

Water Law Review

Volume 17 | Issue 2

Article 2

1-1-2014

Vol. 17, no. 2: Editor's Note

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Everette R. Bullard, Editor's Note, 17 U. Denv. Water L. Rev. [x] (2014).

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you for your interest in the Spring 2014 Issue of the *Water Law Review*! This Issue marks the end of another successful year (our seventeenth) as a publication and student organization. Our continued success is largely attributable to the support of a community here in Colorado that shares our passion for water law and policy as a vital tool for building a prosperous future in the arid West.

Over the past year, Coloradoans have been especially focused on our water future. In May of 2013, Governor John Hickenlooper issued an executive order mandating that the Colorado Water Conservation Board under its new executive director, James Ecklund, develop a statewide water plan. As one of the last western states to develop such a plan, the topic quickly became a focal point of discussion for stakeholders around the state.

Building on a tradition of fostering dialogue around issues of central importance to the water world, the *Water Law Review* was proud to focus our 7th Annual Spring Symposium on Colorado's ambitious water planning efforts. Entitled *Prepare. Protect. Prioritize. Exploring Colorado's New Water Plan*, the symposium was held on April 18th and drew more than one hundred practitioners, policy makers, students, and other experts to the Sturm College of Law for a day of lively discussion. Thanks to the hard work of Symposium Editor Chris Stevens and the generosity of the Colorado Water Conservation Board and our other sponsors, the event was a rousing success. James Ecklund started the day with an overview of the process and policy behind the new water plan, and panelists from around Colorado and neighboring states shared their perspectives on the promise and perils of statewide water planning. Detailed accounts of the presentations can be found in the Conference Notes section of this Issue, and videos and materials from the symposium can be found at www.duwaterlawreview.com.

It is also my pleasure to present five outstanding articles and a wealth of student writing in this Issue focusing on timely and critical issues in water law and policy. Our first article, *The Problem of Nutrient Pollution: Lessons from Florida's Fragmented Approach*, comes from Ryan Abrams and provides an excellent examination of the challenges of regulating non-point source pollution through the lens of two conflicting frameworks in Florida. Next, Virginia Cornett outlines potential avenues for Mexico to realize its goal of integrated water resource management - specifically environmental flows - in her excellent article entitled *Limitations and Opportunities for Environmental Flow Implementation under Current Mexican Law and Policy*. Ryan Donovan, P. Andrew Jones, and Alyson Scott provide our next article, *One Step Forward and Two Steps Back: The Prospect for Ditch-wide Quantifications and Alternative Transfer Methods*. This excellent piece explores the potential efficiency of ditch-wide quantification of historic consumptive use, noting recent Colorado Supreme Court decisions that have both endorsed such an approach and created precedent likely to discourage future transfers based on ditch-wide quantification.

Our fourth article, *The Role of Temporary Changes of Water Rights in Colorado*, is authored by Ryan McLane and John Dingess and offers a fascinating examination of the present challenges and future potential of temporary water rights transfers in Colorado. Finally, Professors Stephen Mumme, Kim Collins, and Jose Luis Castro present a persuasive argument for a new binational agreement to sustainably manage the Tijuana River watershed in *Strengthening Binational Management of the Tijuana River*. Please make sure to also enjoy the selection of high-quality student writing located in the Book Notes, Case Note, Conference Reports, and Court Reports sections of the Issue. Meghan Leemon deserves special recognition for her case note examining lessons Colorado might learn from water planning processes throughout the west.

It has been a unique privilege to serve at the helm of the *Water Law Review* this year. I owe a special debt of gratitude to the outstanding staff, Editorial Board, and Advisory Board whose hard work supports this publication and student organization. Without them, and readers like you, this fine journal would not be possible.

Everette R. Bullard
Editor-in-Chief

