

2008/NRLC_Confer'08

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Editors: Reporters are welcome to attend the conference at no charge. To arrange, call Heidi Horten at 303-492-1286.

CU LAW CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS THE AFFECTS A CHANGING AMERICAN WEST WILL HAVE ON NATURAL RESOURCES.

Understanding the changing American West and how those changes will affect our natural resources is the focus of the University of Colorado at Boulder Natural Resources Law Center's annual summer conference to be held June 4 – 6.

Called, "Shifting Baselines and New Meridians — Water, Resources, Landscapes, and the Transformation of the American West," the conference will feature natural resources experts from the private and public sectors including Lynn Scarlett, deputy secretary of the United States Department of the Interior and former deputy secretary David J. Hayes.

The two-day event will be held in the Wolf Law Building, located at the south end of the Boulder campus on Kittredge Loop Road.

According to Mark Squillace, a professor of law and the director of the Natural Resources Law Center, among the most significant changes are rapid population growth in the West and a changing climate that has already begun to disrupt historical weather patterns.

"As the West changes, so too do the pressures on our land, water and energy resources," said Squillace. "The legal and political institutions that evolved to manage these natural resources have, for the most part, served us well, but it is far from clear that these institutions are capable of adapting as quickly and as extensively as may be necessary to serve us in the future."

Panelists will explore these themes and consider how the transformation of the West may foreshadow fundamental changes to our legal and political institutions, added Squillace.

CLE credits are available. For more information about the conference, including a complete schedule, registration fees and online registration, visit the Natural Resources Law Center Web site at <http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc/> or call 303-49-1286.