

Water Law Review

Volume 9 | Issue 1

Article 2

9-1-2005

Vol. 9, no. 1: Editor's Note

Ryan D. Phillips

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Custom Citation

Ryan D. Phillips, Editor's Note, 9 U. Denv. Water L. Rev. [viii] (2005).

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EDITOR'S NOTE

From snowmelt and rain clouds, to streams and rivers, every ounce of fresh water must endure a long journey on its way to the ocean. The journey may include a sprinkler system, a turbine, a reservoir, a fish, a kayaker, or even a trip through a wellhead. This incredibly complex and diverse hydrologic system inspired the equally diverse system of law governing the distribution of water. This issue of the *Water Law Review* highlights the diversity of the body of law that we casually refer to as "water law." Collectively, the articles in this issue serve to remind us that when dealing with a resource that travels beyond jurisdictional lines, we must often look beyond our state laws to those of neighboring states as well as federal law, constitutional law, and international law.

In our lead article, *Governmental Interference with the Use of Water: When Do Unconstitutional "Takings" Occur?*, James Davenport, Craig Bell, and other members of the Western States Water Council's Legal Committee provide a thorough and in-depth review of takings jurisprudence. After evaluating the law on takings, they apply the law to interests in water to determine when courts might find an unconstitutional taking requiring just compensation. Lastly, the authors discuss the valuation of just compensation when the government unconstitutionally takes a private interest in water.

Moving from constitutional law to federal law, Kent Holsinger discusses the Colorado River Storage Project Act ("CRSPA") in *Colorado River Storage Project Act Purposes: Does the Tail Wag the Dog?*. In this article, Mr. Holsinger explores Congress's intent in passing the CRSPA. He considers both legislative history and the CRSPA's interaction with other federal laws addressing the issue of how Congress should operate CRSPA facilities.

From federal law we transition to state law in *Sustaining the Unsustainable: Development of the Denver Basin Aquifers* by Eric Potyondy. Mr. Potyondy first provides a thorough discussion of the hydrology of the Denver Basin aquifers and Colorado groundwater law. He then goes on to offer some solutions to resolve the disparity between the science of groundwater hydrology and the law.

In *A Tale of Two River Basins: The Southeast Finds Itself in a Rare Interstate Water Struggle*, Andrew Thornley discusses the dispute over interstate waters between Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. Focusing on two extremely important southeastern river basins, the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River system and the Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa River system, Mr. Thornley discusses the desires of each state, the key issues of the dispute, and the current lack of a solution.

Our "International Perspectives" section addresses an international issue close to home, the Colorado River. In *Saving a Dying Oasis: Utiliz-*

ing the United Nations Convention on Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses to Preserve and Restore the Colorado River Delta, Sean Olson discusses an oft-forgotten part of the Colorado River, the delta where it discharges into the Gulf of California. Mr. Olson discusses the “Law of the River” incorporating international law. He concludes by proffering, and evaluating, possible legal solutions that the United States and Mexico could use to save the deteriorating Colorado River delta.

We hope you find the diversity of law and issues contained within these articles informative and thought provoking. Additionally, the *Water Law Review* values your continued support, and we hope you will share your thoughts and opinions regarding our publication.

Ryan D. Phillips
Editor-in-Chief