Submission for TPUG Presentations (please fill in shaded areas):

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| Abstract |  |

Example:

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| Title: | Rail Rates for Grain Shipments over Time |
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| Author1 | Wesley W. Wilson, University of Oregon, wwilson@uoregon.edu |
| Author2 |  |
| Author3 |  |
| Author4 |  |
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| Abstract | Transportation rates are a key determinant of traffic flows and affect whether a flow occurs, the level of the flow, which origins and destinations are involved, and, ultimately, the economic well-being of shippers. This is particularly true in agricultural markets where trades are quite sensitive to transportation rates and are made under small margins. For 20 years after passage of the Staggers Rail Act of 1980, railroad rates declined significantly. However, beginning in 2003, rates began to increase sharply until 2014 but fell some in 2015 and 2016. This paper examines the sources of changes in rail rates over the period of 2000 to 2016 for the transportation of U.S.corn, wheat, and soybeans. |