

# [The University of Colorado at Boulder Law School](#)



## Natural Resources Law Center Press Releases

October 2002

### Natural Resources Law Center Celebrates 20 Years

The Natural Resources Law Center (NRLC) at the University of Colorado celebrates its twentieth anniversary this month with a gala fundraising dinner on October 26 at the Oxford Hotel in Denver. According to Center Director Jim Martin, the event will launch the Clyde Martz Endowment for the Study of Natural Resources and Environmental Law, honoring Martz for a lifetime of service on behalf of natural resources. "For two decades, NRLC has engaged in research aimed at influencing the public debate and policy making concerning natural resources," notes Martin. "We have helped decision makers resolve conflicts surrounding resource development and preservation, and have brought constituents from all levels of government, community and environmental groups, attorneys, Native American Tribes, academics, students, and the general public together to consider the implications of resources policy and practice. We are proud of our legacy and look forward to continuing this vital work." The Natural Resources Law Center is a non-profit program at the University of Colorado Law School supported primarily through foundation grants and private donations. Its mission is to promote sustainability in the rapidly changing American West by informing and influencing natural resource laws, policies, and decisions through a comprehensive program of research, education, and advice.

The Center originated from an informal program of law school-sponsored conferences that focused primarily on public lands and western water. In 1982, Professors James Corbridge, David Getches, and Stephen Williams, with the support of visionary practitioners such as Marvin Wolf, Ruth Wright and Guy Martin, created the Center to help organize and manage these conferences and to develop a natural resources research program. From those roots, NRLC has served its diverse audiences in a variety of ways, among them:

- sponsoring 27 major conferences, including 17 on water resources, four on public lands, and others on hazardous wastes, Indian country, regulatory takings, endangered species, national forests, and recreation;
- hosting a luncheon series, "Hot Topics in Natural Resources," at the Holland & Hart offices in Denver, focusing on current environmental and natural resource law and policy;
- publishing 85 reports, nine books, dozens of conference proceedings and a semi-annual newsletter, which make available the Center's research and related work on a variety of natural resource law and policy topics; and
- bringing scholars, practitioners, and government officials to the Boulder campus as Distinguished Visitors or research fellows for a few days to a year or more to pursue their research, and engage with the Law School and the metro-Denver community.

As part of the effort to guarantee NRLC's financial health, and to honor Clyde Martz, former professor, dean, and mentor who is considered a giant in the field of natural resources law, Martin will announce the establishment of the Clyde Martz Endowment for the Study of Natural Resources and Environmental Law at the anniversary event.

Says Martin, "In addition to Clyde's impact on the University of Colorado Law School and on the Natural Resources Law Center, he served as assistant attorney general during the Johnson administration, as solicitor of the Department of the Interior during the Carter administration, and was one of the leading members of the private bar. Not only is he one of the Center's founders, he is also one of the Center's most stalwart supporters. We are honored to establish this endowment in his name."