

9-1-1998

Mark S. Dennison, Storm Water Discharges: Regulatory Compliance and Best Management Practices

Candace Deen

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.du.edu/wlr>



Part of the [Law Commons](#)

Custom Citation

Candace Deen, Book Note, Mark S. Dennison, Storm Water Discharges: Regulatory Compliance and Best Management Practices, 2 U. Denv. Water L. Rev. 119 (1998).

This Book Notes is brought to you for free and open access by the University of Denver Sturm College of Law at Digital Commons @ DU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Water Law Review by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ DU. For more information, please contact jennifer.cox@du.edu, dig-commons@du.edu.

Mark S. Dennison, Storm Water Discharges: Regulatory Compliance and Best Management Practices

International Environmental Negotiations provides an excellent overview of analytical methods for addressing international environmental negotiations from an environmental economic perspective.

Shana Smilovits

Mark S. Dennison, *Storm Water Discharges: Regulatory Compliance and Best Management Practices*, CRC Press, Inc., Boca Raton, Florida (1996); 447pp; \$59.95; ISBN 1-56670-198-8, hardcover.

As its name suggests, *Storm Water Discharges: Regulatory Compliance and Best Management Practices* offers a practical guide in layperson's terms to help facilities navigate through complex storm water discharge requirements. The author, Mark Dennison, goes beyond a simple discussion of regulatory compliance and its technological aspects and actually provides insight into the development and implementation of storm water pollution prevention plans. The book serves as a practical handbook complete with general and industry-specific tables, checklists, glossaries, and a sample Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

Dennison first provides an overview of the storm water pollution problem. He outlines the pollutants in storm water and their associated impacts. He also provides insight into storm water control practices, maintaining that such practices should focus on land disturbance rather than land use, depending upon the area's stage in the urbanization process. Dennison then examines the requirements of storm water discharge regulation. This examination includes the Clean Water Act's NPDES permit program as well as the Environmental Protection Agency's storm water program and nonpoint source pollution control programs.

The next section of the book provides a dissection of the storm water discharge permit process and the technical requirements of that process. Chapter Three describes the options available to facility operators in obtaining permit coverage for storm water discharges associated with their industrial activity. Chapter Four describes the technical requirements of the storm water permit application process discussed in Chapter Three. Dennison provides a pragmatic approach to the technical aspects of compliance, offering solutions to potential problems that may arise during sampling.

Chapter Five offers practical guidance to the development and implementation of storm water pollution prevention plans. This is the focus of Dennison's book and it covers every step from the creation of a Pollution Prevention Team to the identification and evaluation of Best Management Practices ("BMPs"). Dennison explains how to implement the plan, suggests how to evaluate and revise the plan, and details the administrative requirements of such plans. Consistent with the practical approach of the book, Dennison even provides pollution

prevention plan worksheets. Chapters Six and Seven build upon Chapter Five by setting out industry-specific and activity-specific BMPs, respectively. These two chapters provide thorough examples of how effective BMP plans are implemented for particular industries and activities that may contaminate storm water.

Chapters Eight and Nine describe site-specific BMPs designed to minimize, reduce, and eliminate storm water contamination from various industrial activities. Specifically, Chapter Eight addresses flow diversion, exposure minimization, and mitigation practices that may help reduce contamination at industrial facility sites, and Chapter Nine addresses erosion prevention, sediment control, and infiltration practices.

Storm Water Discharges is a functional handbook that guides companies through the regulatory and technical aspects of storm water discharge requirements.

Candace Deen

Wendy Nelson Espeland, *The Struggle for Water: Politics, Rationality, Identity in the American Southwest*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill. (1998); 281pp; \$47.00; ISBN 0-226-21793-0, hardcover.

The Struggle for Water details the successful fight against the proposed Orme Dam by the Yavapai community in Ft. McDowell, Arizona. The author, a professor of sociology at Northwestern University in Chicago, chronicles the water problems of Arizona, their effects on the Yavapai people, and her own work with the Central Arizona Water Control Study ("CAWCS"). Espeland worked for CAWCS as a graduate student, studying the social impact on the Yavapai of the proposed dam. As a whole, the CAWCS investigated the Arizona water supply and flood plans.

The Orme Dam, first proposed by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1944, faced fierce opposition from the Yavapai, who gained support from CAWCS. That group formed an Environmental Impact Assessment for the Bureau of Reclamation, in compliance with NEPA regulations, on the area around the Ft. McDowell reservation. The Bureau chose the reservation for the dam due to its key location for controlling three tributaries of the Gila River: the Salt, Verde, and Agua Fria rivers. The City of Phoenix wanted the dam erected in order to control future flooding after two floods in 1978 and 1979 destroyed homes zoned residential despite their position in a flood plain.

The book presents the issue from a sociological perspective, specifically examining theories of rationalization and commensuration. Espeland outlines these theories in the first chapter. She summarizes rationalization as a maximization of choices to meet a goal, and defines commensuration as measuring two or more different issues with a common standard. Her analysis comes from three different perspec-