

Environmental Histories of Mountain Infrastructures and Knowledge: Alps and Asia in Comparative Perspective

17 June 2026

International Study Day
IGE, Université Grenoble Alpes

2, rue de la Papeterie | salle Ecrins

Organised by: Katja Doose (Université Lyon 2), Emma-Sophie Mouret & Florie Giacona (Institut des Géosciences de l'Environnement)

Photo: Emma-Sophie Mouret

09:15-09:30 – Welcome & Opening Remarks

09:30-10:15 Keynote

Anne-Marie Granet-Abisset (Université Grenoble Alpes)
Construction des savoirs historiques sur les Alpes (in French)

10:15-10:30 Discussion

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:30 Panel 1 – Infrastructure

Discussant: Anne Dalmasso (Université Grenoble Alpes)

Steve Hagimont (Sciences Po Toulouse) - Snow Technocrats: The creation of the mountain tourism planning and research service (1964)

Vincent Arpin (Université Grenoble Alpes) - Winter militarization in the Nineteenth-Century Alps: structural, technical, and organizational adaptations

Dorothee Fournier (Université Grenoble Alpes) - Comparing Mountains: Infrastructure, Resources, Knowledge and Power. Perspectives from Historians – An Analysis of the *Journal Alpine Research*

12:30-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:45 Panel 2 – Authority

Jean-Baptiste Ortlieb (Université de Strasbourg) - Governing the Heights border through cartography: the state and the act of mapping in the Vosges from the 16th to the 18th century

Jennifer Keating (University College Dublin) - Seismic encounters: Towards a materiality of risk and resilience in the northern Tian Shan, 1885-1910

Raphael Devred (Institut des Géosciences de l'Environnement) - From desiccation to Alpine restoration: An environmental history of drought, nature conservation, and environmental geosciences in the Haut Dauphiné, 19th century.

15:45-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-17:45 Panel 3 – Knowledge

Tom Simpson (University of Warwick) & **Christine Bichsel** (Université de Fribourg) - The anomalous mountains: imperial histories of the Karakorum-Pamir ranges

Lachlan Fleetwood (LMU Munich) - Uninhabitability, Buffer Zones and Imperial Environmental Knowledge of the Pamir Mountains

Lucas Müller (University of Geneva) - Different Problems, Same Knowledge? Swiss Snow Scientists in North America, c. 1945-1970

17:45-18:00 Final discussion