

Oral History and the Environment

An Oral History Association Resource List

Read

“Animal Stories and Oral History: Witnessing and Mourning Across the Species Divide,” by Carrie Hamilton, *Oral History Review* 45, no. 2 (2018): 193–210.

“The Challenge of Oral History to Environmental History,” Brian Williams and Mark Riley, *Environment and History* 26, no. 2 (2020): 207–232.

“Doing Environmental History,” Donald Worster, in *The Ends of the Earth: Perspectives on Modern Environmental History*, ed. Donald Worster, 289–308, Cambridge University Press, 1988.

“Introduction: Querying Environmental and Human Landscapes,” by Stephen M. Sloan, in *Oral History and the Environment: Global Perspectives on Climate, Connection, and Catastrophe*, 1–12.

Listening on the Edge: Oral History in the Aftermath of Crisis, edited by Mark Cave and Stephen M. Sloan, Oxford Oral History Series, Oxford University Press, 2014.

The Land Speaks: New Voices at the Intersection of Oral and Environmental History, Debbie Lee and Kathryn Newfont, Oxford Oral History Series, Oxford University Press, 2017.

“Meaning Across Context: Oral Histories, Big Data, and Climate Change,” Julia Olson and Patricia Pinto da Silva, *Weather, Climate, and Society* 16, no. 2 (2024): 331–349.

“Of Seeds and Snow: Climate, Culture, and Collaborative Environmental History on the Hopi Mesas,” Tai Elizabeth Johnson, *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society* 114, no. 1 (2025): 7–20.

Oral History and the Environment: Global Perspectives on Climate, Connection, and Catastrophe, edited by Stephen M. Sloan and Mark Cave, Oxford Oral History Series, Oxford University Press, 2022.

Telling Environmental Histories: Intersections of Memory, Narrative and Environment, by Katie Holmes and Heather Goodall, Palgrave Studies in World Environmental History, Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.

Listen

Becoming Wild Again in America: The Restoration and Resurgence of the Pablo-Allard Bison Herd, podcast by Francine Spang-Willis, Oral History Works, August 24, 2021, <https://www.oralhistoryworks.org/becoming-wild-again-in-america/>

Climate Stories Project, <https://www.climatestoriesproject.org/>

Environmental Justice Oral History Project, *Oral Histories Collection*, <https://ejohp.com/oral-histories/>

EPA Alumni Association Oral History, <https://www.epaalumni.org/history/video/>

Mapping Environmental and Climate Crisis Oral History Projects Worldwide, Oral History Society Environment and Climate Crisis Special Interest Group, n.d., <https://ohs.org.uk/environment/map/>

Oral History and Climate Change: Testaments of Weirding, presented by Rib Davis at the 23rd International Oral History Association Conference, September 18, 2025, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8t5ZVQiuTzl&t=3s>

Southeast Chicago Archives and Storytelling Project: Wetlands to Waste, interactive story by Southeast Chicago Historical Society, <https://www.sechicagohistory.org/stories/>



**ORAL HISTORY
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Regional Resources for Environmental Oral History

This is a partial list. Check state and local historical societies, universities, and government agencies for active or archived projects in your region.

History New Orleans Collection, Oral History, <https://hnoc.org/research-collections/research-tools/oral-history>

Minnesota Historical Society, Voices of Minnesota,
<https://mnhs.gitlab.io/archive/voices-of-minnesota-collections/collections.mnhs.org/voicesofmn/10002529.html>

NOAA Voices Oral History Archives, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
<https://www.noaa.gov/digital-collections/noaa-voices>

Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma's Conservation Heritage Oral History Collection,
<https://library.okstate.edu/search-and-find/collections/digital-collections/oklahoma-conservation-heritage-oral-history-collection>

Sierra Club Oral History Project (online at UC Berkeley Oral History Center),
<https://www.sierraclub.org/library/oral-histories>

University of California Berkeley Oral History Center,
<https://www.lib.berkeley.edu/visit/bancroft/oral-history-center/projects>

University of Montana, O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West Oral History Project,
https://scholarworks.umt.edu/oconnorcenter_interviews_virtual/

Virginia Tech Oral History at Special Collections and University Archives,
<https://guides.lib.vt.edu/c.php?g=989141&p=7202086>

Special Thanks

This reading list was prepared in advance of the 2026 Oral History Association's Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, and is meant to be a starting point for anyone seeking resources on environmental oral histories. It was compiled by the OHA Publications Committee with assistance from conference organizers.

OHA Publications Committee:

Jeni Crockett-Holme, Jason Higgins, Benjamin Houston, Jason Kauffman, Brad King, Sarah Milligan (OHA liaison), Elissa Stroman (chair), Kerry Taylor

Mark Cave

Shanna Farrell

Molly Graham

