childers, PhD

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in History, 2010, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)  
M.A. in History, 1997, Colorado State University  
B.A. in History, 1995, Western State College

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2011-2013                      Lecturer of American History, Northern Arizona University  
2007-2011                      Instructor of American History, UNLV

## PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH

### Books

*Colorado Powder Keg: Ski Resorts and the Environmental Movement*, Lawrence: University Press of Kansas. October 2012.

### Book Chapters

“A Gateway into the Mountains: Denver and the Rise of a Recreation Empire,” in *Denver Inside and Out (Colorado History*, vol. 16). Denver: History Colorado, The Colorado Historical Society. 2012. (Finalist for the Colorado Book Award)

### Administrative Histories

“The New Deal, 1933 to 1939,” and “World War II and Post-War Boom in Visitation, 1941-1955,” in *The Yosemite Way: An Administrative History of Yosemite National Park*, Andrew Kirk and Lincoln Bramwell, Michael Childers, in fulfillment of National Park Service Task and Great Basin CESU Cooperative Agreements, 2009.

### Encyclopedia Entries

“The National Parks,” in *Encyclopedia of Populism*, Edited by Alexandra Kindell and Elizabeth Sherburn Demers. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, Publication in 2013.

### Book Reviews

Review of Jen A. Huntley, *The Making of Yosemite: James Mason Hutchings and the Origing of American's Most Popular National Park* (University Press of Kansas, 2011) in *Environmental History*, March, 2013.

Review of Melanie Shellenbarger's *High Country Summers: The Early Second Homes of Colorado, 1880-1940* (University of Arizona Press, 2012) in *Pacific Historical Review*, forthcoming.

Review of Mark Hudson's *Fire Management in the American West: Forest Politics and the Rise of Megafires* (Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 2011) in *Contemporary Sociology*, forthcoming.

Review of Duane Smith's *Rocky Mountain Heartland: Montana, and Wyoming in the 20th Century* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2009) in the *East Texas Historical Journal*, Winter 2010.

Review of Michael J. Yochim's *Yellowstone and the Snowmobile: Locking Horns over National Park Use* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2009), in *Western Historical Quarterly*, Fall 2010.

Review of David Beesley's *Crow's Range: An Environmental History of the Sierra Nevada* (Reno: University of Nevada Press, 2004) in the *Journal of San Diego History*, Winter 2007.

Review of Carol Higham and Robert Thacker's *One West, Two Myths: A Comparative Reader* in the *American Review of Canadian Studies* (Calgary: University of Calgary Press, 2004) in *The American Review of Canadian Studies*, Winter 2005.

### **Works in Progress**

"Radical Reels: Ski Movies and Participatory Culture in a Postindustrial World." Article in progress.

### **PUBLIC TALKS**

"An Evening and Book Signing with Michael Childers," Fraser Valley Library, March 21, 2013.

"Learning about Sustainability from Las Vegas," at the Las Vegas Springs Preserve for the Northern Arizona University Teaching American History Grant, March 3, 2013.

"Colorado Powder Keg: Ski Resorts and the Environmental Movement," at the Boulder Book Store. December 12, 2012.

"The History of Skiing in Colorado," at Cozens Ranch Museum. December 21, 2012

"Exploring the Tension between Ski Industry and Environmentalists," Colorado Matters, Colorado Public Radio. October 15, 2012.

## **PUBLIC HISTORY EXPERIENCE**

2005-2007	Project Manager, Yosemite National Park Administrative History Project
2004-2005	Senior Researcher/Project Manager, Las Vegas Valley Water District Administrative History
2003-2004	Interviewer, Nevada Test Site Oral History Project
2004	Olema Valley Dairy Ranches Historic District National Register of Historic Places Application, Point Reyes National Seashore
2003-2004	Project Manager, National Park Service Fire Management Administrative History
2003	Internship, Colorado Ski and Snowboard Museum and Hall of Fame

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

2012	International Ski History Association Ullr Award for single outstanding contribution to the historical record in book form for <i>Colorado Powder Keg: Ski Resorts and the Environmental Movement</i>
2011	Northern Arizona University Athletics, Outstanding Educator Award University of Nevada, Las Vegas Outstanding Teaching by Part-Time Faculty Award
2010	U.S. Forest Service, Grey Towers Scholar-in-Residence Fellowship
2009	Graduate & Professional Student Association Grant, UNLV
2008	Charles Redd Center Summer Graduate Student Award, Brigham Young University
2008	Barnes and Noble Scholarship, UNLV
2006	Graduate & Professional Student Association Grant, UNLV

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

“Approaches to the History of Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Roundtable,” Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association 2013 Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado.

“Protect Our Mountain Home: NIMBYism and Fight the against the Denver Winter Olympic Games,” Western History Association 2012 Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado

Chair, "Memory, Loss, and Preservation Panel," Urban History Association 2010 Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada

"Free Market Slopes: Ski Lift Tickets and Deregulation in the White River National Forest," American Society of Environmental History 2009 Annual Conference, Portland, Oregon

"Fire on the Mountain: The Vail Arsons and the Environmental Cost of Tourism," American History Association 2008 Annual Conference, San Diego, California

"The Environment, Nature, and the Politics of Tourism in the Twentieth-Century American West," Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association 2008 Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico

"A Gateway into the Mountains: Denver and the Rise of a Recreation Empire," Denver: Inside and Out Symposium. 2008, Denver, Colorado

"Management Skills: Working as the Yosemite National Park Administrative Project Manager," Learning in the Field: The Convergence of Public History, Academic History in Better Graduate Training Workshop Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association 2008 Annual Conference, Pasadena, California

"Rich Man's Games, Poor Man's Taxes: Growth and Colorado's Rejection of the 1976 Winter Olympic Games," Western History Association 2007 Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

"Radical Reels: Film, Adventure, Identity, and Lifestyle on the Edge," American Society of Environmental History 2007 Annual Conference, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

"Denver's Ski Area: Winter Park Ski Resort, the City and County of Denver, and Building an Urban Ski Resort," American Society of Environmental History 2006 Annual Conference, St. Paul, Minnesota

"The Reinvention of Skiing: Freestyle Skiing and the Mary Jane Expansion of Winter Park Ski Area," Pacific Coast Branch/American Historical Association 2005 Annual Conference, Corvallis, Oregon

"Denver's Ski Area: Winter Park Ski Resort, the City and County of Denver, and Building of an Urban Ski Resort," Shaping the American West: A New Western Ethic for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, International Interdisciplinary Conference, 2005, Snowbird, Utah

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

- Historical Methods and Inquiry
- Environmental Politics in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century American West Writing Seminar
- American Civil War: Union in Crisis
- United States Military History
- Outdoor Recreation and the Environment
- Global Environment History Capstone Seminar
- Science and the History of Managing the National Parks
- The Colorado River: A Natural and Human History
- United States History: Colonial America to 1865 & United States History: 1865 to Present
- Distance Education - United States History: Colonial America to 1865 & United States History: 1865 to Present

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- Northern Arizona University Academic Sustainability Steering Committee
- Northern Arizona University Department of History Education Undergraduate Advisor
- 2012 Western History Association Annual Conference Program Committee Member
- Graduate Student Staff, Western History Association – 2009 Annual Conference
- Graduate Student Representative, UNLV History Department

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS**

American Historical Association  
American Society of Environmental  
History  
Forest History Society

National Council on Public History  
Organization of American Historians  
Phi Alpha Theta  
Western History Association