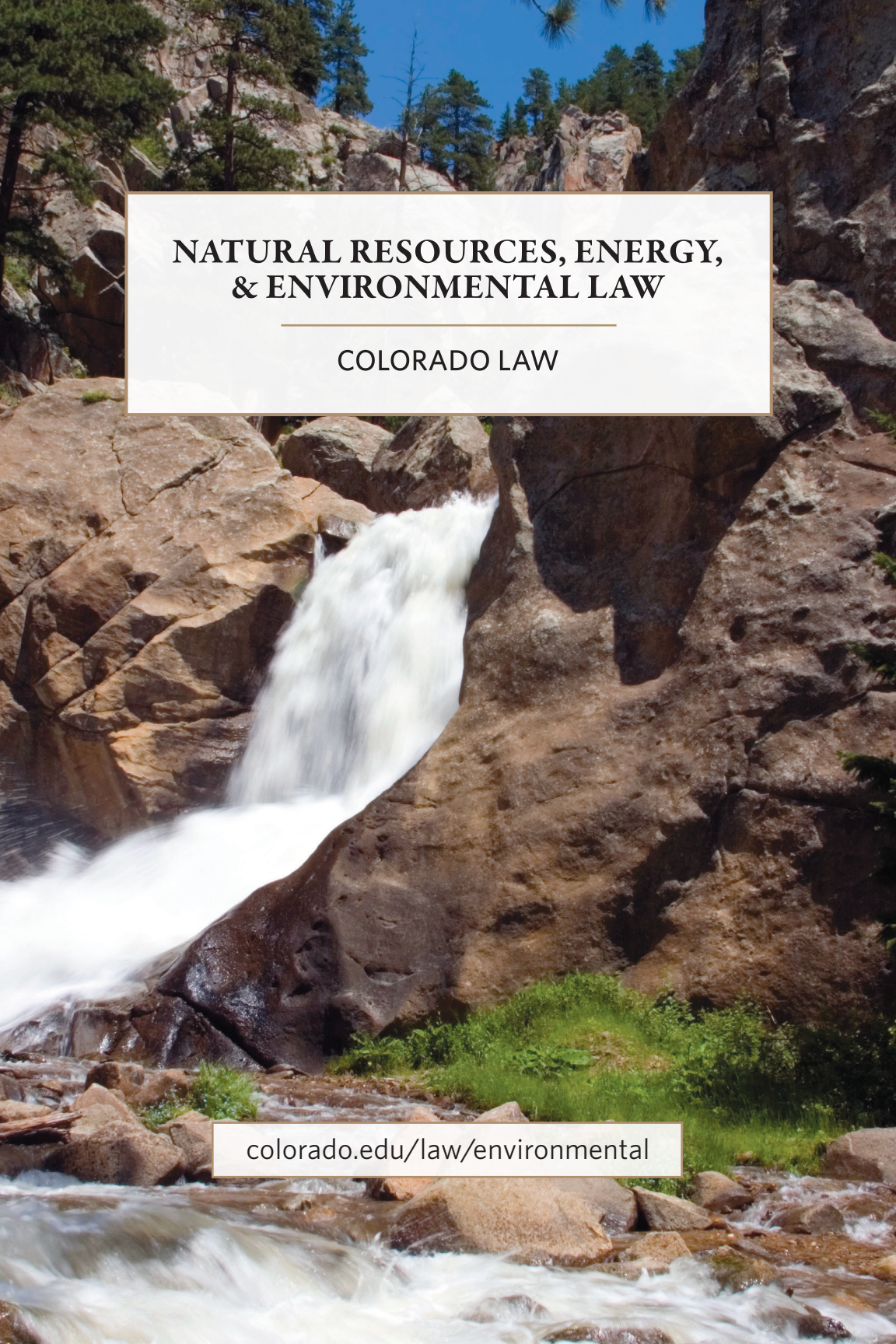


NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY, & ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

COLORADO LAW

colorado.edu/law/environmental

RANKED CONSISTENTLY AMONG THE VERY BEST IN THE NATION and set at the base of the Rocky Mountains, Colorado Law has been the gold standard for natural resources, energy, and the environment since the 1950s. Today's faculty members are international leaders and scholars who are deeply committed to creative teaching.

Colorado Law's innovative environmental and natural resources curriculum, with broad-based courses and practicum opportunities, provides you with the key range of competencies needed to become a multi-disciplinary practitioner. As a leader and innovator in developing legal professionals, we help prepare you for a successful career from private practice to public service.

From the students' perspective, the program is extensive, rich, and diverse. On any given day students may be studying the initiatives of Teddy Roosevelt and other giants in the field, meeting with scientists to discuss the impact of oil and gas fracking on rivers and groundwater aquifers, taking a field trip to an Indian reservation to observe the tribe's timber harvesting program, debating the merits of a controversial case in front of the Supreme Court, or actually appearing in court or before regulatory agencies as part of the excellent American Indian Law Clinic.

CHARLES WILKINSON
Distinguished Professor
Moses Lasky Professor of Law
Chair of Getches-Wilkinson Center Board

ACADEMICS

Colorado Law's curriculum provides you with a strong platform on which to build your career. In addition to the opportunity to take affiliated courses in environmental studies, we employ a solid foundation in the fundamentals of law, robust theoretical inquiry, doctrinal and policy analysis, real world experience, legal reasoning tools, and professional skills. We will train you to be ready for a world of constant change.

"Colorado Law offers its students a unique, multi-disciplinary approach to water law. The professors draw from related areas such as engineering, hydrology, hydrogeology, and geography. The departure from black letter law results in young lawyers that have a firm grasp on the key water issues facing the West."

AMY M. STEINFELD ('05)
Shareholder
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

"I've had wonderful opportunities in the areas of environmental law and policy making over the years. I have no doubt that none of this would be possible had I not been a part of Colorado Law's environmental and natural resources program, and learned from Charles Wilkinson, David Getches, and others."

MICHAEL L. CONNOR ('93)
Deputy Secretary (Nominee)
U.S. Department of the Interior

COURSES

Advanced Environmental Law
Advanced Natural Resources Law
Advanced Oil and Gas
Climate Change Law and Policy
Energy Insecurity and Sustainable Energy
Energy Law and Regulation
Environmental Law
Environmental Philosophy and Law
Foundations of Natural Resources Law and Policy
International Environmental Law
Land Use Planning
Mining and Energy Law
Oil and Gas
Public Land Law
Renewable Energy Finance and Development
Water Resources
Wildlife Law

CLINICS

GETCHES-GREEN NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC

One of the first in the nation, students engage in litigation and advocacy aimed at protecting the natural resources of the Rocky Mountain region.

AMERICAN INDIAN LAW CLINIC

Established in 1992, this clinic was among the first of its kind in providing quality legal representation to low-income Native clients with specific Indian law-related problems.

DUAL DEGREES & CERTIFICATES

JD/Master in Environmental Studies
JD/PhD in Environmental Studies
JD/Master of Urban Regional Planning (CU-Denver)
Graduate Energy Certificate
Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate Program in Environment, Policy, and Society
LLM in Natural Resources Law

CAREERS

Our commitment to helping you excel in your professional endeavors comes through the individualized support of our Career Development Office. With four career advisors with JDs, we will connect you with employers and help you succeed in the current job market. The depth and breadth of experiences, theory, and skills you will gain will enable you to make meaningful contributions as environmental and natural resource practitioners upon graduation. Our 7,000+ alumni network provides you access to and support from leaders across the nation.

RECENT TOP EMPLOYERS

Alperstein & Covell, PC
City of Greeley, Water Department
Colorado Attorney General's Office, Natural Resources and Environment Division
Colorado Department of Health and Environment
Dietze and Davis, PC
Environmental Protection Agency Region 3, Office of the General Counsel
Grand Canyon Trust
High Country Citizen's Alliance
Moses, Wittemyer, Harrison and Woodruff, PC
Petros & White, LLC
Trout, Raley, Montaño, Witwer & Freeman, PC
U.S. Department of Energy
Western Watersheds Project
The WILD Foundation

JOURNALS

Colorado Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Review

University of Colorado Law Review
Annual Natural Resources Symposium

"Colorado Law helped me tremendously in my job search. The Career Development Office alerted me to the Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) opportunity and assisted me through the various assessment stages. In addition to help from faculty members, Colorado Law also put me in touch with alumni who have been hired through the PMF program."

STEPHEN CHESTERTON ('11)
U.S. Forest Service
Washington, D.C.

"We are enthusiastic about employing Colorado Law graduates. We know they will have a solid understanding of natural resources, energy, and environmental law. We also know they will be committed to the challenge of solving our region's complex environmental problems and will enhance our reputation with the quality of their work."

KARIN P. SHELDON
President
Western Resource Advocates

"The professors and coursework at Colorado Law provided me with the technical and practical skills necessary to pursue a diverse legal career in private practice, as an Assistant United States Attorney, and in-house counsel."

ROXANE PERRUSO ('97)
VP and General Counsel
Power Company of Wyoming
TransWest Express

"The law clerks and lawyers we have hired over the years have always been very insightful. They are tenacious and know how to determine what needs to be done to accomplish our goals, which is what we want."

HERRICK LIDSTONE, JR. ('78)
Attorney and Shareholder
Burns, Figa & Will PC

GETCHES-WILKINSON CENTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY, & THE ENVIRONMENT

As the nexus of Colorado Law's efforts to solve the most pressing natural resource problems facing the state, region, nation, and globe, the center serves the people of the American West, the nation, and the world through creative, interdisciplinary research; bold, inclusive teaching; and innovative problem solving in order to further true sustainability for our lands, waters, and environment.

Named for two giants in the field, David Getches and Charles Wilkinson, the Getches-Wilkinson Center serves as the convener and platform for thought leadership on diverse and increasing interwoven topics ranging from environmental justice to climate change, public lands management to energy development, and the governance of the Colorado River to tribal resource management.

The center derives its energy from its student researchers, as students are directly involved in research, problem solving, and thinking on these issues.

STUDENT FIELD RESEARCH

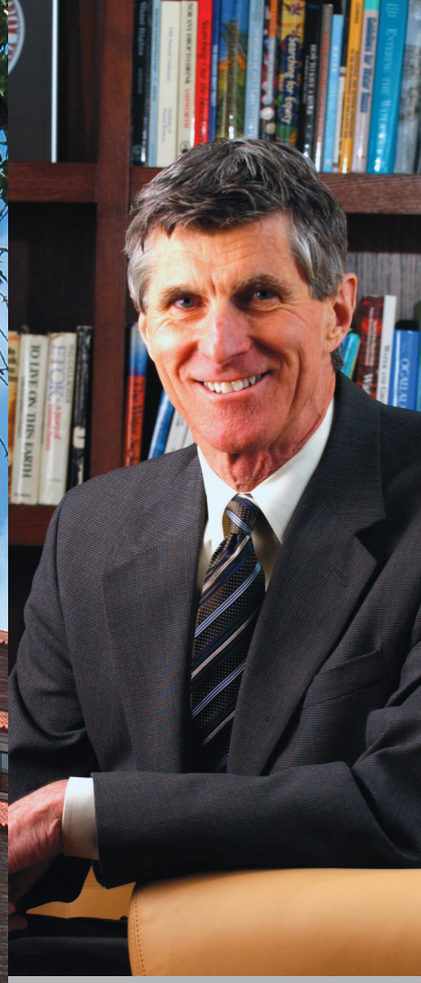
In addition to doing research for the center, you have the opportunity to travel to and participate in national and international programs and projects. Recently students have helped clients with water rights for acequias in rural Colorado; investigated legal issues regarding land use and climate change in Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, and other tropical forest countries; researched energy poverty in Peru; worked on renewable energy and climate adaptation projects with tribes in the American West; and focused on water rights in the Klamath River Valley in the Pacific Northwest.

PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

Energy Innovation
Energy and Environmental Security
Governors' Climate & Forests Task Force
Native Communities & Environmental Justice
Intermountain Oil & Gas BMP
The Other Third
Western Water Policy

EVENTS

Clyde Martz Summer Water Conference
Energy Innovation Big Energy Series
Getches-Wilkinson Center Hot Topics
Martz Winter Sustainability Symposium
Schultz Energy Lecture Series



DAVID GETCHES

Namesake of the Getches-Wilkinson Center and an iconic former dean at Colorado Law, David Getches, is an enduring figure in the history of Indian Law and natural resources law not only in Colorado, but in the American West.

Getches was a tireless advocate for protecting natural resources, land, and water. For Getches, the law of the American West was connected to the land and the people who live there, and he continually conveyed this idea to his students.

FACULTY

WILLIAM BOYD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
MA, PhD, University of California, Berkeley;
JD, Stanford University

Professor William Boyd was an associate at Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., where he provided energy and environmental regulatory and policy advice. He also served as minority counsel and American Association for the Advancement of Science Congressional Science and Technology Policy Fellow with the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

COURSES

Climate Change Law and Policy, Environmental Law, Energy Law & Regulation, and Toxics & Hazardous Waste

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Genealogies of Risk: Searching for Safety, 1930s-1970s, 39 ECOLOGY LAW QUARTERLY 895 (2012).

Responding to Climate Change and the Global Land Crisis: REDD+, Market Transformation, and Low-Emissions Rural Development, 368 PHIL. TRANS. R. SOC. B 20120167 (2013).

Natural Gas and the Transformation of the U.S. Energy Sector: Electricity, Joint Institute for Strategic Energy Analysis, NREL/TP-6A50-55538 (NREL 2012).

LAKSHMAN GURUSWAMY
NICHOLAS DOMAN PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
LLB, Sri Lanka;
PhD (Law), University of Durham, United Kingdom

Professor Lakshman Guruswamy is a recognized expert in international environmental and energy law and policy and speaks and participates at conferences and symposiums around the globe. Prior to joining Colorado Law, he taught in Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom, and at the Universities of Iowa and Arizona.

COURSES

Energy Justice, Energy Insecurity and Sustainable Energy, International Environmental Law, Oil & International Relations, and Pollution Law

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Energy Poverty, 36 ANNUAL REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCES 139 (2011).

SARAH KRAKOFF
SCHADEN CHAIR IN EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING, WOLF-NICHOL FELLOW, AND PROFESSOR
JD, University of California, Berkeley

Professor Sarah Krakoff has served as director of Colorado Law's American Indian Law Clinic and acting director of the Natural Resources Law Center. Prior to joining Colorado Law, she was awarded an Equal Justice Works Fellowship to work on the Navajo Nation as director of the Youth Law Project for DNA-People's Legal Services.

COURSES

Advanced Topics in American Indian Law, Foundations of Natural Resources Law and Policy, American Indian Law I, Advanced Natural Resources Law, Civil Procedure, Environmental Philosophy and Law, and Public Land Law

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Settler Colonialism and Reclamation: Where American Indian Law and Natural Resources Law Meet, 24 COLO. NAT. RESOURCES, ENERGY & ENVTL. L. REV. 261 (2013).

Inextricably Political: Race, Membership and Tribal Sovereignty, 87 WASHINGTON LAW REVIEW 1041 (2012).

Tribes, Land and Environment (with Ezra Rosser, eds) (Ashgate Publishing, 2012).

MICHAEL SOULES
ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR
MP, University of California, Berkeley;
JD, Yale University

Clinical Professor Michael Soules practice focused on clean air litigation and natural resources protection at the Environmental Law & Policy Center and Faegre & Benson. His practical expertise guides students through many types of legal assistance for clients of the Getches-Green Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic.

MARK SQUILLACE
PROFESSOR
JD, University of Utah

Professor Mark Squillace is an expert and frequent speaker on natural resources law issues. In 2000, he served as Special Assistant to the Solicitor at the U.S. Department of the Interior, working directly with Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt.

COURSES

Administrative Law, Advanced Natural Resources Law, Environmental Decision-Making, Environmental Law, Natural Resources, and Water Resources

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

NEPA, Climate Change, and Public Lands Decision Making, 42 ENVIRONMENTAL LAWYER 469 (2012).

The Tragic Story of the Federal Coal Leasing Program, 27 NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT 29 (2013).

Water Transfers for a Changing Climate, 53 NATURAL RESOURCES JOURNAL 55 (2013).

BRADLEY UDALL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GETCHES-WILKINSON CENTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT
MBA, Colorado State University

With a successful career in natural resources policy, Brad Udall, executive director of the Getches-Wilkinson Center, previously was the director of the CU-Boulder–NOAA Western Water Assessment and a research faculty member at CU's Cooperative Institute for Research in the Environmental Sciences (CIRES).

RECENT PUBLICATION

Understanding Uncertainties in Future Colorado River Streamflow, BULL. AM. METEOROLOGICAL SOC'Y (2013).

CHARLES WILKINSON
DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR AND MOSES LASKY PROFESSOR OF LAW
LLB, Stanford University

Professor Charles Wilkinson is a nationally known author and expert on federal public land and Western water law. He has received top awards from CU-Boulder, the University of Oregon, and the National Wildlife Federation. In addition to teaching since 1975, he has served as a special counsel to the Department of the Interior and a Committee of Scientists member for the U.S. Forest Service. He has written 15 books.

COURSES

American Indian Law II, Advanced Natural Resources Law, Foundations of Natural Resources Law and Policy, Public Land Law, and Water Law

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Cases and Materials on Federal Indian Law (6th ed. 2011).

Heeding the Clarion Call for Sustainable, Spiritual Western Landscapes: Will the People Be Granted a New Forest Service?, 33 PUBLIC LAND & RESOURCES LAW REVIEW 1 (2012).

The People Are Dancing Again: The History of the Siletz Tribe of Western Oregon (2010).

William Boyd, Sarah Krakoff, Mark Squillace, Bradley Udall, Lakshman Guruswamy, and Charles Wilkinson

[LEFT TO RIGHT]

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy speaks before a panel discussion of President Obama's Climate Action Plan at the University of Colorado Law School. The panel included former Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter ('81), Colorado Oil and Gas Association President Tisha Schuller, and Brad Udall, director of the law school's Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment. The standing-room only event was open to the public.