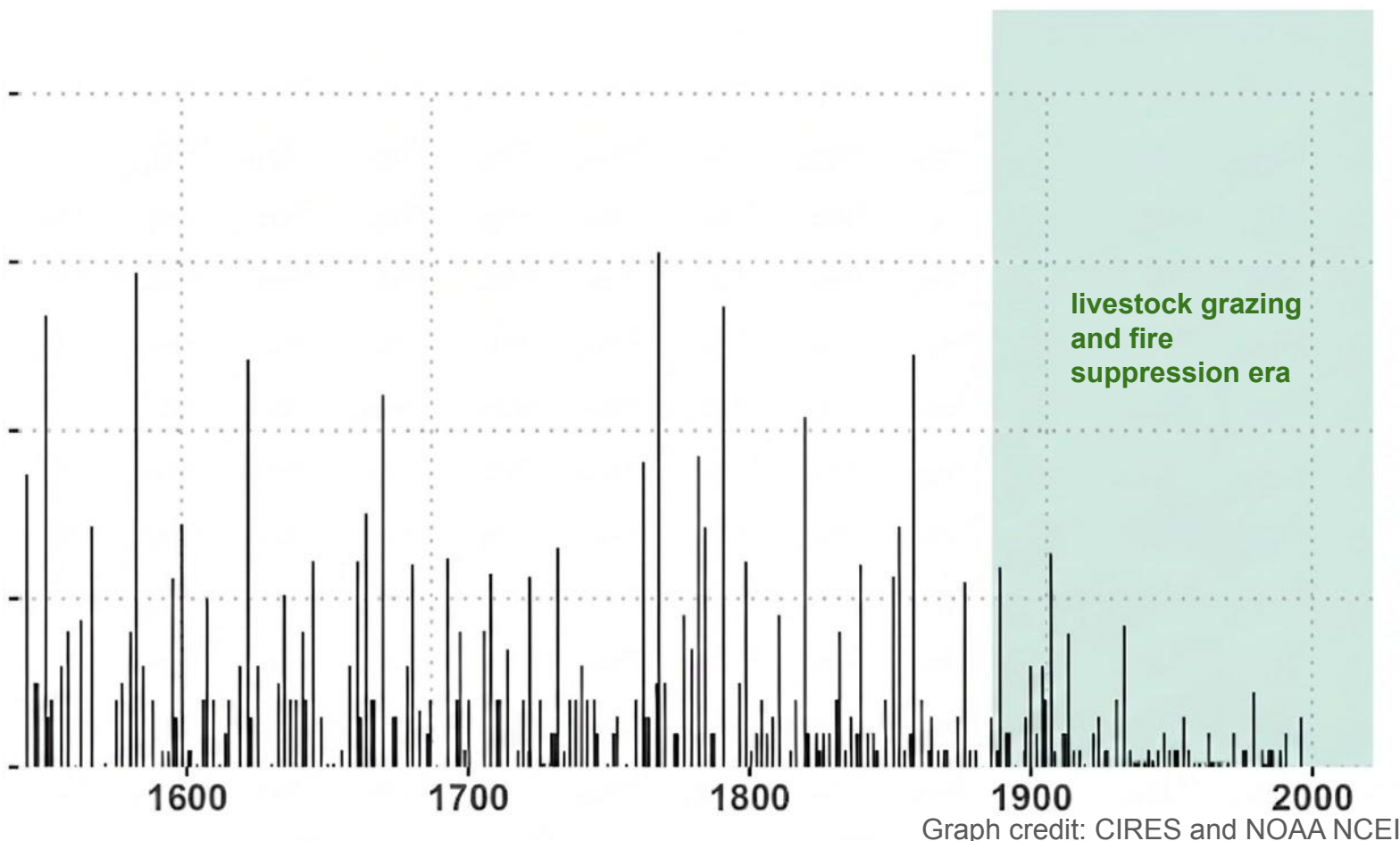




Tree Cores: Historic Fires in Colorado

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.

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?

3) What are other ways people have suppressed fire?

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

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

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