

# WOMEN, ECOLOGY, AND CONSERVATION IN A CHANGING WORLD

## A Haines-Morris special seminar series at the University of Tennessee

SPRING 2017

This seminar series couples the current understanding of biological research on climate change with perspectives and insights on the changing social climate for women in science. Each researcher will present her climate change research during a formal presentation and her perspective on the changing climate toward women in the field during an informal presentation.



SPEAKER:  
**JOHANNA VARNER**  
Assistant Professor of Biology  
Department of Biological Sciences  
Colorado Mesa University



### Perspectives on a “Changing Climate” Toward Women in Environmental Studies

*Informal presentation*

Thursday, February 9, 2017, 12:30 - 1:30 PM  
Dabney-Buehler Hall, Room 575  
Snacks will be provided

### Pikas Under Fire: American Pika Ecology and Behavior in a Time of Global Change

*Formal presentation*

Friday, February 10, 2017, 3:30 PM  
Science and Engineering Research Facility (SERF), Room 307

Climate change is forcing many alpine species upslope, including American pikas (*Ochotona princeps*), small rabbit-relatives that inhabit high-elevation mountain ranges of western North America. Despite dramatic elevational shifts and local extinctions in some parts of their range, these mammals survive in several surprising habitats in the Pacific Northwest, including low-elevation rainforests and areas severely burned by wildfire. In both of these habitats, pikas are actually widely distributed and abundant, suggesting that the species may be more resilient than previously thought, at least in this region. Taken together, these results advance our knowledge of the true habitat requirements and climate sensitivity of pikas and may inform their conservation and management.

*Free and open to the public.*

This lecture series is funded by the UT Haines-Morris Endowment, the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, the Department of Geography, and Phi Beta Kappa.

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