

“Drawing on both detailed historical scholarship and a refreshing geographical sensibility, *Wired into Nature* provides a unique and important perspective on the vast strategic, ecological, and cultural impact of North America’s first electrical information network. James Schwoch brings important questions of environment, indigeneity, and surveillance back into the story of the telegraph, in a sweeping narrative that connects the mapping and exploitation of the American West to the development of the White House Situation Room. A must-read for students of our contemporary information society.”

"*Wired into Nature* is a rich and original exploration of the telegraph in the American West, grounded in meticulous archival research. It tells us a powerful story about the relationship between wires and nature, and unravels the hidden and formative connections between our communications systems and the environment, climate, and surveillance... This book will transform our understanding of electronic communications networks, both past and present. If there is one history to read in the current moment, *Wired into Nature* is it."