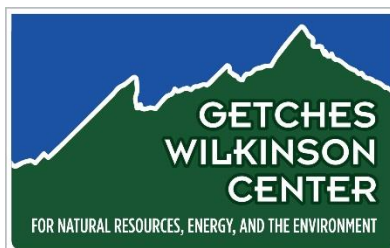


FLPMA Turns 40

University of Colorado School of Law
Wolf Law Building, Wittemyer Courtroom
Friday, October 21, 2016



Event Sponsors



Agenda: Friday, October 21st

7:30-8:00 Welcome and Refreshments

8:00-8:15 Welcoming Remarks

8:15-9:10 a.m.

FLPMA in its Historical Context

This session traces the history of FLPMA including, among other things, its legislative, administrative, and historical antecedents, including for example, and the Public Land Law Review Commission's 1970 report, *One Third of Our Nation's Lands*. It then considers FLPMA's unique public lands policies and requirements and how they are reflected in the BLM's management of public lands today.

See: https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/blm/history/contents.htm

Speaker:

John Leshy, University of California, Hastings College of Law

Moderator and commentator:

Karin Sheldon, Four Echoes Strategies

9:10-10:30 a.m.

Managing our Public Lands under the Multiple Use Mandate (The BLM Directors Panel)

The current and a former BLM Director discuss the challenges of managing public lands under FLPMA's multiple use mandate. Among the issues that will be covered are land use planning, resource constraints, the challenges of balancing commodity uses alongside recreational uses and environmental values. Each panelist will offer their vision for how the BLM should evolve over the next several decades.

Panelists:

Mike Dombeck, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point

Neil Kornze, Director, Bureau of Land Management

Moderator and commentator:

Ruth Welch, Colorado State Director, BLM

**10:30-10:50 Morning Networking Break
(Refreshments provided in Boettcher Hall)**

10:50 to Noon

Managing our Public Lands for Conservation Values

Even before the creation of the National Landscape Conservation System, the BLM had a conservation mantle. FLPMA itself provides for protection of wilderness and wilderness study areas as well as for areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs), and BLM national monuments. These and other protected BLM lands, including historic and cultural properties, now fall under the umbrella of the NLCS and the panel will consider the role of the NLCS in broadening the BLM's mission, and in affording the agency a conservation agenda.

Panelists:

Kristin Bail, Bureau of Land Management

Brett Dickson, Conservation Science Partners

Ken Rait, The Pew Charitable Trusts

Moderator and commentator:

Fred Cheever, University of Denver, Sturm College of Law

**Noon-1:15 Hosted Lunch
Environmental Law Society BBQ**

Lunch Speaker:

Brian O'Donnell, Conservation Lands Foundation

The Past, Present, and Future of BLM National Monuments

1:15 to 2:30 p.m.

Managing our Public Lands for Extractive Uses

Our public lands have long been used for extractive uses. These include for example, mineral leasing, hard rock mining, livestock grazing, and more recently large-scale renewable energy siting. The panel will consider how well the current system is working and how it might be improved.

Panelists:

Roger Flynn, Western Mining Action Project

Kathryn Kovacs, Bureau of Land Management

Rebecca Watson, Wellborn, Sullivan, Meck, and Tooley, P.C.

Moderator and commentator:

Marcilynn Burke, University of Houston Law Center

**2:30-2:50 Afternoon Networking Break
(with Birthday Cake)**

2:50 to 4:10 p.m.

Modern Challenges and Modern Solutions

The BLM faces many recurring challenges. On the land use planning side, the BLM is struggling to incorporate landscape-level planning and adaptive management into its program in the face of serious resource constraints. Challenges to the BLM's management authority abound as shown by the Cliven Bundy incident, the Malheur Wildlife Refuge standoff, the state supremacy movement, and the long-standing fight over R.S. 2477 roads. On the other hand, cooperative efforts to protect the greater sage grouse suggest that interested parties can still work together to resolve difficult problems. This panel consider these multiple challenges and the hopeful signs that people can come together to address the myriad problems that face our public lands.

Panelists:

Bret Birdsong, UNLV School of Law

Nada Culver, The Wilderness Society

Dave Theobald, Conservation Science Partners

Moderator and commentator:

Mark Squillace, University of Colorado School of Law

4:10 to 5:10 p.m.

The Future of our Public Lands

This wrap-up panel will consider how FLPMA might look in the short term – during the next presidential administration, and what we might expect going forward over the next 40 years.

Panelists:

Mike Dombeck, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point

Linda Lance, Bureau of Land Management (Invited)

John Leshy, University of California, Hastings College of Law

Speaker Biographies (alphabetical by last name)

Kristen Bail



Kristin Bail is the Assistant Director for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Resources and Planning Directorate. She previously served as the BLM's Assistant Director for National Conservation Lands and Community Partnerships.

Kristin brings to this position an abundance of experience from more than 32 years of public land management service across Oregon, Arizona, North Carolina and Washington, D.C. She has served in a variety of field positions as well as in policy and leadership roles throughout the BLM and Forest Service, including a staff position in the BLM's National Conservation Lands System.

Bail joined the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon in 1984 as a Cooperative Education student trainee in hydrology and spent the first 10 years of her career in the BLM's Lakeview District. Most recently, she served as the Forest Supervisor for the four National Forests in North Carolina which are among the most visited National Forest units in the country, hosting more than 7.5 million visitors annually. She also served as the Deputy Forest Supervisor for the Coconino National Forest in northern Arizona and as a District Ranger in Central Oregon.

Bail grew up in Phoenix, Arizona and graduated from Washington State University with a Bachelor of Science in geology. Her husband, Barron, retired from the BLM in 2010 after a 32-year career with the agency.

Bret Birdsong



Professor Birdsong earned his J.D., summa cum laude, from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in 1993. After clerking for Judge Robert P. Patterson, Jr., of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, Professor Birdsong joined the United States Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division, as a trial attorney focusing on public land and natural resources litigation from 1994-2000. As an Ian Axford Fellow in Public Policy in 1998, he studied New Zealand's specialized Environment Court and served as a visiting fellow in the office of New Zealand's Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment. Professor Birdsong teaches Environmental Quality Law, Public Lands and Natural Resources Law, Administrative Law, Property and Civil Procedure. His research focuses on federal land and resources management.

Marcilynn Burke



Professor Marcilynn A. Burke joined the University of Houston Law Center faculty in 2002, and teaches courses in property law, land use law, and federal natural resources law. Her research articles have been published in noted journals, such as the Notre Dame Law Review and the Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum. In the past, she served as the faculty editor for recent developments and book reviews for the Law Center's ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY LAW & POLICY JOURNAL (EELPJ). She also served as a co-director of the EENR Center and the lead faculty editor for EELPJ.

After receiving tenure in 2009, Professor Burke took a leave of absence from the Law Center until 2013, to serve at the U.S. Department of the Interior, where she began as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Deputy Director for Programs and Policy. In 2011, President Barack Obama designated her as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management (ASLM). As the Acting ASLM, she helped develop the land use, resource management, and regulatory oversight policies that are administered by four federal agencies: the BLM; the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management; the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement; and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement. These agencies—with over 12,000 employees—endeavor to ensure appropriate management and use of federal lands, waters, and cultural resources, and the regulation of surface coal mining.

Federico Cheever



Federico Cheever is Professor of Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. He came to Denver as an Associate Attorney for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (1987-1989). With a few exceptions, he has been in Denver ever since. Between 1990 and 1993, he was an associate at the law firm Faegre & Benson, in Denver. He began teaching at the University of Denver College of Law in 1993 specializing in Environmental Law, Wildlife Law, Public Land Law, Land Conservation Transactions and Property. From 2005-2007 he served as an adjunct professor at the Colorado School of Mines, teaching Environmental Law. In 2006 he was selected DU Law Star for excellence in teaching. In 2011, the students of the College of Law chose Prof. Cheever the Most Outstanding Faculty Member for that year. Professor Cheever writes extensively about the Endangered Species Act, federal public land law and land conservation

transactions. He has co-authored a natural resources casebook, *Natural Resources Law: A Place-Based Book of Problems and Cases*, with Christine Klein and Bret Birdsong (3rd ed. 2013). Currently he serves as Co-Director the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program.

Nada Wolff Culver



Nada Wolff Culver is Senior Counsel and Director of the BLM Action Center at The Wilderness Society, providing technical advice and support to citizens and conservation groups working to protect their public lands.

The Wilderness Society's mission is to protect wilderness and inspire Americans to care for our wild places. The BLM Action Center, located in Denver, Colorado, assists and encourages people to participate in land use planning processes and management decisions, including those addressing transmission, renewable energy, fossil fuel development and protection of wilderness. The BLM Action Center also seeks to influence national policy on management of our federal public lands.

Before joining The Wilderness Society, she practiced law in the private sector for more than 10 years, working on a variety of environmental issues including energy development and environmental remediation, and was a partner with the law firm of Patton Boggs. She is a graduate of Northwestern University and the University of Pennsylvania School of Law.

Brett Dickson



Brett G. Dickson, PhD, is a conservation biologist, landscape and wildlife ecologist, ecological modeler, and fierce advocate for strong inference. He is the founder, president, and chief scientist of the nonprofit Conservation Science Partners, based in Truckee, CA, and Fort Collins, CO. Brett also is an associate professor with the Landscape Conservation Initiative and the School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Sustainability at Northern Arizona University. In addition, he is an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Geography at the University of Nevada, Reno. Brett is a recent David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellow with the Society for Conservation Biology, and currently serves on the editorial board for the journal *Conservation Biology*.

Mike Dombeck



One of the most renowned and respected contemporary conservationists, Mike Dombeck dedicated a quarter of a century to managing federal lands and natural resources in the long-term public interest. Mike is the only person to have ever served as both the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Chief of the US Forest Service. His leadership impacted nearly 500 million acres of public lands. His legacy is one of steadfast stewardship for the land, and he is most noted for significant efforts toward watershed health and restoration, sustainable forest ecosystem management, sound forest roads and roadless area protection. As the capstone to his life-long career in public service, he was granted the highest award in federal service, the Presidential Rank – Distinguished Executive Award.

Dr. Dombeck is also the recipient of the prestigious Audubon Medal the Lady Bird Johnson Conservation Award and Ansel Adams Award. He has authored, co-authored, and edited over 200 popular and scholarly publications, including the books *Watershed Restoration: Principles and Practices*, *From Conquest to Conservation: Our Public Lands Legacy*, *The Business of the Conservation Nonprofit*, and *My Healthy Stream*.

Dr. Dombeck also served as UW System Fellow and Professor of Global Conservation at the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens. He writes popular and technical articles, lectures and makes frequent national and international presentations on current environmental, natural resource management, and social issues.

Roger Flynn



Roger Flynn is the founding Director and Managing Attorney of the Western Mining Action Project (WMAP). Founded in 1993 and based in Lyons, Colorado, WMAP is the nation's only non-profit public interest law firm specializing in hardrock mining and related public land and environmental laws. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Colorado School of Law (since 2002), teaching courses in Natural Resources Law and Mining and Mineral Development Law. He was also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Wyoming College of Law (2004-2010). WMAP represents conservation groups, local communities, and Native American groups and Tribes before state and federal courts on project-specific mining litigation, administrative permitting disputes, and litigation over state and national mining regulations. Roger received his J.D. from the University of Colorado in 1991 and his B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Lehigh University in 1984.

Neil Kornze



Neil Kornze was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the Director of the Bureau of Land Management on April 8, 2014. Prior to assuming the role of Director, Kornze served the agency in a number of capacities, including as Principal Deputy Director, Acting Deputy Director, and Senior Advisor.

Kornze now oversees the nation's largest natural resources organization, with responsibility for more than ten percent of the land in the United States and one-third of the country's minerals. The Bureau of Land Management has nearly 10,000 employees and an annual budget of \$1.3 billion.

Under his leadership, the agency has undertaken major reforms of the nation's energy programs. Substantial updates to the federal oil and gas program have been made, and a three-year, top-to-bottom review of the federal coal program was launched in early 2016. Kornze also played a key role in the development of the Western Solar Plan, which has helped guide the agency's approval of more than 15,000 megawatts of clean energy production.

Kornze has been a leader on major conservation efforts including the creation of the west-wide plan to protect the Greater Sage Grouse. He has also raised awareness of the National Conservation Lands, the nation's newest and wildest system of protected areas that include 9 new national monuments.

Before coming to the Bureau of Land Management, Kornze worked as a Senior Advisor to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada. Kornze has also served as an international election observer in Macedonia, the Ukraine, and Georgia. He earned a bachelor's degree in Politics from Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington and a master's degree in International Relations from the London School of Economics.

Kathryn Kovacs



Kathryn Kovacs is currently serving as Senior Advisor to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management in the U.S. Department of the Interior. She is an Associate Professor at Rutgers Law School where she teaches administrative law, natural resources law, and property. Prior to joining the Rutgers faculty in 2011, she spent twelve years in the U.S. Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division, Appellate Section. Professor Kovacs also spent three years litigating primarily constitutional claims as an attorney in the Baltimore City Law Department, and she clerked for the Honorable Robert C. Murphy, former Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals. Professor Kovacs is a *cum laude* graduate of Yale University and the Georgetown University Law Center.

Linda Lance

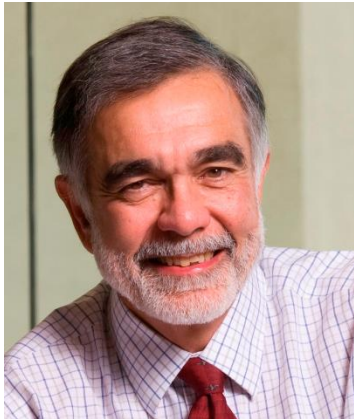
Linda Lance has served as the Deputy Director for Policy and Programs at the Bureau of Land Management in the US Department of the Interior since 2013. In that position she has responsibilities for national policy development in the wide range of complex issues involved in managing BLM's 245 million acres of public land and 700 million acres of subsurface minerals for multiple use and sustained yield.

Immediately prior to coming to BLM, Ms. Lance was Senior Counsel to the US Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, advising Chairman Jeff Bingaman on issues including offshore oil and gas development and land conservation.

During the Clinton Administration she served as an advisor to Vice President Gore and to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; and later as Associate Director in the White House Council on Environmental Quality with responsibility for transportation, clean air, energy, and land management issues. She then was Vice President for Public Policy for The Wilderness Society, a non-profit organization advocating for the protection of America's wild lands.

She graduated from the University of Florida cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in political science, and received a J.D. degree with honors from the University of Maryland School of Law.

John Leshy



John D. Leshy is the Harry D. Sunderland Distinguished Professor of Property Law Emeritus at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. On the faculty there since 2001, he has taught property, constitutional law, federal Indian law, water law, and natural resources/public land law. Previously he was Solicitor (General Counsel) of the Department of the Interior throughout the Clinton Administration; special counsel to the Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee (1992-93); a law professor at Arizona State University (1980-92); Associate Solicitor of Interior for Energy & Resources in the Carter Administration (1977-80); with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) in California (1972-77), and a litigator in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice in Washington D.C. (1969-72). He led the Interior Department transition team for the Clinton-Gore (chair) and Obama-Biden transitions (co-chair). He has four times been a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, from which he graduated in 1969 after earning an A.B. at Harvard College. He has also taught as a visitor at the University of San Diego and an adjunct at Georgetown Law School. Leshy has published widely on public lands, water and other natural resources issues, and on constitutional and comparative law, including books on the Mining Law of 1872 (*The Mining Law*, 1987) and the Arizona State Constitution (2d ed. 2013, in the series of Oxford Commentaries on the State Constitutions of the United States). He is co-author of Federal Public Land and Resources Law (Foundation Press, 7th ed. 2014, with Coggins, Wilkinson & Fischman) and Legal Control of Water Resources (West Publishing, 5th ed. 2012, with Thompson & Abrams). He has litigated cases in state and federal courts, served on numerous commissions and boards, and starting in 2002 was president and is now vice-chair of the Board of the Wyss Foundation, which supports land conservation, primarily in the intermountain West. He is also on the board of the Grand Canyon Trust.

Brian O'Donnell



Brian O'Donnell is the Executive Director of the Conservation Lands Foundation. Brian leads the foundation's efforts to protect, restore, and expand the Bureau of Land Management's National Conservation Lands. At CLF, Brian launched a campaign to secure new National Monuments, which encouraged President Obama to designate Fort Ord (CA), Chimney Rock (CO), San Juan Islands (WA) and Rio Grande del Norte (NM), Organ Mountains Desert Peaks (NM), and Basin & Range (NV) National Monuments.

Prior to joining CLF, Brian was the National Public Lands Director for Trout Unlimited (TU). In that capacity, he led TU's efforts to protect National Forest Roadless Areas, the Wyoming Range, and Oregon's Copper-Salmon Wilderness. Brian also worked for The Wilderness Society where he led campaigns resulting in the congressional designation of the Black Rock Desert and Sloan Canyon National Conservation Areas and dozens of new legislated Wilderness areas throughout Nevada. Brian was the co-founder of the Nevada Wilderness Coalition, Wilderness Support Center, and West Virginia Wilderness Coalition. In the early-mid 1990s Brian served as the Executive Director of the Alaska Wilderness League, where he worked to safeguard Alaska's wild places.

Brian earned a B.A. in Economics from Rollins College in 1993. He lives in Durango, Colorado with his wife Melyssa and daughter Kara.

Ken Rait



A public lands conservation advocate for 29 years, Ken Rait is currently Director of the U.S. Public Lands Program at the Pew Charitable Trusts. He runs the Trusts' Western Lands Initiative and is working to administratively protect wild lands managed by the nation's largest land manager, the Bureau of Land Management. He previously ran the campaign program at the Trusts' Campaign for America's Wilderness, working with grassroots wilderness advocacy organizations from around the country to develop and implement politically viable wilderness campaign plans. He served as Director of the Heritage Forests Campaign, the organization that successfully advocated for the conservation of nearly 60 million acres of roadless, wild national forest lands through a Clinton Administration rule-making process. He served as Conservation Director for both the Oregon Natural Resources Council and Southern Utah Wilderness

Alliance, and helped lay the groundwork for the 1996 establishment of the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument. Previously, he was the conservation chair of the Sierra Club's Rincon Group in Tucson, Arizona, where he cut his teeth on wilderness advocacy by lobbying for the passage of the Arizona BLM wilderness bill in 1990. At that time he held a faculty position at the University of Arizona's Department of Agricultural Economics as research associate and published in various legal and economics journals. He holds bachelor and master's degrees from Clark University in Massachusetts.

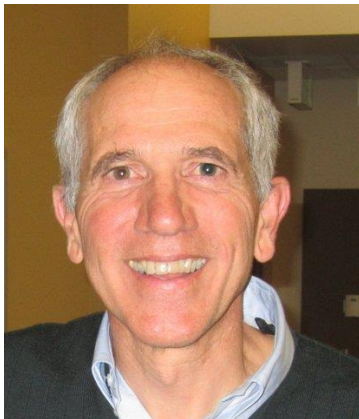
Karin Sheldon



Karin Sheldon is President of Four Echoes Strategies, a consulting firm providing policy analysis and strategic thinking on western conservation issues. She is also an adjunct professor at the University of Colorado School of Law and a Senior Fellow of the Law School's Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy and the Environment. From 2007 to 2013 she was President of Western Resource Advocates, a regional non-profit environmental organization working to promote clean energy and protect the West's land, water and natural resources. Prior to 2007, Ms. Sheldon was Associate Dean for the Environmental Law Program, Professor of Law, and Director of the Environmental Law Center at Vermont Law School. Before joining the faculty at Vermont Law School in 1994, Ms. Sheldon was President of The Wilderness Society in Washington, D.C., a staff attorney with Earth Justice in Colorado, a partner in a public interest law firm, and one of Ralph Nader's original "Raiders". She received her

AB in Political Science from Vassar College and her J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law.

Mark Squillace



Professor Mark Squillace joined the faculty at the University of Colorado Law School in 2005 and served as the Director of the Natural Resources Law Center there until 2013. Before joining the Colorado law faculty, Professor Squillace taught at the University of Toledo College of Law where he was named the Charles Fornoff Professor of Law and Values. Professor Squillace has also taught at the University of Wyoming College of Law, and at Wyoming he served a three-year term as the Winston S. Howard Professor of Law. He is a former Fulbright scholar and the author or co-author of numerous articles and books on natural resources and environmental law, including most recently, *Environmental Decisionmaking for the 21st Century* (2016). In 2000, Professor Squillace took a leave from law teaching to serve as Special Assistant to the Solicitor at the U.S. Department of

the Interior. In that capacity he worked directly with the Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt, on a wide range of legal and policy issues.

Dave Theobald



Dave is Senior Scientist at the non-profit Conservation Science Partners Inc. He is a landscape ecologist and geographer who specializes in assessing the effects of land use change on wildlife habitat and biodiversity at local to national to global scales. He has over 20 years' experience in collaborating on landscape assessments and interdisciplinary projects, including resource assessments, inventories of protected lands, connectivity and permeability studies, and analyses of proposed policy changes on natural resource sustainability. He is also a long-time member of the Society for Conservation Biology (SCB), is currently a member of the board of directors for the North American section of SCB, is active with the David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellow program, and is an

adjunct faculty member in the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at Colorado State University.

Rebecca Watson



Rebecca Watson is a shareholder in the law firm of Welborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, P.C. in Denver. With more than 30 years of legal and policy experience in the fields of conventional and renewable energy, mining, natural resources and federal environmental law, Rebecca counsels companies on environmental regulatory compliance and assists them with agency engagement strategies. As Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management of the U.S. Department of the Interior in the George W. Bush administration, she had oversight over 3 energy resource bureaus, the Bureau of Land Management, the Minerals Management Service and the Office of Surface Mining, led 12,000 employees and managed a \$1 billion budget. She implemented the Administration's multiple-use management policies for mining, oil and gas, recreation, forestry and

wildlife on more than 261 million acres. Rebecca earlier served as the Assistant General Counsel for Energy Policy at the U.S. Department of Energy.

Rebecca has been honored by the Boone and Crockett Club for her work in conservation while at the Interior, named Distinguished Natural Resource Practitioner-in-Residence at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, her alma mater, and was recently inducted into The Fellows of the American Bar Foundation. She served as Program Chair for the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation's 60th Annual Institute and is currently on the Foundation's governing board, as well as Chair of Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, an appointed member of the Jefferson County Open Space Advisory Committee and former Secretary of Western Energy Alliance.

Ruth Welch



Ruth Welch began her Federal career with the Office of Surface Mining in 1989 and joined the BLM in 1993. Since then, she has served in a variety of positions throughout the Bureau. As a management analyst with the Office of Information Resource Management (IRM)/Modernization and as the special assistant to the first BLM Chief Information Officer, she helped design the Bureau's IRM organizations to meet the changing technology needs during the late 1990s. She moved to the field in 2001 as an Assistant Field Manager for the Milwaukee Field Office and then to the Eastern States Office as the Deputy State Director for Business Services. In 2006, she transferred to the Washington Office as the Division Chief for Business Resources, managing Bureau wide programs for engineering, property, contracting, and grants/agreements, as well as providing human resources, IRM, and business services support to the Washington Office.

From 2009 to 2012, she held the position of Associate State Director for Wyoming and Nebraska. During that time, she co-led the Secretary's wild horse and burro initiative and acted as the State Director for Eastern States. Ruth served as the Director of the BLM's National Operations Center from April 2012 to February 2014, when she began acting as BLM Colorado's State Director. She was officially sworn in as the State Director in June 2014.

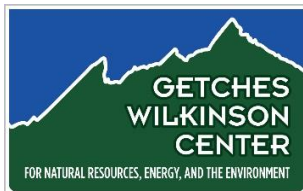
Ruth graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in sociology and English literature in 1986 from Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado. She earned a Master of Public Administration at the University of Colorado at Denver in 2000. Ruth and her husband Mark are Colorado natives who enjoy cycling, hiking, skiing, and other outdoor activities. They have two grown children and six grandchildren.

University of Colorado Law School



Established in 1892, the University of Colorado Law School is one of the top public law schools in the United States. Colorado Law School's diverse student body is selected from among the statistically best applicants from every corner of the nation representing over 100 undergraduate institutions, and its highly published faculty is dedicated to interacting with students both inside and outside the classroom. The school's state-of-the-art green building is located at the base of the Rocky Mountains in beautiful Boulder, Colorado. With about 500 students and a low student to faculty ratio, Colorado Law School is a thriving academic community where the study of law is embraced to create leaders who recognize the civic responsibilities essential to the legal profession.

Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment



The Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy and the Environment continues the long-standing work of Colorado Law's Natural Resources Law Center. The newly renamed Center endeavors to serve 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 use of the lands, waters, and environment. Major programs and initiatives focus on natural resources, water and public lands issues in Colorado and the West; energy and environmental security in the developing world; electricity regulation and energy policy; climate change law and policy; and native communities and environmental justice. The name comes from the contributions of two iconic figures in the law school's environmental law history, David Getches and Charles Wilkinson.

Upcoming Events

2017 Martz Winter Symposium

Thursday, March 2nd - Friday, March 3rd, 2017

University of Colorado Law School, Wittemyer Courtroom

More information coming soon: <http://www.colorado.edu/law/research/gwc/events>

2017 Martz Summer Conference

Fighting Back on the Colorado River: Carving Out Progress on Multiple Fronts

Thursday, June 8th - Friday, June 9th, 2017

University of Colorado Law School, Wittemyer Courtroom

More information coming soon: <http://www.colorado.edu/law/research/gwc/events>