

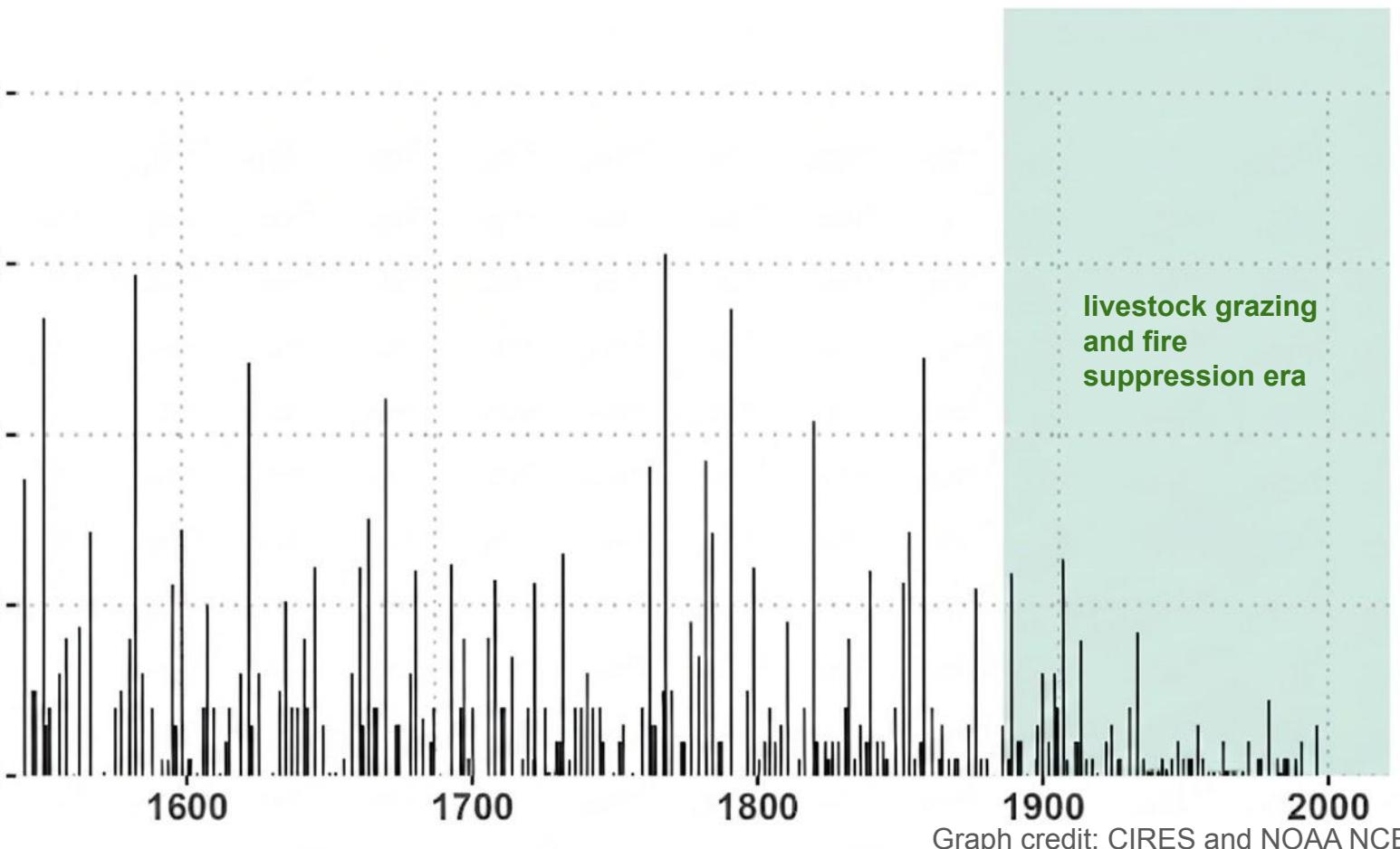


# Tree Cores:

# Historic Fires in Colorado



The graph below shows evidence of fires in Colorado from the years 1500-2000. The **Y axis** shows the percentage of tree core sampling sites that show burns scars out of all Colorado sampling sites. The X axis shows the year the burn scars are from.



**Write some of your observations after looking at the data.**

- 1) Compare the amount of fire between 1500 and 1871, and then between 1871 and 2000.

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2) The graph labels the green section as “livestock grazing and fire suppression era”. How do you think livestock grazing can change the amount of fire in an area?

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3) What are other ways people have suppressed fire?

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4) What do you think caused the high fire years on the graph (1654, 1748, etc)?

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5) How do you think less fire has changed the environment?

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6) What are pros and cons of increasing fire again?

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