

# Water Law Review

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Volume 2 | Issue 1

Article 2

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9-1-1998

## Vol. 2, no. 1: Editor's Note

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### Custom Citation

Debra Eiland, Editor's Note, 2 U. Denv. Water L. Rev. [vii] (1998).

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

In this issue of the *Water Law Review*, the authors present insightful articles advocating for better means of preserving both water quality and quantity. Our lead article, *The California Supreme Court Reviews the Mojave River Adjudication*, offers an excellent preview of what may lie ahead for California groundwater management. Mr. Eric Garner and Mr. Steven Anderson provide a thorough review of California groundwater law, and analyze the state of that law in the context of new law that may unfold as the California Supreme Court considers the serious concerns of Mojave River Basin appropriators.

Ms. Tara Cavanaugh addresses the failure of state and federal law to adequately protect groundwater quality in her article regarding groundwater contamination. Ms. Cavanaugh begins with a critical analysis of current federal regulation, then provides an instructive review of the steps taken by states and the judiciary to help remedy the void left by federal environmental laws.

Mr. Randall Cherry presents an innovative water quality control strategy in his article discussing effluent trading. He uses the mining industry as a case study for his analysis and suggests that, although it has some potential drawbacks, effluent trading may provide viable pollution control incentives acceptable to industry, regulators, and public interests.

This issue's commentary by Mr. Richard Morrison reminds us that we are accountable for the results of our professional activities. Mr. Morrison discusses the perceived inapplicability of ethics to issues involving the environment and natural resources, and admonishes that an attitude change is needed if we are to preserve a high quality of life. Mr. Morrison challenges us to apply the same ethical standards when dealing with natural resources and the environment as we apply to other legal matters.

Beginning with this issue, we are pleased to present a new Conference Report section. The Conference Reports summarize recent seminars, workshops, and professional conferences addressing topical water related issues. The topic of this issue's report, instream flows, is one of paramount concern to municipalities, Native American tribes, industry, and private citizens. We anticipate that these reports will provide our readers with a unique resource for future reflection and research of current issues.

These articles all demonstrate that water law is continuing to evolve. This issue is dedicated to a great water lawyer who heavily influenced today's water law landscape - Mr. Glenn Saunders. In tribute to Mr. Saunders' contributions, we have reprinted his autobiography, *Reflections on Sixty Years of Water Law Practice*. We hope you will find it an insightful and enjoyable presentation of water law's rich history.

Debra Eiland  
*Editor-in-Chief*