

School of Natural Resources and the Environment

Seminar Series: Fall 2023

GRAZING, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND POLLINATORS: EXPLORING TWO DECADES OF CHANGE ON NORTHERN ARIZONA RANGELANDS

SPEAKER: Clare Aslan, Northern Arizona University

DATE: Wednesday, November 8th TIME: 3:00-4:00 pm LOCATION: ENR2 S210 & Zoom ABSTRACT:

Plant and pollinator biodiversity are declining on Western rangelands, threatening ecosystem services and vulnerable species. Since they are fundamental to plant genetic diversity and adaptive capacity, pollinators are directly or indirectly linked to all ecosystem services and



thus to biodiversity writ large. Understanding how plants and pollinators are affected by changes in grazing and climate is necessary to inform conservation and restoration activities aimed at preserving biodiversity. We are resampling ecological condition plots established in far northern Arizona rangelands in 2005, to understand how vegetation, soils, and disturbance have changed over 18 years. Our findings may illuminate the mechanisms responsible for the remarkably low pollination rates we have recorded for rare and endangered plant species in the region.

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