

2024

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON SCHOOL OF LAW

**Environmental and Natural
Resources Law Center**

**GROWING TOGETHER: CULTIVATING A
SEEDBED FOR COMMUNITY-ROOTED
CLIMATE SOLUTIONS**



UNIVERSITY OF
OREGON

School of Law

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Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center

Who We Are _____ 1

Message from the
Executive Director _____ 3

Impact of Giving _____ 13

Faculty Updates & Spotlights ____ 16

Enduring Excellence: Celebrating
the Impactful Legacy of Retiring
Professor John Bonine _____ 20

Interdisciplinary Research
Projects and Fellows Program ____ 24

Tomorrow's Leaders: ENR Students
Engage for Change _____ 44

Sage Leadership: Student
Visionaries Found, Steward
Environmental Justice Group
at Oregon Law _____ 51

Contents



GROWING TOGETHER: CULTIVATING A
SEEDBED FOR COMMUNITY-ROOTED
CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

4



FROM CLASSROOM TO CAPITOL:
STUDENTS BRING IDEAS TO, TAKE
INSIGHTS FROM DC

14



FLIGHT PATHS: THREE ALUMNAE
TAKE OFF AS LEADERS AT
WILDLANDS NETWORK

40



PUBLIC INTEREST ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW CONFERENCE

46



Cover Image: *Mt. Jefferson Wilderness* by Photographer Mike Putnam is part of the Knight Law Center's permanent art installation featuring his photographic explorations of Oregon's scenic waterways and landscapes. Putnam calls Bend, Oregon, home.

View his work at www.mikeputnamphoto.com.

WHO WE ARE

Since offering its first environmental and natural resources law courses in the 1960s, Oregon Law has been home to one of the top environmental law programs in the United States. A dynamic hub for environmental-legal research, education, and outreach, the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR) backs intellectual rigor with creative energy to tackle salient challenges of community concern.

"Part of what distinguishes the Oregon Law community," says ENR's executive director, Heather Brinton, JD '96, "is the collective understanding that each of us has a part to play in unbreaking and remaking our world." The ENR Center empowers students, faculty, staff, and community members as they imagine and work to secure a more just and sustainable future for all.

Through the ENR Center, faculty experts and students encounter unique opportunities to collaboratively pursue cutting-edge research, build community around environmental advocacy, and develop new approaches for some of the most pressing socioecological challenges of our day. ENR alumni graduate from Oregon Law eager to take on these challenges as lawyers, policymakers, scholars, and community advocates.

Whether we are equipping our communities through outcome-driven educational programming, co-producing science-backed policy analysis, or championing new research interests in the field of environmental and natural resources law, ENR actively pursues our mission: **engaging the law and policy to support sustainability on Earth.**

"Part of what distinguishes the Oregon Law community is the collective understanding that each of us has a part to play in unbreaking and remaking our world."

— Heather A. Brinton, JD '96

Executive Director, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center



A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

A

PreLaw Magazine
(2024)

#7

In Environmental Law Programs
U.S. News & World Report
(2024)

#2

In PNW Environmental
Law Programs
U.S. News & World Report
(2024)

At Oregon Law, we never take our eyes off the horizon. We collaborate, mobilize, and continuously strive to find better approaches to tackle environmental issues around the globe.

- Innovated courses in public interest environmental law
- First environmental law clinic in the United States
- Home of the oldest and largest Public Interest Environmental Law Conference on the planet
- Created Interdisciplinary Research Projects to tackle climate change

Message from the Executive Director



Keenly aware of both the extraordinary social and environmental challenges we face and the exigent need for equitable and sustainable solutions, the University of Oregon's Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR) continues to drive innovation in pursuit of its mission—engaging the law and policy to support sustainability on Earth.

Through its visionary Interdisciplinary Research Projects and Fellows Program, ENR pairs student energy with faculty expertise to address issues of critical community concern. This approach is rooted in the belief that environmental-legal education should include not only cutting-edge, interdisciplinary curricula, but also offerings that focus on practical skill development across all areas of the legal profession—from law-making to law-applying. It also stems from a collective understanding that we, as lawyers and advocates, all hold a sacred obligation to advance the common good.

Engaging with ENR through the Interdisciplinary Research Projects and Fellows Program, students and faculty are presented with varied opportunities to connect, collaborate, and develop creative, legally grounded solutions to real-world environmental and social problems. As ENR Fellows, students also receive financial support, helping offset the burdensome costs of law school. These experiences and support encourage students to prioritize education, research, and community outreach efforts, all of which are key to their development as budding professionals.

Along with its innovative academic offerings and research opportunities, ENR is distinguished by its community of champions for the environment and the public interest. As you read further about the work of this community, you will see why I feel privileged to serve as ENR's executive director.

In the face of critical environmental and social issues, ENR continues to provide effective legal and policy analysis to practitioners and governmental decision-makers. Our expert faculty continue to demonstrate their commitment to excellence in scholarship, classroom and experience-driven teaching, and public service. Our outstanding alumni continue to work to protect ecosystems and the communities that belong to them. Meanwhile, our students continue to provide new visions for a transformed future.

I am excited to share this inspiring work with you through this Year in Review and welcome your thoughts and suggestions as ENR continues to advance sustainability and justice.

Heather A. Brinton, JD '96

Executive Director

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University of Oregon School of Law

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GROWING TOGETHER:

Cultivating a Seedbed for Community-Rooted Climate Solutions

All around us there are signs of impending climate catastrophe, reminders of a collective desperate need for swift and significant action to address climate change. Driven by this need, Oregon Law's Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR) faculty—a distinguished body of legal educators and research attorneys—engage variously in environmental-legal problem solving. Though they represent a diversity of personal and professional backgrounds, research foci and methodologies, and strengths in teaching, scholarship, and outreach, ENR faculty share a commitment to centering communities in solution building.

Trace the stories of several Oregon Law faculty whose work throughout the 2023-24 academic year enriched ENR's dynamic legacy as a seedbed for community-rooted climate solutions.

Shaping Strategies for Carbon Cleanup

1.5° Celsius. According to the world's top climate scientists, that is the maximum amount of sustained planetary warming that Earth's atmosphere can endure before total climate collapse is irrevocably triggered. Curbing atmospheric pollution while clearing the skies of excess carbon is imperative to preventing the demise of our climate equilibrium. Yet global emissions continue to rise, pushing the world dangerously close to points of no return.

"There is an 80 percent likelihood that the annual average global temperature will temporarily exceed 1.5° C above pre-industrial levels for at least one of the next five years," predicts the World Meteorological Organization in a 2024 report. Citing these findings in a special address at the American Museum of Natural History, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres put it plainly: "We are playing Russian roulette with our planet."

"We need an exit ramp off the highway to climate hell."

To Philip H. Knight Chair and Professor of Law Mary C. Wood, a concerted global effort to implement natural climate solutions (NCS) is one exit ramp humanity must urgently take to reach a safer climate future.

Professor Wood is ENR's faculty director and faculty co-leader of ENR's Conservation Trust Project, Global Environmental Democracy Project, and Native Environmental Sovereignty Project. Her recent work has convened these three legal research teams, an interdisciplinary body of climate experts, and dozens of community partners engaged with climate justice initiatives to help shape the "Pacific Northwest Framework for Atmospheric Recovery" (PNW FAR), a comprehensive regional strategy for promoting climate and community resilience across agricultural lands, range- and grass-lands, blue and teal carbon zones, and forests.

Informed by the empirical research, experiential wisdom, and intergenerational ecological knowledge of a diverse group of experts—climate scientists, attorneys, economists, educators, policymakers, community leaders, and land managers working throughout the Pacific Northwest—the PNW FAR inventories and assesses climate-and-justice challenges facing communities across the region; evaluates various NCS strategies and their utility for supporting environmental and community wellness; addresses ecotype- and community-specific barriers to implementing NCS practices; and identifies opportunities for communities to harness NCS as a powerful tool for advancing atmospheric recovery regionwide.

Though it is the evolving culmination of a regional effort to create a carbon sequestration climate strategy, the PNW FAR does not seek to separate the Pacific Northwest from the planetwide project of climate recovery and justice. Providing numerous criteria for identifying and evaluating opportunities to put NCS into meaningful practice across various ecotypes, the PNW FAR is meant to operate as both a specific regional strategy and a blueprint to inform the collaborative development of atmospheric recovery plans in regions around the world.

As Professor Wood prepares to launch the PNW FAR with coauthors and ENR research associates Tom Housel, JD '20, and Douglas Quirke, JD '95, she continues to spread awareness about the potential for NCS-based regional frameworks to promote climate and community resilience, recovery, and wellness. In recent presentations on the subject, she has connected with communities near and far, speaking with groups based as close as in the Pacific Northwest and as distant as at the Supreme Court of Korea in Goyang.

Delivering a keynote address at the *Vermont Journal of Environmental Law's* 25th Annual Symposium in fall 2023, Professor Wood drew an analogy between humanity's current trek toward climate catastrophe and the trajectory of someone who has jumped from an airplane and is now careening downward. "Every one of us is together in this freefall," she warned, "but every one of us also has a rip cord to pull."

"We do have clear knowledge of nature's imperatives, and we have many tools to meet them. But we have to use those tools now, urgently, because even the best parachute won't do any good if it's opened too late."

Navigating New Barriers to Environmental Policymaking

2023 was the hottest year in Earth's recorded history by a long shot. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reports the global average temperature in 2023 jumped above that of the previous hottest-ever year by almost three-tenths of a degree Fahrenheit. NOAA shows this outsized increase is part of a larger trend: the ten warmest years on record have all

occurred in the last decade. NOAA also reports that there were a record-setting twenty-eight weather and climate disasters in 2023, costing at least \$92.9 billion. This alarming upswing is driving calls for climate action across the United States and around the world, demonstrating the need for effective regulation of the industries contributing most to global greenhouse gas emissions.

Associate Professor Greg Dotson, JD '95, whose distinguished career has included service in several environmental staff positions in Congress, is among those who recognize regulation as a powerful and necessary tool for combatting the climate crisis. Recent judicial decisions rooted in the major questions doctrine, however, affect administrative agencies' ability to respond adaptively to important and evolving challenges—challenges like climate change.

In "Looking for Your Friends at a Cocktail Party: The Dubious Role of Rejected Legislation and the Overlooked Potential of the Appropriations Process," his latest article published online in the *Harvard Journal on Legislation*, Professor Dotson evaluates how the US Supreme Court applied the major questions doctrine in *West Virginia v. Environmental Protection Agency* (2022). In *West Virginia*, he explains, "[t]he Court debuted the major questions doctrine to set aside the EPA's Clean Power Plan, finding that the EPA lacked the necessary 'clear congressional authorization' to establish a cap-and-trade program that would regulate greenhouse gas emissions from power plants.

The decision was a blow to agencies attempting to solve important problems using broad delegations of authority from Congress. Professor Dotson found it particularly troubling that the Court's ruling in *West Virginia* relied on the concept of "rejected legislation" to understand Congress's views. Although Dotson believes the major questions doctrine as articulated by the Court is fundamentally flawed, he suggests that looking to the appropriations process as an indicator of congressional intent, instead of focusing on rejected legislation, "might be more fruitful."

"Each year, Congress's appropriations committees examine agencies' activities, review the President's proposed budget, scrutinize agencies' budget justifications, and often hear testimony

"Every one of us is together in this freefall, but every one of us also has a rip cord to pull."

— Professor Mary C. Wood

GROWING TOGETHER continued

from Department heads," Professor Dotson explains. "It is a natural venue for airing concerns about agency use of delegated authority." For example, Congress can amend an agency's funding bill to directly prohibit the use of appropriated monies for a specified purpose. Therefore, he concludes, the appropriations process may also be a natural venue—or at least a better one than failed legislation—for judges to glean insight into how Congress views an agency's exercise of rulemaking power.

With the warming world as a stark reminder of the urgent need to address climate change, Professor Dotson recognizes effective environmental regulation capable of withstanding judicial scrutiny is essential. As he works to understand Supreme Court decisions that overhaul US administrative law, his efforts as faculty leader of ENR's Energy Law and Policy Project are helping law student researchers prepare for careers in policy, where they will have to respond to both a changing climate and a changing regulatory system.

Harnessing Hope in the Face of Famine

In proper college-town fashion, Eugene, Oregon buzzes with back-to-school energy each fall. Autumn 2023 was no different—students of all ages excitedly filled parks and green spaces to reconnect and catch the last rays of summer sun before the start of classes—but it *felt* different to Professor Michael Fakhri. As he prepared to begin a year-long sabbatical, during which he would focus his energy on global food issues, Professor Fakhri knew his work would take him far from campus.

Professor Fakhri is one of the world's premier experts on food systems, food rights, and food sovereignty. He is faculty co-leader of ENR's Food Resiliency Project and, since 2020, has also served as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food. In this latter role, Professor Fakhri acts as a high-profile advisor, working in constant defense of the broadly defined right to food. Within his purview are such human rights challenges as hunger, malnutrition, and famine, increasingly prevalent issues that are critically threatening communities around the globe.

In 2023, the UN World Food Programme's (WFP) Global Report on Food Crises revealed dramatic levels of acute hunger across 59 countries and territories, "a worldwide increase of 24 million from the previous year." The WFP also estimates, in 2024 alone, 309 million people across 71 countries will experience severe food insecurity; more than 37 million people across 47 countries will face even worse, "emergency" levels of food insecurity; and 24.5 million children across just 15 countries will suffer from extreme malnutrition. These grievous figures raise urgent questions of cause—when there is plenty of food to go around and then some, why are millions of people going hungry, millions of children starving to death all over the world?

Professor Fakhri is among many experts who point to climate change and economic instability as interlinked forces

exacerbating the food crisis; however, he asserts another connected force is the primary driver of global hunger, malnutrition, and famine: violence.

In "Conflict and the Right to Food," a thematic report he submitted to the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) in his capacity as special rapporteur, Professor Fakhri argues all dominant food systems stem from, rely upon, and produce violence. Taking a variety of dark forms, this violence results in widespread human rights violations and, he explains, directly prevents a universal realization of the right to food. In his concluding recommendations to the HRC, Professor Fakhri declares, if there is to be an end to the food crisis, "all forms of violence across all aspects of food systems must be eliminated."

When people in Gaza began experiencing the quickest, most comprehensive famine in modern history in October 2023, Professor Fakhri reluctantly encountered further evidence of the desperate need to uproot violence from the world's food systems. As he witnessed devastation unfurl in the region—in the wake of attacks on Gaza's farmlands, fishing fleet, and water system, the WFP reports 96 percent of the population faces acute levels of food insecurity, with 2.15 million people experiencing hunger in its most extreme forms—Professor Fakhri immediately got to work tracking the crisis and loudly advocating for solutions.

"The images of starvation in Gaza are unbearable," Professor Fakhri said in a March 2024 address to the HRC. "And you're doing nothing." He urged, "please turn your words into action."

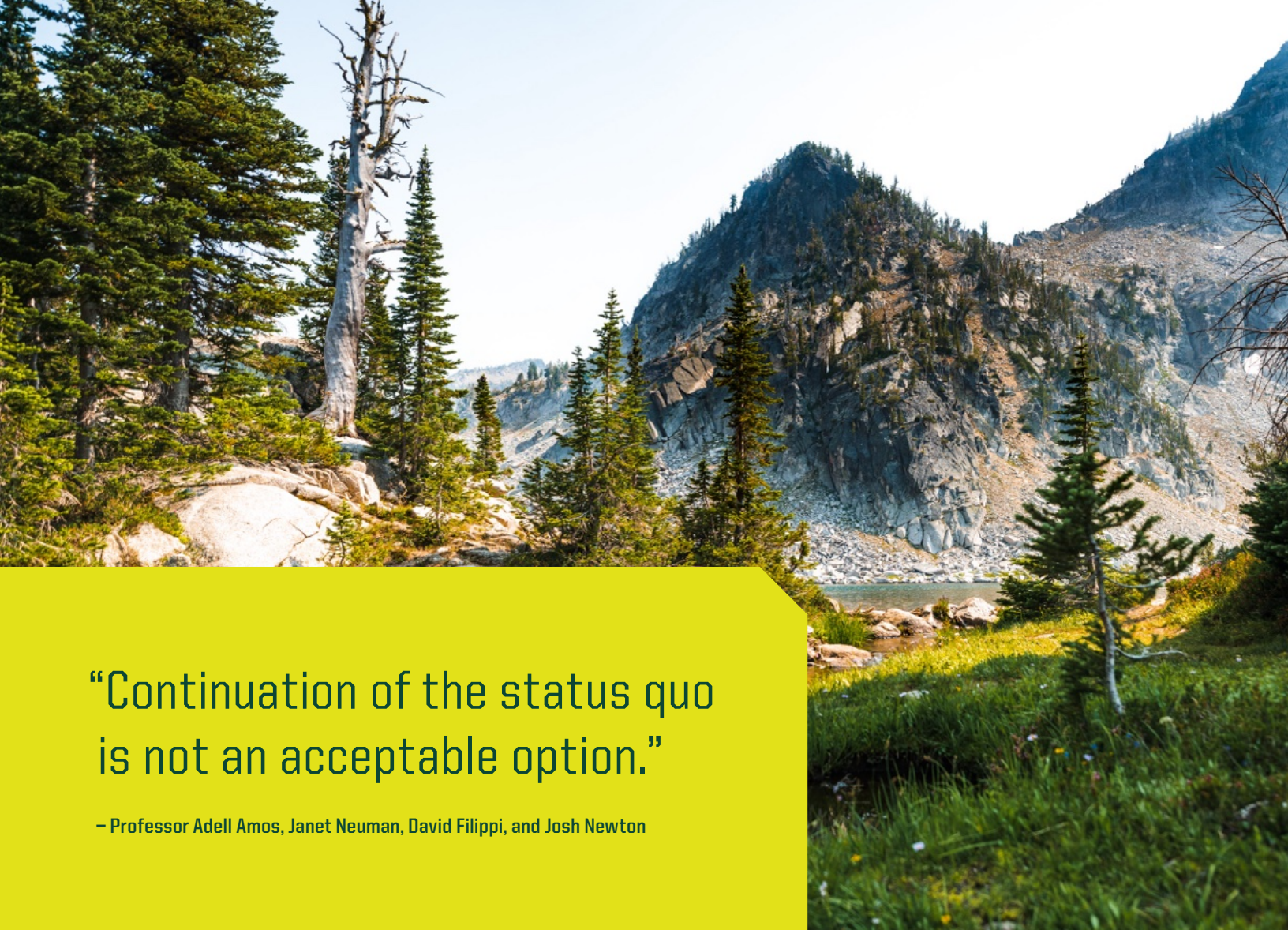
As famine in Gaza has rapidly gone from imminent to omnipresent, Professor Fakhri has continued pressuring governments and transnational corporations to work together to prevent further intrusions on the region's food system. His latest report as special rapporteur, "Starvation and the Right to Food, with an Emphasis on the Palestinian People's Food Sovereignty," uniquely integrates multimedia storytelling and advocacy through its pairing with "Palestine and the Right to Food," a set of three graphic reports illustrated by interdisciplinary artist Omar Khouri.

Frustrated by inaction, heartbroken by tragedy, Professor Fakhri returns to a key conclusion from his earlier report on violence in food systems and maintains hope.

Violence in food systems is sinister, but those affected by it are not simply victims. "People are survivors of violence. They have strength because they are alive. Many give all their strength when confronting violence in food systems and are killed. But if the dead get justice, they can also give power to the survivors."

Making Ripples in Water Policy

As communities across the state suffer the effects of prolonged drought, groundwater pollution, overallocation of water resources, mass fish kills, and other systemic challenges impairing their



“Continuation of the status quo is not an acceptable option.”

– Professor Adell Amos, Janet Neuman, David Filippi, and Josh Newton

ability and right to glean life from local water systems, Oregon yearns for a safer water future. In 2020, Oregon launched the “100-Year Water Vision,” a slate of shared ambitions and operating principles to guide the state toward sustainable water resources management. While the “100-Year Water Vision” imagines a statewide water future characterized by “resilient communities, vibrant local economies, and a healthy environment,” it also recognizes several structural barriers preventing the realization of this critical common goal. One of these large-scale barriers is Oregon’s water policy, which influences the accessibility, affordability, and quality of water, with tremendous impact for the day-to-day lives of all people living in the state.

Striving for better environmental, economic, and health-and-safety outcomes for themselves and future generations, communities and decision-makers across Oregon are thirsty for water policy reform. In late 2023, Oregon Governor Tina Kotek and her natural resources cabinet kickstarted an effort to quench this thirst. Aiming to modernize Oregon’s water policy to advance the state’s “100-Year Water Vision,” Governor Kotek called on four prominent water lawyers for guidance. Among the attorneys is Clayton R. Hess Professor of Law Adell Amos, JD ’98, faculty co-leader of ENR’s Oceans, Coasts, and Watersheds Project.

Professor Amos possesses a wealth of experiential knowledge in environmental and administrative law, but she is particularly renowned for her work surrounding water policy and management. Her extensive research, outreach efforts, and pre-academic practice have predominately centered on domestic water governance—examining the intricate legal frameworks governing water resources in the US and exploring opportunities for more equitable and sustainable water administration. Together with the input of former law professor Janet Neuman and water attorneys David Filippi and Josh Newton, Professor Amos’s expertise is now influencing the evolution of Oregon’s water laws.

In response to Governor Kotek’s call for guidance, Professor Amos and Neuman, Filippi, and Newton authored an official appeal for gubernatorial action to remedy inadequacies in Oregon’s water policy. The appeal names outdated laws, inflexible and underfunded administrative processes, absent or inconsistent data, perpendicularity with Indigenous Ecological Knowledge, and increasing conflict and controversy around water allocation as key issues Oregon must address if the state plans to improve its approach to water resources management. “Oregon’s water laws and the administrative structures implementing those laws are simply not suited to meet the present and future needs of our

GROWING TOGETHER continued

state,” the lawyers explain. “Continuation of the status quo is not an acceptable option.”

Identifying numerous discrepancies between Oregon’s water objectives and the laws and administrative frameworks intended to fulfill them, the four attorneys make several substantive recommendations to inform the state’s water policy moving forward. Springing from over one hundred years of combined experience working in the deep end of water law, the statewide actions the lawyers propose include earnestly enforcing Tribal water rights; implementing integrated water resources management approaches that require holistic consideration of socioecological and economic factors; reallocating water resources to ensure equitable outcomes for historically underserved water users; actively engaging diverse water stakeholders and stewards as partners in water resources decision-making; developing and executing strategies to enhance climate resilience and mitigate climate impacts on water sources; improving the quality, collection, distribution, and use of water data; investing in infrastructural upgrades to enhance water supply reliability, quality, and distribution efficiency; integrating water policy with connected laws, such as those governing land use; and scaling up projects to boost public awareness of and literacy around water challenges and the importance of responsible water resources management. Undertaking these actions, the lawyers argue, could equip Oregon with more effective tools for not only remedying current water issues, but also preventing devastation as new challenges inevitably arise. In April 2024, Governor Kotek responded to the appeal.

“I appreciate your willingness to share your time and expertise on an issue of vital importance to all Oregonians,” Governor Kotek wrote. “Already, we are taking initial steps to address some of the opportunities you have raised.”

Motivated by the input Professor Amos, Neuman, Filippi, and Newton provided, Governor Kotek committed to several actions to advance Oregon’s shared water goals. She would first place a pause on the Oregon Water Resources Department’s (OWRD) work to revise the state’s Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRs), with twin goals—to encourage collaboration between water stakeholders and administrative agencies in helping develop the IWRs and to ensure the creation of a strategy that clearly defines best outcomes for water users. Governor Kotek then introduced a plan to engage the four attorneys and their appeal in her efforts to recruit a new OWRD director, writing, “I am looking for strong vision and leadership from the next director, and your letter will certainly contribute to that process.” She also committed to “working closely” with incoming directors at Oregon’s Department of Agriculture, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Watershed Enhancement Board “to truly integrate our approach to tackling water management and other natural resource challenges facing our state” and “establish clear budget and policy priorities aimed at helping Oregon’s natural



“Improved efficiency in decision making is one tool states can use to better prepare to meet the challenges of twenty-first century water management.”

– *Western State Strategies to Improve Efficiency in Water Allocation Decision Making*

and working landscapes be more resilient in the face of accelerating impacts from a changing climate.” Finally, Governor Kotek announced the expansion of her natural resources policy staff to increase the cabinet’s capacity around water issues: “In the near term, that will be most visible in conversations my office will be having with a variety of constituencies to elicit feedback on the issues raised in your letter and suggestions for how we can build a coalition of interests willing to work together to better position our state to manage our water resources more effectively, efficiently, and equitably into the future.”

Reviewing Governor Kotek’s response to the appeal she coauthored, Professor Amos recognized the ripple effects of her work, how it could drive meaningful change. As she surveys Oregon’s drought-stricken, overallocated, imperiled waterscape, she knows the state has not realized its vision for a resilient, vibrant, and healthy water future. If Oregon honestly pursues policy reform and adjusts statewide water priorities to serve the most vulnerable, however, she believes it still can.

Wading Through Water Management Solutions

Replete with breathtakingly beautiful and unequivocally vital ecosystems ranging from arid sagebrush deserts and snow-capped mountains to rugged beaches and lush old-growth forests, Oregon is an ecological microcosm. Oregon’s biodiversity confers tremendous social, ecological, economic, spiritual, and health-related benefits to communities across the state. It also naturally positions these communities very differently when it comes to water: while parts of Oregon can expect as little as five inches of precipitation each year, others receive nearly two hundred inches of annual rainfall, enough to be labeled “temperate rainforests.” Nonetheless, the state generally, like much of the western US, is facing widespread water scarcity challenges.

Driven by climate change, prolonged drought, and the state’s approach to water resources management, Oregon’s water scarcity challenges are significantly impacting streamflow, water supply, agricultural productivity, wildfire resiliency, and ecosystem health statewide. To ENR Research Associate Michelle Smith, these impacts underscore the dire need for a state-level systems update to improve Oregon’s water resources management and allocation processes.

Research Associate Smith is a conservation lawyer and water policy expert whose work with ENR includes supporting the Oceans, Coasts, and Watersheds Project (OCWP), an interdisciplinary research team co-led by Assistant Professor Sarah Adams-Schoen and Clayton R. Hess Professor of Law Adell Amos and staffed by law student fellows. In spring 2024, she led the OCWP in comparative legal research focused on how states in the western US might evolve their water allocation systems and decision-making processes to better meet shifting community needs. Research Associate Smith then served as lead author on “Western State Strategies to Improve Efficiency in Water Allocation Decision Making,” an advisory report to support the Oregon State Legislature’s Joint Water Caucus and other policymakers in reworking the state’s water allocation frameworks. The report surveys water allocation frameworks across the western US, identifies barriers perpetuated by existing water allocation systems, and explores state-level strategies for fostering efficiency and flexibility in decision-making around water.

With Professor Amos and OCWP Fellows Andrew Archer, 2L, Elissa Karim, 3L, Kyle Knoll, 1L, and Caleb Todd, 3L, Research Associate Smith expounds on the variety of new water challenges Oregon and other western states face as scarcity worsens in the region. “Over allocation of water resources and changing temporal and spatial availability of water is imposing new demands on state administrative frameworks by (1) increasing the complexity of approving new water uses [...], (2) increasing the demand for administrative processes that are necessary to reallocate water [...], (3) increasing conflict in water decision making, which increases the complexity and length of administrative processes, and (4) increasing the demand for state regulation to distribute and enforce water rights to protect priority uses and ensure compliance with permit conditions and consistency with state laws.”

While the report shows Oregon is unprepared to meet these burgeoning challenges, it is not because the challenges themselves are insurmountable. Instead, it is Oregon’s slow and rigid approach to water allocation that makes the state ill-equipped to adapt to evolving demands.

“Improved efficiency in decision making is one tool states can use to better prepare to meet the challenges of twenty-first century water management,” the report explains. And there is no shortage of tools states can employ to promote the efficiency that is lacking in water allocation decision-making. Across just nine states in the western US, multiple strategies—developing collaborative workgroups to assess water management frameworks and envision alternative systems; establishing a specialized judiciary to address water questions and speedily resolve water conflicts; creating

GROWING TOGETHER continued

educational resources for decision-makers, professionals, and water users; securing funding to enhance administrative and judicial capacity to address water management concerns; and substantively altering administrative and judicial processes around water allocation—have proven effective for improving state water management systems to better serve the communities that rely on them.

There is no panacea, no one-size-fits-all solution, for the state's water management challenges. Still as water scarcity diminishes water supply, impacts water affordability, and affects water quality throughout the state, Oregon could be gleaning lessons from other states about how to refine its approach to water resources management. Failing to establish more efficient and flexible water allocation frameworks could leave Oregon's communities, quite literally, high and dry.

Changing Tides in Coastal Resiliency Planning

Facing overlapping threats from increasing erosion, higher water temperatures, sea level rise, oceanic acidification, biodiversity loss, and ever more frequent and intense extreme weather events, the world's coastal communities are living on the frontlines of the climate crisis. Coastal communities historically and currently burdened by settler-colonial, racist, and classist governing systems are even more at-risk, living on the frontlines of the frontlines. As climate change worsens, making the world's coasts less livable for overburdened communities in particular, newcomers nonetheless flood in.

The United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management reports the population in the country's coastal counties soared by about 46 percent between 1970 and 2020 and predicts an

additional increase of at least ten million people in the next decade. Multiplying demand for housing, land, and other vital resources like water in areas where infrastructure and ecologies are already strained, this growth threatens the carbon sequestration potential, hazard mitigation capacities, and overall health of coastal ecosystems. Unmitigated coastal development patterns that expose more people to natural hazards exacerbate existing social inequities and accelerate climate destabilization. This pattern of development runs directly counter to key coastal resiliency goals.

Serving as faculty co-leader of ENR's Oceans, Coasts, and Watersheds Project (OCWP) and Sustainable Land Use Project (SLUP), Assistant Professor Sarah Adams-Schoen focuses her interdisciplinary research, teaching, and outreach at the intersection of land use law and planning, climate change, and environmental, racial, and economic justice, with a particular emphasis on coastal regions and communities. Throughout the 2023-24 academic year, Professor Adams-Schoen led the OCWP and SLUP teams in a broad range of research initiatives—from examining the impacts of sea level rise on coastal property rights to assessing the environmental justice implications of various coastal land management frameworks. Focused on the nuanced interplay of land use and housing law, ocean and coastal law, and climate justice, her expertise lends itself to addressing complex questions of climate resiliency.

With ENR Research Associate Michelle Smith, Professor Adams-Schoen contributed the "Land Use Law and Climate Change" chapter to Oregon's Sixth Climate Assessment. The chapter is the first in a state-level climate assessment to focus primarily on how existing land use, zoning, and related state laws support or undermine a state's capacity to achieve climate adaptation, mitigation, and justice goals. Cited in

the Fifth National Climate Assessment, which compiles empirical data on climate risks, impacts, and responses across the US, the chapter identifies missed opportunities to more fully integrate Oregon's statewide land use laws with its goals to reduce atmospheric pollution, scale up carbon sequestration capacities, address longstanding inequities in the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens, and foster climate resiliency.

"As hazard mitigation specialists and planners recognize," Professor Adams-Schoen and Research Associate Smith write, "helping local governments counter the social, economic, and political pressure to develop in hazardous areas is essential to increasing resilience." Where climate hazards are prevalent, they explain, strategies focused on enhancing the resiliency of structures and creating educational resources to inform community decision-making can be crucial. Climate resilience policies focused primarily on those strategies, however, often fall short of producing the swift and robust actions required to prevent further entrenchment of maladaptive development patterns. Land use systems, Professor Adams-Schoen and Research Associate Smith conclude, may best position themselves to improve climate resiliency, mitigation, and environmental justice outcomes if they employ adaptation strategies that include enforceable policies limiting new development in vulnerable areas.

Failing to mitigate expansion where people are already underprepared to confront existing climate hazards—let alone forthcoming impacts—will make many of these areas even less affordable, less accessible, less resourced, and less livable, especially for underserved communities. Turning the land use tides away from expansion, alternatively, could help sustain not only these communities, but also the lands and waters that hold them.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Across the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR) and Oregon Law, our students—tomorrow’s leaders—are engaged for change.



Molly Hooks, 3L, realized her professional aspirations as an undergraduate at the University of Iowa, where she studied environmental policy and planning. Her coursework in environmental justice was particularly compelling, inspiring her to pursue a career in environmental law.

Drawn to Oregon Law by the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR), Hooks immediately became involved with environmental student organizations like Land Air Water and Student Advocacy and Action for Environmental Justice. She also joined and eventually became vice president of OUTLaws, Oregon Law’s social alliance for queer students. At the end of her first year, she received the Mary Lawrence Scholarship, an award recognizing the top-performing student in Oregon Law’s 1L class.

In 2022, Hooks began serving as a tutor in Oregon Law’s Legal Research and Writing Program, the highest-ranked such program in the US. She also began a fellowship with ENR’s Conservation Trust Project, joining an interdisciplinary research team focused on climate change, public trust principles, and opportunities to protect the Pacific Northwest’s natural landscapes from extractive damage. The following summer and spring, respectively, Hooks interned with the US Army Corps of Engineers Northwestern Division and served as a Judicial Extern to the Honorable Chief Judge Michael J. McShane in the US District Court for the District of Oregon.

In 2023, Hooks was elected to the *Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation’s* (JELL) board as an executive editor. Her article, “A Just Solution to Port Pollution: Tailoring the Clean Ports Program to Ensure Equitable Distribution of Inflation Reduction Act Grants,” was published in JELL’s 39th volume in spring 2024. The paper was informed by what she learned in her favorite environmental law class, Professor Dotson’s Environmental Policy Practicum, which included a class trip to Washington, DC. In recognition of her outstanding contributions as JELL’s executive editor, Hooks received the journal’s Distinguished Service Award. After graduating in spring 2024, she was inducted to Oregon Law’s chapter of the prestigious National Order of the Coif.

Armed with a diversity of accomplishments, experiences, and strong connections to Oregon’s legal community, Hooks now ventures forward as a judicial clerk to the Honorable Judge Danielle J. Forrest at the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

IMPACT OF GIVING

DRIVE CHANGE AND SUPPORT TOMORROW'S LAW LEADERS



What does it take to make a real difference when it comes to the existential environmental crises we face today? Imaginative and innovative cross-disciplinary work that makes it possible for stakeholders—policymakers, scientists, lawyers, politicians, and, really, every single person on the planet—to understand the myriad of challenges we face and the strategies needed to make our world more livable and sustainable.

Oregon Law's ENR Center is a nexus for this work. With your support, our ENR Center can continue engaging in groundbreaking research and policy while training the next generation of leaders in environmental and natural resources law.

Jennifer Reynolds

Interim Dean
Orlando John and Marian H. Hollis Professor of Law

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Each of us has a part to play in repairing and reshaping our world toward sustainability and justice. If you have any questions about giving, please contact the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center at enr@uoregon.edu.



From Classroom to Capitol: Students Bring Ideas To, Take Insights From DC

Oregon Law's Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR) is an incubator for curricular innovation. As environmental-legal educators, ENR faculty continually evolve their pedagogies to address changing dynamics in the law, policy, and climate-and-justice issues. This collective drive toward adaptation manifests in cutting-edge experiential and classroom learning opportunities, including ENR courses built around interdisciplinary collaboration, practical skill building, and community outreach. Blending traditional classroom instruction and rigorous research opportunities with professional mentorship and real-world practice, Associate Professor Greg Dotson's, JD '95, Environmental Policy Practicum (EPP) is one example. In 2023, Professor Dotson's EPP students developed foundational knowledge surrounding environmental policymaking; then, they got the chance to take their ideas beyond the classroom.

"What is public policy, why does it matter, and how is it made?" These are fundamental questions Professor Dotson poses to his EPP students. As they probe these questions in class and through research projects, his students learn about the theoretical underpinnings of environmental policy, how policy can be leveraged to advance climate-and-justice outcomes, and the intricacies of policymaking in the legislative and regulatory processes.

In seeking to demystify the complex world of environmental policy for his EPP students, Professor Dotson draws extensively from his professional experience on Capitol Hill. His career outside the academy has included serving as the Energy and Environment Staff Director for the US House of Representative's Energy and

Commerce Committee, acting as former Representative Henry A. Waxman's lead energy and environmental policy staffer, taking leadership as Vice President for Energy Policy with the Center for American Progress, and most recently working on landmark federal-level climate policy—the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022—as Democratic Chief Counsel for the US Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Professor Dotson also enlists attorneys and policy professionals to visit the class and share their experiences in different roles related to the policymaking process. This instructional approach facilitates career exploration and professional networking opportunities while diversifying the students' exposure to current, real-world insights on legislative processes and potentialities.

In fall 2023, Professor Dotson's students completed research papers focused on how the Inflation Reduction Act might help address specific climate-and-justice challenges faced by nonprofits, local governments, and other constituencies. Engaging in this academic work and hearing from guest speakers helped students prepare and get excited for the EPP capstone: a class trip to the nation's capital, where federal policy comes to be.

In October, eight EPP students traveled with Professor Dotson to Washington, DC, where they met with leaders in environmental policy. In meetings with legislators, lobbyists, litigators, and even White House staff, the students gained valuable insight into environmental policymaking, policy advocacy, and policy implementation.

"The DC trip through the Environmental Policy Practicum was the highlight of my fall semester," said Molly Hooks, 3L, who also says the EPP is her favorite environmental law class at Oregon Law. "Meeting with policy professionals was exciting and informative, and I appreciated learning about the many ways careers in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors can shape environmental policy. An especially memorable moment was meeting with Oregon Representatives Suzanne Bonamici, Earl Blumenauer, and Val Hoyle to discuss the state's current and proposed environmental policies. Representative Blumenauer spoke about his pro-bicycle motto—"burn calories, not carbon"—and even gifted us bike-themed lapel pins!"

Hooks and her peers left DC with renewed optimism about who works on environmental policy and what environmental policy can accomplish.

The Environmental Policy Practicum demonstrates how integrating academic rigor with real-world experience and professional mentorship can help students begin to chart a course for their careers in law and policy. As ENR continues to evolve its curricula to keep pace with a rapidly changing world, the EPP remains a powerful testament to the importance of adaptive pedagogies that advance learning beyond the classroom.



TRIP OBJECTIVES

DAY ONE

- ✓ Met with staff from US Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and gained insight into legislative processes and what it means to be “the person with the pen” on matters of environmental policy
- ✓ Met with an attorney from the Congressional Research Service and learned about the important role of nonpartisan research in Congress’s lawmaking process
- ✓ Met with a private sector lobbyist regarding their role in environmental policymaking
- ✓ Met with attorneys working with the Natural Resources Defense Council, a non-profit environmental organization, and discussed the role of litigators and lawyers in advancing environmental protection
- ✓ Visited Smithsonian Museums and the National Mall

DAY TWO

- ✓ Imagined the future of Oregon’s environmental policy with lawmakers from the Oregon delegation—Representatives Suzanne Bonamici, Earl Blumenauer, and Val Hoyle
- ✓ Met with staffers from the White House Climate Office and the White House Office on Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation and learned about policy implementation-in-practice and the institutional levers available to the executive branch to move policy implementation forward
- ✓ Met with the White House Counsel’s Office and gained insight into the importance of oversight for protecting administrative rulemaking processes and desired policy outcomes
- ✓ Toured the US Capitol and the White House

“Thank you, Professor Dotson, for organizing an unforgettable trip!”

– Molly Hooks, EPP Student, 3L



FACULTY UPDATES



**Sarah
Adams-
Schoen**

Assistant Professor of Law

Adams-Schoen, Sarah, "Federal Flood Policy & Maladaptation" (forthcoming, 2025).

Adams-Schoen, Sarah, Michelle Smith, Claire Malone, 2L, and Victoria Whalen, 3L, "Public Health Overlay Zones," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (forthcoming, 2024).

Adams-Schoen, Sarah, Alison Rieser, Donna R. Christie, and Annie Brett, *Ocean and Coastal Law: Cases and Materials*. 6th ed. West Academic Publishing, 2024.

Adams-Schoen, Sarah, "Juliana v. United States," The Oregon Encyclopedia, The Oregon Historical Society and Portland State University, fall 2023.

Sarah Adams-Schoen, Claire Malone, 2L, and Victoria Whalen, 3L, "Confronting the Oregon Land Use System's Continuing Legacy of Land Use Racism & Environmental (In)justice for Ourselves, Our Ancestors, and Future Generations," plenary presentation, 2023 Annual Conference – Embracing the Next 50 Years, Oregon American Planning Association, October 27, 2023.

Sarah Adams-Schoen, Mason Leavitt, and Teryn Yazdani, "Land Use Law and Environmental Justice: Opportunities for Activism in Eugene," presentation, Environmental Justice Engagement Series, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center and Student Advocacy and Action for Environmental Justice, University of Oregon School of Law, October 27, 2023.

Sarah Adams-Schoen, Erica Fleishman, and Jay Austin, "The Climate Case Coming to Your Courtroom," plenary presentation, Annual Judicial Conference, Oregon Judges Association, October 18, 2023.



**Adell
Amos,
JD '98**

Clayton R. Hess Professor of Law

Smith, Michelle, Adell Amos, Samantha Blount, JD '22, Mariah Ellis, JD '22, Natalie Gillard, 3L, and Kellie Warren, JD '23, "Removing Obstacles to Dam Removal in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Regulation of Hydropower Projects," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center, commissioned by the Resources Legacy Fund (2024).

Smith, Michelle, Adell Amos, Andrew Archer, 2L, Elissa Karim, 3L, Kyle Knoll, 1L, and Caleb Todd, 3L, "Western State Strategies to Improve Efficiency in Water Allocation Decision Making," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (2024).

Adell Amos and Greg Dotson, "The Future of Environmental Regulation—and Everything Else—After *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*," panel, moderated by Aaron Landau, 2024 O'Connell Conference, University of Oregon School of Law, September 6, 2024.

Adell Amos and Adam Ward, "Navigating Water Policy After *Sackett v. EPA*," panel moderated by Greg Dotson, 2023 O'Connell Conference, University of Oregon School of Law, September 22, 2023.



**Howard
Arnett,
JD '77**

Professor of Practice

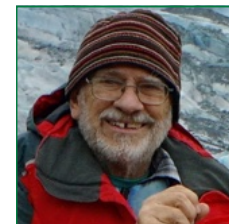
Howard Arnett and Maya Swanes, "Mapping 50 Years of United States v. Washington," panel, 37th Annual Indian Law Symposium, University of Washington School of Law, September 5, 2024.

Howard Arnett, "Defending Sacred Sites: *Apache Stronghold v. United States* and the Battle for Oak Flat," presentation, Oregon Law Perspectives Series, University of Oregon School of Law, August 16, 2024.

Howard Arnett, "History of Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Landmark Fishing Rights Cases," speech, Columbia River Indian Fishers Expo, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, July 27, 2024.

Howard Arnett, Robert Brunoe, Ayuthea La Pier, David Lewis, Ka-Voka Jackson, Leslie Neu, and Haley Case-Scott, "Cultural Fire," panel, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 2, 2024.

Howard Arnett, opening speech, 14th Annual Indigenous Peoples Reception, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 1, 2024.



**John
Bonine**

Professor Emeritus

After 46 years of service as a committed ENR faculty member, John Bonine has announced his retirement. [Read his tribute on page 20.](#)

John Bonine, presenter, David Brower Lifetime Achievement Award, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 2, 2024.

John Bonine, opening speech, Environment-People-Law Summer School and Eco-Hackathon Orientation, Environment-People-Law, July 6, 2023.



**Marcilynn
Burke**

After seven years of service as Dean at the University of Oregon School of Law, Marcilynn A. Burke has accepted a new role as Dean of Tulane Law School. The Oregon Law community wishes her well on her journey.



**Greg
Dotson,
JD '95**

Associate Professor of Law

Dotson, Greg, "Congress' Fifty Year Mission to Transition Motor Vehicles: A Brief History of Federal Electric Vehicle Policy in the United States," *New York University Environmental Law Journal* (forthcoming, 2025).

Dotson, Greg, "Looking for Your Friends at a Cocktail Party: The Dubious Role of Rejected Legislation and the Overlooked Potential of the Appropriations Process," *Harvard Journal on Legislation* (2024).

Dotson, Greg, "Comments: Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles," Docket No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0829 (2023).

Greg Dotson and Adell Amos, "The Future of Environmental Regulation—and Everything Else—After *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*," panel moderated by Aaron Landau, 2024 O'Connell Conference, University of Oregon School of Law, September 6, 2024.

Greg Dotson, "The Challenge of U.S. Climate Law in the Next Five Years – What to Expect from Congress, the President, and the

Supreme Court," panel, Harvard Climate Action Week, Harvard University, June 10, 2024.

Greg Dotson, recipient, Pillar of the Community Award, University of Oregon School of Law, April 19, 2024.



**Michael
Fakhri**

Professor of Law

Fakhri, Michael, "The Right to Food, Violence, and Food Systems," T.M.C. Asser Press (2024).

Fakhri, Michael, "Starvation and the Right to Food, with an Emphasis on the Palestinian People's Food Sovereignty – Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food," UN General Assembly (A/HRC/79/171) (July 17, 2024).

Fakhri, Michael, Alex de Waal, and Sarah Nouwen, "Crimes of Starvation," *The Dial* (2024).

Fakhri, Michael, "Fisheries and the Right to Food in the Context of Climate Change – Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food," UN General Assembly (A/HRC/55/49) (2024).

Fakhri, Michael, Review of *At the Margins of Globalization: Indigenous Peoples and International Economic Law*, by Sergio Puig, *American Journal of International Law* 118 (2024): 112.

Fakhri, Michael, "The long, slow violence of starvation in Gaza," *Anadolu Ajansı* (2024).

Fakhri, Michael, "Justice for the Beirut blast can help avert Lebanon's collapse," *Al Jazeera*, 2023.

Fakhri, Michael and Titilayo Adebola, "Agriculture," in *Oxford Handbook of International Law and Development*. Oxford University Press, (2023).

Michael Fakhri, "The Right to Food," keynote speech, Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society and Association for the Study of Food and Society Annual Joint Conference – Right to Food: Food as Commons, Syracuse University of New York, June 6, 2024.

Michael Fakhri, "Starvation, Genocide, and the Palestinian People's Food Sovereignty," keynote speech, Sawyer Seminar – The

Afterlives of Liberation, Rutgers University–New Brunswick, June 4, 2024.

Michael Fakhri and Noam Peleg, "The Food Crisis and Starvation in Gaza," speech, Australian Human Rights Institute, University of New South Wales Sydney, April 10, 2024.

Michael Fakhri, "The Palestinian People's Food Sovereignty," host and moderator, United Nations Human Rights Council Side-Event, United Nations, March 6, 2024.

Michael Fakhri, keynote speech, Food, Housing, and Racial Justice Symposium, *University of Miami International and Comparative Law Review*, University of Miami School of Law, January 16, 2024.

Michael Fakhri, "The Right to Food, Climate Change, and Global Governance," presentation, European University Institute, October 31, 2023.

Michael Fakhri, "Pandemic Recovery and Food System Transformation," United Nations General Assembly Meeting, October 20, 2023.

Michael Fakhri, "The Right to Food," presentation, XVIII Meeting of the Constitutional Jurisdiction, Constitutional Court of Colombia, September 29, 2023.

Michael Fakhri, "The Right to Food, Food Sovereignty, and Overcoming the Longstanding Food Crisis," presentation, University of Alberta Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights, University of Alberta, September 21, 2023.

Michael Fakhri, "Situating Unilateral Coercive Measures Within a Broader Understanding of Systemic Violence," presentation, Symposium on Third World Approaches to International Law & Economic Sanctions, Yale Law School, June 20, 2023.



**Susan
Gary**

Professor Emerita

Gary, Susan, "The Changing Landscape of Business Succession: How and Why Purpose Trusts Matter," *Ohio State Business Law Journal* 18 (2023): 41.

FACULTY UPDATES *continued*

Gary, Susan, "Business Succession Planning Using a Purpose Trust," *The FinReg Blog* (2023).

Susan Gary, Eric Czepyha, Dave Diamon, and Ari Weinzwieg, "Selling on Purpose: The Rise of the Purpose Trust for Business Owners," presentation, Fourth Annual Wealth Planning Symposium – Rethink Tomorrow, Northern Trust, April 25, 2024.

Susan Gary, "Legal Background," presentation, Purpose Trust Ownership Convening, Project Equity, April 11, 2024.

Susan Gary, "Legal and Accounting Frameworks for Investing Charitable Funds," presentation, 33rd Annual Conference, National Center on Philanthropy and the Law, October 26, 2023.

Susan Gary, recipient, Oregon Law Meritorious Service Award, University of Oregon School of Law, 2024.



Tom
Housel,
JD '20

ENR Research Associate

Wood, Mary C., Tom Housel, and Douglas Quirke, "Pacific Northwest Framework for Atmospheric Recovery (PNW FAR)," with support from PNW FAR Working Groups, (forthcoming, 2025).

Tom Housel, Dani Gelardi, Hannah Gosnell, Tara Hudiburg, and Mary C. Wood, "PNW Framework for Atmospheric Recovery," presentation, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 1, 2024.



Tom
Lininger

Orlando John and Marian H. Hollis Professor of Law

Lininger, Tom, "Empowering Family Forestland Owners to Reduce Wildfire Risk," *Georgia Law Review* 58 (2024): 1567.

Tom Lininger, "Empowering Family Forestland Owners to Reduce Wildfire Risk," presentation, *Georgia Law Review* Symposium – Evolving Landscapes: American Land Use Law & Resiliency, University of Georgia School of Law, March 22, 2024.

Tom Lininger, "The Viability of Climate Change Litigation in Rural States," presentation, Fall 2023 Law and Rurality Workshop, Rural Reconciliation Project, University of Nebraska College of Law and University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law, November 17, 2023.

Tom Lininger, "Recent Developments and Proposed Reforms of Ethical Rules Relating to Environmental Practice," presentation, 41st Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Reconnecting and Transitioning Together, University of Oregon, March 5, 2023.



Roberta
Mann

Professor Emerita

Mann, Roberta, and Walter Yang, "Reducing Climate Emissions from Farms: New Zealand's Proposed Farm Levy and California Policies Compared," in *Biodiversity and Climate: Tackling Global Footprints*. Elgar, 2024.

Roberta Mann, "Tax, Sustainability, and the Environment," 2024 Annual Meeting – Unsettling Territories: Tradition and Revolution in Law and Society, panel, Law & Society Association, June 8, 2024.

Roberta Mann, "Reducing Climate Emissions from Farms: New Zealand and California Compared," presentation, Sustainability Conference of American Legal Educators, Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, May 10, 2024.

Roberta Mann, "Taxation's Role in Saving the Climate," moderator, 2024 May Tax Meeting Plenary Session, American Bar Association Section of Taxation, May 4, 2024.

Roberta Mann, Elizabeth Groenewegen, and Sergio Rodriguez, "Unlocking the Synergy of Tax, DEI, and ESG," panel, 2024 May Tax Meeting, American Bar Association Section of Taxation, May 3, 2024.



Douglas
Quirke,
JD '95

ENR Research Associate

Wood, Mary C., Tom Housel, and Douglas Quirke, "Pacific Northwest Framework for Atmospheric Recovery (PNW FAR)," with support from PNW FAR Working Groups (forthcoming, 2025).



Dr. Alai
Reyes-
Santos

Professor of Practice

Reyes-Santos, Alai, Michelle Smith, Sophie Silva, and Isaac Stone, "Water Justice Considerations," in Oregon Drought Vulnerability Assessment prepared for the Oregon Department of Water Resources, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center, University of Oregon (forthcoming).

Reyes-Santos, Alai, "Cuando Yemayá dejó o Ogún, o imaginando lo inimaginable," *Centro Journal* 35 (2024).

Reyes-Santos, Alai, Ana-Maurine Lara, and UO Libraries, "The Healers Project: Decolonizing Knowledge Within Afro-Indigenous Traditions," University of Oregon (2024).

Reyes-Santos, Alai, and Nadya Barba Ramirez, "Afro TEK: Ogún Across the Islands," The Healers Project, University of Oregon (2024).

Reyes-Santos, Alai, "Cimarrona Ways: A Black-Indigenous Compass for Creativity and Life," The Healers Project, University of Oregon (2024).

Reyes-Santos, Alai, "Metodología Campesina: Valores y Normas Sociales de la Montaña Boricua en las Humanidades Digitales," The Healers Project, University of Oregon (2024).

Dr. Alai Reyes-Santos, "Water Justice and Climate Change," keynote speech, Indigenous Peoples Week, Museu das Culturas Indígenas, Sao Paulo, Brazil, April 11, 2024.

Dr. Alai Reyes-Santos, "Cultivating Community," keynote speech, 42nd Annual Public Interest

Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 1, 2024.

Dr. Alai Reyes-Santos, Ana-Maurine Lara, Rachel Sol Lee, Elizabeth Peterson, Nadya Barba Ramirez, and Joe Scott, "The Healers Project: Afro-Indigenous Traditional Ecological and Medicinal Knowledge," panel, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 1, 2024.



Michelle Smith

ENR Research Associate

Smith, Michelle, Andrew Archer, 2L, Natalie Gillard, 3L, Kyle Knoll, 1L, Elizabeth Mayans, 3L, and Caleb Todd, 3L, "An Assessment of Oregon's Drought Policies," in Oregon Drought Vulnerability Assessment prepared for Oregon Department of Water Resources, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (forthcoming).

Adams-Schoen, Sarah, Michelle Smith, Claire Malone, 2L, and Victoria Whalen, 3L, "Public Health Overlay Zones," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (forthcoming, 2024).

Smith, Michelle, Andrew Archer, 2L, Natalie Gillard, 3L, Kyle Knoll, 1L, Elizabeth Mayans, 3L, and Caleb Todd, 3L, "Legal and Policy Interventions to Restore and Protect Lake Abert," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (2024).

Smith, Michelle, Adell Amos, Samantha Blount, JD '22, Mariah Ellis, JD '22, Natalie Gillard, 3L, and Kellie Warren, JD '23, "Removing Obstacles to Dam Removal in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Regulation of Hydropower Projects," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center, commissioned by the Resources Legacy Fund (2024).

Smith, Michelle, Adell Amos, Andrew Archer, 2L, Elissa Karim, 3L, Kyle Knoll, 1L, and Caleb Todd, 3L, "Western State Strategies to Improve Efficiency in Water Allocation Decision Making," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (2024).



Andy Winden

Assistant Professor of Law

Winden, Andy, "Regulation by Indexation," *Columbia Business Law Review* (forthcoming, 2024).

Andy Winden, opening speech, Annual Green Business Symposium – Sustainable Land Use: Natural Resources and Green Energy, Green Business Initiative, University of Oregon, April 26, 2024.

Andy Winden and John Davis, "Perspectives on Public Benefit Corporations," presentation, Green Business Initiative and Net Impact Joint Event, University of Oregon School of Law, February 21, 2024.

Andy Winden, "Save the Environment – Leave it to the States," respondent to guest speaker, Federalist Society – University of Oregon Student Chapter, University of Oregon School of Law, November 14, 2023.

Andy Winden, recipient, Orlando John Hollis Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award, University of Oregon School of Law, 2024.



Mary C. Wood

**Philip H. Knight Professor of Law
Faculty Director, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center**

Wood, Mary C., Tom Housel, and Douglas Quirke, "Pacific Northwest Framework for Atmospheric Recovery (PNW FAR)," with support from PNW FAR Working Groups (forthcoming, 2025)

Wood, Mary C., "Sky Carbon Cleanup and Biodiversity Restoration: Devising Regional Frameworks," *Vermont Journal of Environmental Law* 25 (2024): 209.

Wood, Mary C., "Securing Ecology 'Capable of Sustaining Human Life': Invoking the Inherent and Inalienable Public Trust Rights of the People," *Pennsylvania Journal Of Constitutional Law* 26 (2024): 1.

Wood, Mary C., "The Oregon Forest Trust: An Ecological Endowment for Posterity," 101 *Oregon Law Review* 101, Special Edition (2023): 515.

Mary C. Wood, Dani Gelardi, Hannah Gosnell, Tom Housel, and Tara Hudiburg, "PNW Framework for Atmospheric Recovery," panel, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 1, 2024.

Mary C. Wood, "Securing Ecology 'Capable of Sustaining Human Life': Invoking the Inherent and Inalienable Public Trust Rights of the People," keynote speech, *Journal of Constitutional Law Symposium – The Constitutional Right to a Clean Environment*, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, January 20, 2024.

Mary C. Wood, "Paradigm Shift and the Response of the Judiciary to Climate Change Litigation," presentation, International Judicial Conference, Judicial Research and Training Institute of the Supreme Court of Korea, November 29, 2023.

Mary C. Wood, "Addressing the Other Climate Imperative Using Nature-Based Solutions for Sky Cleanup," keynote speech, *Vermont Journal of Environmental Law Symposium – We're Bringing Nature Back: Nature-Based Solutions to Climate Change*, Vermont Law School, November 18, 2023.

Mary C. Wood, "Rights of Future Generations and Public Trust," opening speech, Earth Law Symposium: Transforming Law and Governance for a Planet in Crisis, The George Washington University Law School, September 15, 2023.

RETIREE ANNOUNCEMENT

ENDURING EXCELLENCE: CELEBRATING THE IMPACTFUL LEGACY OF RETIRING PROFESSOR JOHN BONINE

Since joining Oregon Law's faculty in 1978, Professor John Bonine has served as a transformative educator, scholar, and leader, helping propel the environmental law program—now the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR)—to prominence as a hub for innovation and public interest activism. As he now embarks on a well-deserved retirement, Professor Bonine leaves an indelible mark on Oregon Law, ENR, and the field of public interest environmental law.

Professor Bonine's passion for public service first took root in 1972, when he served as a legislative assistant in the US Senate. His subsequent work with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where he would rise to the role of associate general counsel, laid the foundation for his lifelong commitment to public interest environmental law and advocacy.

Upon beginning his career at Oregon Law, Professor Bonine set in motion a series of initiatives that have shaped the landscape of environmental-legal education. He co-founded the first environmental law clinic—now the Western Environmental Law Center—in the world, launching a model for impactful, hands-on learning. He also spearheaded the development of Oregon Law's Master of Laws program, helping to create and steward the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Concentration for LLM students.

Another visionary project Professor Bonine helped create is the historic Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (PIELC). Annually organized by the students of Land Air Water, Oregon Law's environmental law society, PIELC has grown into a premier interdisciplinary forum for advocates, legal scholars and practitioners, decision-makers, and community members to gather, share insights and concerns, and collaboratively forge solutions related to

environmental law and justice. Twice during the conference, student organizers have presented Professor Bonine with the David Brower Lifetime Achievement Award, an honor annually reserved for "an important activist exemplifying Brower's spirit and accomplishments."

As a teacher, Professor Bonine has inspired countless students and colleagues, encouraging generations of environmental advocates to continue the fight for justice; his influence, however, extends far beyond Oregon.

In 1991, he created an electronic listserv that today connects nearly eight hundred environmental law educators across the globe. As co-founder of the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide, a global network comprising over three hundred environmental lawyers across more than eighty countries, he has fostered widespread collaboration and support for the practice of public interest environmental law. Professor Bonine's role as chair of the board of directors for the Ukrainian public interest environmental law firm Ecology-People-Law and his participation in international environmental treaty negotiations highlight his dedication to promoting environmental justice on a global scale.

His scholarship, including coauthoring seminal texts like *The Law of Environmental Protection* (1984, 1992), has been instrumental in shaping contemporary understandings of environmental law. Coauthored with his late wife, Professor Svitlana Kravchenko, another of Professor Bonine's works, *Human Rights and the Environment: Cases, Law, and Policy* (2008), was one of the first to recognize environmental rights as human rights, illuminating the nexus of human rights and climate change.



"John is known as the heart, soul, and 'grandfather' of PIELC. Since he helped start the conference forty-two years ago, he has been there for the student organizers, advising them, connecting them with remarkable individuals from around the world, and helping them forge new paths through—not around—the challenges they inevitably come to face as blossoming advocates."

— Professor Mary C. Wood

Honoring Professor Bonine's legacy involves not only celebrating his achievements but also recognizing his impact on individuals and communities around the world.

At PIELC 2024, student organizers and ENR announced the creation of the John Bonine Keynote—an annual event that will invite an expert speaker from a historically marginalized community to speak on an important topic related to public interest environmental law. Through PIELC and the John Bonine Keynote, through the LLM and ENR programs, through transformative research, and most importantly through a shared commitment to public service and environmental justice, Professor Bonine's legacy endures at Oregon Law.

PROFESSOR SUSAN GARY AWARDED FOR 35 YEARS OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE



For thirty-five years, Professor Emerita Susan Gary has enlivened the Oregon Law community through her excellence in teaching, scholarship, and public service. In spring 2024, she

was awarded the Meritorious Service Award, one of Oregon Law's highest honors.

Professor Gary began her tenure at Oregon Law in 1989, formally joining the faculty as assistant professor in 1992. Since then, she has demonstrated exceptional dedication through her extensive service to the state of Oregon, the University of Oregon, and the law school. This work has included modernizing the state's probate process as a member of the Oregon Law Commission, serving on the University Board of Trustees, and fulfilling the role of associate dean for academic affairs at Oregon Law. For more than a decade, Professor Gary has also acted as faculty co-leader of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center's (ENR) Conservation Trust Project at Oregon Law.

As a leading expert in trusts and estates, Professor Gary has authored or coauthored six books, twenty-two law review articles, and almost one hundred practice-oriented or legislative articles, chapters, and reports. She served as the reporter for three key policy initiatives—the Uniform Electronic Wills Act, the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act, and the Model Protection of Charitable Assets Act—promulgated by the Uniform Law Commission. Her stature as a scholar has garnered several advisory roles and memberships with esteemed organizations such as the American Law Institute, the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, and the Intentional Endowments Network.

As she embarks on her well-deserved retirement, Professor Gary leaves behind a legacy that is nothing short of legendary, setting a high bar for future generations of lawyers, advocates, and educators. Nonetheless, she reflects on her career with profound humility. "Being a professor at Oregon Law has been my dream job," she said, "and the Meritorious Service Award is an honor I never imagined."

Professor Andy Winden Honored with Hollis Teaching Award



Since joining Oregon Law's faculty in 2022, Assistant Professor Andy Winden has distinguished himself as a committed educator. In 2024, he received the Orlando John Hollis Outstanding Teaching Award for his excellence in classroom instruction

in business law, including a new course in sustainable business.

"I am deeply moved to be recognized by my colleagues and students and to be entrusted with training the next generation of lawyers in the Pacific Northwest," Professor Winden remarked upon receiving the Hollis Award.

"I am grateful every day for the opportunity to learn and teach at Oregon Law, a community in which I feel truly at home."

—Professor Andy Winden





AUTHOR IN QUESTION

Professor Tom Lininger – “Empowering Family Forestland Owners To Reduce Wildfire Risk”



In recent years, Oregonians have learned another name for summer: fire season. The wildfires that swept across Oregon in 2020 were the most destructive in the state's recorded history, claiming eleven lives, incinerating over one million acres of land, and reducing thousands of homes—whole towns—to ash. Already, 2024

has set another grim record, with 1.4 million acres destroyed by wildfire. The urgency of understanding and improving wildfire resilience has never been clearer.

In his recent paper, “Empowering Family Forestland Owners to Reduce Wildfire Risk,” Orlando John and Marian H. Hollis Professor of Law Tom Lininger explores legal mechanisms for protecting families in the face of fire season.

Q: What is wildfire resilience?

Lininger: Wildfire resilience necessitates that communities are truly prepared—with adequate resources, support, and place-based strategies—to address the increasing frequency and impacts of wildfire.

Q: Some authors are calling for managed retreat of human populations from the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI). Is this solution viable in the near term?

Lininger: Probably not. Much of the United States lacks the political will to undertake managed retreat. Another barrier is infrastructure. How would the government relocate people to new areas? The impacts of such efforts could fall disproportionately on low-income communities and other historically marginalized populations, raising environmental justice concerns.

Q: Would wildfire risk decrease if insurance companies stopped writing policies for homes in the WUI?

Lininger: Some commentators are cheering the withdrawal of insurance options for homes located in the WUI. I do not share that view. Evidence suggests many residents would not retreat from their homes even if they could no longer obtain insurance. Without the incentives insurers provide, homeowners might choose not to maintain their properties or not to do so as carefully. Ironically, then, the insurance withdrawal might increase wildfire risk in the WUI.

Q: Assuming that managed retreat were viable as a near-term solution, who would take over the abandoned parcels?

Lininger: That is unclear. Large-scale industrial forestry companies seem disinterested in buying small parcels located within the WUI, both because of the difficulties of aggregating such holdings to achieve economies of scale and the complications that arise for industrial forestry operations situated near large communities. The government, too, seems reluctant to buy up and maintain former residential forestland. The government cannot even afford to maintain the forestland it owns now. Given the labor-intensive nature of forestry operations during drought conditions, the presence of onsite managers is essential, but neither large industry nor government seems willing to step into this role.

Q: Your paper suggests that the presence of “family forestland owners” may be salutary in certain circumstances. What do you mean by that term?

Lininger: Family forestland owners typically have smaller holdings (up to a few hundred acres) than do industrial forestry companies. Family forestland owners usually live on their property. They often have noncommercial objectives such as conservation. Because they are less concerned about planting the tree species with the highest market value, they might favor drought-resistant and fire-resistant species. My colleague Mary Wood's latest article has also recognized the important role family forestland owners can play in implementing natural climate solutions. They should be viewed as part of the solution, not just part of the problem.

Q: How can the government empower family forestland owners to reduce wildfire risk?

Lininger: The government should provide guidance about risk, as well as resources for risk abatement. Where appropriate, the government should authorize landowners' activities that reduce fuel accumulation in vulnerable areas. The government should consider options to shore up the insurance market in forested communities, subject to safeguards that reduce incentives for hazardous forest uses. The government should provide greater access to tax deferral for family forestland owners with noncommercial management goals such as conservation or habitat preservation.



“Wildfire resilience necessitates that communities are truly prepared—with adequate resources, support, and place-based strategies—to address the increasing frequency and impacts of wildfire.”

- Professor Tom Lininger



INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH PROJECTS AND FELLOWS PROGRAM

The Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center's research arm is flexed around seven thematic Interdisciplinary Research Projects (IRPs), each targeting an area of critical socioecological importance. Grounded in faculty strengths, IRPs promote outcome-driven collaboration and impactful community engagement around today's most pressing climate-and-justice challenges.



Conservation Trust Project

Focusing on public trust theory and private property tools to achieve landscape conservation.

Faculty Leaders: Professors Susan Gary and Mary C. Wood



Energy Law and Policy Project

Exploring innovative law and policy to promote a sustainable energy future.

Faculty Leaders: Professor Greg Dotson



Food Resiliency Project

Probing key law and policy issues to ensure resilient, sustainable food systems.

Faculty Leaders: Professors Michael Fakhri and Mary C. Wood



Global Environmental Democracy Project

Preparing students to become advocates for global change.

Faculty Leaders: Professor Mary C. Wood



Native Environmental Sovereignty Project

Examining traditional and emerging Tribal roles in comanaging lands and resources.

Faculty Leaders: Professors Howard Arnett and Mary C. Wood



Oceans, Coasts, and Watersheds Project

Engaging the law to promote sustainability for ocean, coastal, and freshwater sources.

Faculty Leaders: Professors Sarah Adams-Schoen and Adell Amos



Sustainable Land Use Project

Evaluating land use laws, theories, and practices to ensure sustainable development in our communities.

Faculty Leaders: Professors Sarah Adams-Schoen and Mary C. Wood

ENR Fellows

Each year, the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR) offers several fellowships for law students. ENR Fellows build critical skills with legal research and writing, cultivate and share experiential knowledge through teamwork and community engagement, and ultimately bring their concentrated intellectual energy and hope to bear on the socioecological challenges of our day.

THANK YOU, 2023-24 ENR FELLOWS!

Conservation Trust Project

Molly Hooks
Alexander Mackay
Madelyn Reese
Abigail Shearer

Energy Law and Policy Project

Sierra Deak
Jessie Gardner
Chloe Harvell
Todd Newmister
Brenton Riddle

Food Resiliency Project

Maxwell Graves
Corinne Gibson
Dillan "Bubba" Smith

Global Environmental Democracy Project

Cole Barron
Hallie Brennan
Georgia Christopoulos

Native Environmental Sovereignty Project

Clark Barlowe
Chloe Tesch

Oceans, Coasts, and Watersheds Project

Andrew Archer
Natalie Gillard
Kyle Knoll
Elizabeth Mayans
Caleb Todd

Sustainable Land Use Project

Claire Malone
Victoria Whalen

WELCOME, 2024-25 FELLOWS!



Native Environmental Sovereignty Project

Kiyava Deville
Oprah Jerome
Alexander Shadle

Conservation Trust Project

Daniel Billick
Elizabeth Wiggans

Energy Law and Policy Project

Chelsea Dobbin
Alexis Hernandez
Brenton Riddle
Tristan Tellier

Food Resiliency Project

Clark Barlowe

Global Environmental Democracy Project

Corinne Gibson
Dana McHenry

Oceans, Coasts, and Watersheds Project

Andrew Archer
Maxwell McCool
James Meschia

Sustainable Land Use Project

Claire Malone

CONSERVATION TRUST

Focusing on public trust theory and private property tools to achieve landscape conservation.

Research Highlights

- Identifying opportunities and incentives for transformation in multi-level approaches to forestland and natural resource management
- Employing public trust principles to frame and promote climate recovery efforts regionally and worldwide

Recent Publications

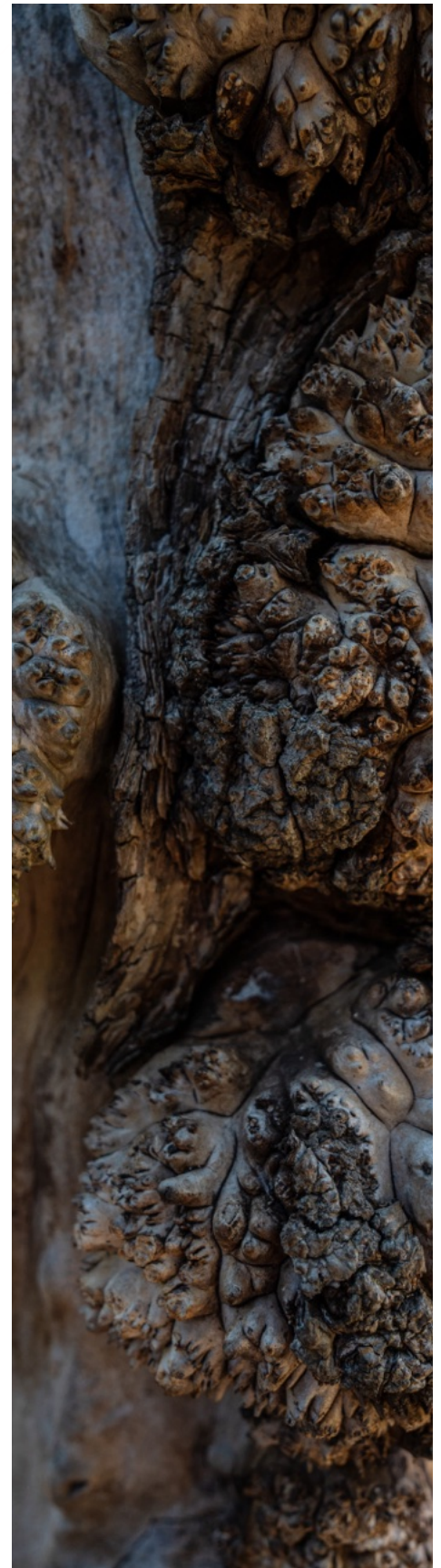
- Wood, Mary C., "Securing Ecology 'Capable of Sustaining Human Life': Invoking the Inherent and Inalienable Public Trust Rights of the People," *Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law* 26 (2024): 1.
- Wood, Mary C., "The Oregon Forest Trust: An Ecological Endowment for Posterity," *Oregon Law Review* 101, Special Edition, 2023: 515.

Conferences and Events

- Mary C. Wood, "Securing Ecology 'Capable of Sustaining Human Life': Invoking the Inherent and Inalienable Public Trust Rights of the People," keynote speaker, *Journal of Constitutional Law Symposium – The Constitutional Right to a Clean Environment*, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School. January 20, 2024.
- Mary C. Wood, "Paradigm Shift and the Response of the Judiciary to Climate Change Litigation," presentation, International Judicial Conference, Judicial Research and Training Institute of the Supreme Court of Korea, November 29, 2023.
- Mary C. Wood, "Rights of Future Generations and Public Trust," opening speech, Earth Law Symposium: Transforming Law and Governance for a Planet in Crisis, The George Washington University Law School, September 15, 2023.

In the News

- Mary C. Wood, "How an ambitious lawsuit reshaped environmental law—without ever going to trial," interviewed by Libby Denkmann and Alec Cowan, *Soundside*, NPR KUOW, May 22, 2024.
- Susan Gary, "Can a business be owned by its purpose? A growing number of Oregon companies say yes," quoted by Kyra Buckley, Oregon Public Broadcasting, May 16, 2024.
- Mary C. Wood, "Trails Inspired This Teenager to Take Historic Action on Climate Change," quoted by Emily Hanlon, *Trail Runner Magazine*, December 1, 2023.
- Mary C. Wood, "Overturning 1.5°C: Give science a chance," featured by Kelly Matheson, *Open Global Rights*, September 20, 2023.
- Mary C. Wood, "A new tool in the fight to save the planet? A 6th-century Roman doctrine.," featured by Bina Venkataraman & Amanda Shendruk, *Washington Post*, September 1, 2023.
- Mary C. Wood, "UO legal scholar laid the foundation for Montana lawsuit," featured by Ed Dorsch, *Around the O*, August 21, 2023.



ENERGY LAW AND POLICY

Exploring innovative law and policy to promote a sustainable energy future.

Research Highlights

- Evaluating major questions doctrine implications for energy, environment, and climate policy
- Researching Congress's adoption of policies around electrified transportation
- Examining issues associated with equitable and sustainable reductions in fossil fuel dependence

Recent Publications

- Dotson, Greg, "Congress' Fifty Year Mission to Transition Motor Vehicles: A Brief History of Federal Electric Vehicle Policy in the United States," *New York University Environmental Law Journal* (forthcoming, 2025).
- Dotson, Greg, "Looking for Your Friends at a Cocktail Party: The Dubious Role of Rejected Legislation and the Overlooked Potential of the Appropriations Process," *Harvard Journal On Legislation* (2024).
- Dotson, Greg, "Comments: Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles," Docket No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0829 (2023).

In the News

- Greg Dotson, "2 years after the Inflation Reduction Act became law, Oregon wins big," quoted by Monica Samayoa, Oregon Public Broadcasting, August 16, 2024.
- Greg Dotson, "Do voters care about climate change? How going green divides this election," quoted by Leah Sarnoff, *ABC News*, August 8, 2024.
- Greg Dotson, "Not such a bleak house after all," featured by Brett Milano, *Harvard Law Today*, June 13, 2024.
- Greg Dotson, "Trump versus Biden: What the rematch could mean for three key science issues," quoted by Jeff Tollefson, Natasha Gilbert, Max Kozlov, and Mariana Lenharo, *Nature*, March 6, 2024.
- Greg Dotson, "Greg Dotson is Down to Earth on Climate Legislation," featured by Ed Dorsch, *Oregon Quarterly*, October 4, 2023.
- Greg Dotson, "Ducks of Impact: Alumni working for environmental change," featured by April Miller, Peyton Hall, and Ed Dorsch, University of Oregon, June 5, 2023.
- Greg Dotson, "EPA Puts the Pedal to the Metal to Electrify Transportation," quoted by Osha Gray Davidson, *Sierra*, Sierra Club, April 14, 2023.

Conferences and Events

- Greg Dotson and Adell Amos, "The Future of Environmental Regulation— and Everything Else—After *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*," panel, moderated by Aaron Landau, 2024 O'Connell Conference, University of Oregon School of Law, September 6, 2024.
- Greg Dotson, "The Challenge of U.S. Climate Law in the Next Five Years – What to Expect from Congress, the President, and the Supreme Court," panel, Harvard Climate Action Week, Harvard University, June 10, 2024.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Greg Giunta, 3L, discovered his passion for public service through a career with the US Marine Corps. Coupled with his concerns about climate change, this passion drove him to Oregon Law and the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR).

As a student, Giunta focused primarily on environmental and energy law. He completed an academic certification in Environmental and Natural Resources Law, competed in the 2022 National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, and participated in the ENR Clinic as a clerk researching energy policy and public lands with the Western Environmental Law Center. He took advantage of numerous professional opportunities in the field, performing legislative and regulatory analysis as a law fellow with American Clean Power, researching jurisdictional and policy questions as a Wayne Morse environmental law fellow with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and assisting attorneys with a variety of environmental and natural resources issues as a clerk with the Oregon Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division.

In 2022, Giunta began a fellowship with ENR's Energy Law and Policy Project. As an ENR fellow, he supported Professor Greg Dotson's research for "The Clean Air Act Amendments of 2022: Clean Air, Climate Change, and the Inflation Reduction Act," a paper Professor Dotson coauthored with Dustin J. Maghamfar and published in *The Environmental Forum* in 2023. Building from this experience, Giunta produced his own article, "Climate Change as a National Emergency: Exploring Executive Powers," for publication in Louisiana State University's *Journal of Energy Law and Resources* (forthcoming, 2024). The capstone of Giunta's law school experience, the paper bridges his expertise as an environmental law scholar with his unique insight as a veteran.

Currently, Giunta serves as an honors attorney with the US Department of Energy, where he is engaged in legal research, litigation support, statutory interpretation, and policy advising across environmental, energy, and federal law.

FOOD RESILIENCY

Probing key law and policy issues to ensure resilient, sustainable food systems.

Research Highlights

- Identifying municipal-level opportunities to promote local food sovereignty
- Developing informational assets to advance community access to food security resources
- Tracking the role of violence in food rights violations

Recent Publications

- Fakhri, Michael, "The Right to Food, Violence, and Food Systems," T.M.C. Asser Press (2024).
- Fakhri, Michael, "Starvation and the Right to Food, with an Emphasis on the Palestinian People's Food Sovereignty – Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food," UN General Assembly (A/HRC/79/171) (July 17, 2024)
- Fakhri, Michael, Alex de Waal, and Sarah Nouwen, "Crimes of Starvation," *The Dial* (2024).
- Michael Fakhri, "Fisheries and the Right to Food in the Context of Climate Change – Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food," UN General Assembly (A/HRC/55/49) (2024).
- Fakhri, Michael, "The long, slow violence of starvation in Gaza," *Anadolu Ajansı* (2024).
- Fakhri, Michael, and Titilayo Adebola, "Agriculture," in *Oxford Handbook of International Law and Development*, Oxford University Press (2023).
- Michael Fakhri, Food, Housing, and Racial Justice Symposium, keynote speech, *University of Miami International and Comparative Law Review*, University of Miami School of Law, January 16, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "The Right to Food, Climate Change, and Global Governance," presentation, European University Institute, October 31, 2023.
- Michael Fakhri, "Pandemic Recovery and Food System Transformation," presentation, United Nations General Assembly Meeting, October 20, 2023.
- Michael Fakhri, "The Right to Food," presentation, XVIII Meeting of the Constitutional Jurisdiction, Constitutional Court of Colombia, September 29, 2023.
- Michael Fakhri, "The Right to Food, Food Sovereignty, and Overcoming the Longstanding Food Crisis," presentation, University of Alberta Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights, University of Alberta, September 21, 2023.

- Michael Fakhri, "Famine is never a natural occurrence," interviewed by Karim Makdisi, Saree Makdisi, and Ussama Makdisi, *Makdisi Street*, April 8, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "Famine in Northern Gaza Imminent; U.N., EU Blast 'Man-Made' Hunger Crisis by Israel and U.S.," featured by *Democracy Now!*, March 19, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "On Gaza aid, U.S. seeks complex workarounds to straightforward problem," quoted by Sammy Westfall, *Washington Post*, March 15, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "UN food rights expert blasts rights council for turning blind eye as Israel 'intentionally starves' Gaza," quoted by Michelle Langrand, *Geneva Solutions*, March 9, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "Gaza: Starvation claims more young lives as UN advocates for new aid routes," quoted by *UN News*, United Nations, March 7, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "Israel is deliberately starving Palestinians, UN rights expert says," quoted by Nina Lakhani, *Guardian*, February 27, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "UN-backed food expert calls on Venezuela to tackle hunger and urges end to economic sanctions," quoted by Regina Garcia Cano, AP News, February 14, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "Famine in Gaza is being made 'inevitable,' says UN rapporteur," featured by Bethan McKernan and Ruth Michaelson, *Guardian*, January 28, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "U.N. official: 'Every single person in Gaza is hungry,'" interviewed by Rosemary Church, CNN, January 25, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "UN expert says Israel using hunger 'as a weapon' against population of Gaza," interviewed by Al Jazeera, January 22, 2024.

Conferences and Events In the News

- Michael Fakhri, "The Right to Food," keynote speech, Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society and Association for the Study of Food and Society Annual Joint Conference – Right to Food: Food as Commons, Syracuse University of New York, June 6, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "Starvation, Genocide, and the Palestinian People's Food Sovereignty," keynote speech, Sawyer Seminar – The Afterlives of Liberation, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, June 4, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri and Noam Peleg, "The Food Crisis and Starvation in Gaza," speech, Australian Human Rights Institute, University of New South Wales Sydney, April 10, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "The Palestinian People's Food Sovereignty," host and moderator, United Nations Human Rights Council Side-Event, United Nations, March 6, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "States and companies must end arms transfers to Israel immediately or risk responsibility for human rights violations: UN experts," featured by United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, June 20, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "As global emergencies proliferate, older persons must not be left behind: UN experts," featured by United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, June 14, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri, "UN rapporteur Michael Fakhri on food systems and structural violence," featured by T.M.C. Asser Institute, Center for International & European Law, May 13, 2024.
- Michael Fakhri and Alex de Waal, "Hunger for Thought," interviewed by Sarah Nouwen, *EJIL: The Podcast!*, *European Journal of International Law*, April 19, 2024.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL DEMOCRACY

Preparing students to be advocates for global change.

Research Highlights

- Investigating natural climate solutions (NCS) to promote atmospheric recovery
- Growing a network of NCS adopters in the Pacific Northwest
- Developing tools for accessible communication around climate impacts and solutions

Recent Publications

- Wood, Mary C., Tom Housel, and Douglas Quirke, "Pacific Northwest Framework for Atmospheric Recovery (PNW FAR)," with support from PNW FAR Working Groups (forthcoming, 2025).
- Wood, Mary C., "Sky Carbon Cleanup and Biodiversity Restoration: Devising Regional Frameworks," *Vermont Journal of Environmental Law* 25 (2024): 209.

Conferences and Events In the News

- Mary C. Wood, Tom Housel, Dani Gelardi, Hannah Gosnell, and Tara Hudiburg, panel, "PNW Framework for Atmospheric Recovery," 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 1, 2024.
- Mary C. Wood, "Addressing the Other Climate Imperative Using Nature-Based Solutions for Sky Cleanup," keynote speech, *Vermont Journal of Environmental Law* Symposium – We're Bringing Nature Back: Nature-Based Solutions to Climate Change, Vermont Law School, November 18, 2023.
- Mary C. Wood, "Taking fossil fuels to court," quoted by Ian Proctor, *Daily Emerald*, September 29, 2023.





NATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL SOVEREIGNTY

Examining emerging Tribal roles in comanaging lands and resources.

Research Highlights

- Cultivating community around Indigenous environmental-legal leadership and Tribal sovereignty
- Exploring intersections of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge and natural climate solutions

Conferences and Events

- Howard Arnett and Maya Swanes, "Mapping 50 Years of United States v. Washington," panel, 37th Annual Indian Law Symposium, University of Washington School of Law, September 5, 2024.
- Howard Arnett, "Defending Sacred Sites: *Apache Stronghold v. United States* and the Battle for Oak Flat," presentation, Oregon Law Perspectives Series, University of Oregon School of Law, August 16, 2024.
- Howard Arnett, "History of Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Landmark Fishing Rights Cases," speech, Columbia River Indian Fishers Expo, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, July 27, 2024.
- Howard Arnett, Robert Brunoe, Ayuthea La Pier, David Lewis, Ka-Voka Jackson, Leslie Neu, and Haley Case-Scott, "Cultural Fire," panel, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 2, 2024.
- Howard Arnett, opening speech, 14th Annual Indigenous Peoples Reception, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 1, 2024.
- Clark Barlowe, (2L), speech, 14th Annual Indigenous Peoples Reception, 42nd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Cultivating Community, University of Oregon, March 1, 2024.
- Dean Dan, Jr., "Restorative Environmental Justice: A Swinomish Perspective," Environmental Justice Engagement Series, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center and Student Advocacy and Action for Environmental Justice, University of Oregon School of Law, November 2, 2023.

RENNARD STRICKLAND LECTURE

Established in 2006 by the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center's (ENR) Native Environmental Sovereignty Project, the Rennard Strickland Lecture Series honors the legacy of late Oregon Law Dean Rennard Strickland (1940 – 2021). The goal of the series is to build upon Dean Strickland's many substantive contributions to the field of Indian Law, the practice of legal education, and to the University of Oregon's ENR and Indian Law programs by exploring Indigenous environmental-legal leadership and Tribal sovereignty in the twenty-first century.

Past lecturers include Professor Mary C. Wood (2006), Professor William Rodgers (2007), Professor Rebecca Tsosie (2008), Assistant Secretary Larry Echo Hawk (2009), Solicitor Hillary Tompkins (2010), Deputy Solicitor Patrice Kunesh (2011), Professor Robert Anderson (2012), Assistant Secretary Kevin Washburn (2013), Professor Robert Williams (2014), Professor Carole Goldberg (2015), Dean James Anaya (2016), Professor Gerald Torres (2017), Mary Kathryn Nagle (2018), President Fawn Sharp (2019), Professor Stacy Leeds (2021), and Professor Matthew L.M. Fletcher (2022).

17th Annual Rennard Strickland Lecture

ENR's 17th Annual Rennard Strickland Lecture, entitled "Shared Stewardship," was presented by Elizabeth Kronk Warner (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians), a professor of law and the Jefferson B. & Rita E. Fordham Presidential Dean at the University of Utah's S.J. Quinney College of Law. Dean Kronk Warner began her talk with a focus on relationships and reciprocity, acknowledging colleagues and new friends at the University of Oregon, her many supporters, and her ancestors. She then explained a troubling dynamic in the US legal system: as federal and state officials across the country struggle to address intensifying impacts from climate change through natural resources and land management, they are consciously ignoring or depreciating the most important information—the immense Traditional Ecological Knowledge kept by Tribal nations and communities. Without integrating this essential knowledge and science into solution building by engaging with Tribal governments as sovereign partners, she argued, attempts to foster resiliency in the climate system and in our communities will fail. Introducing shared stewardship as a potential model for equitable partnerships with Tribal nations, Dean Kronk Warner underscored Tribes' special capacities to promote sustainable environmental and community vitality. "For generations, Tribes managed the majority of what is the United States," she said. "Today, Tribes' environmental ethics, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, and experience managing natural resources renders them uniquely qualified to assume larger responsibility in the stewardship of public lands." Highlighting several examples of successful Tribal co-stewardship initiatives, such as the Inter-Governmental Cooperative Agreement governing the collaborative management of lands and resources within the Bears Ears National Monument, Dean Kronk Warner concluded with a call to action.



"We as advocates—whether we are lawyers or other advocates interested in advancing interests in Indian country—should be pushing for shared stewardship."

— Dean Elizabeth Kronk Warner

Visit the link below to watch the 17th Annual Lecture:



https://youtu.be/jggCq_NM7hw



OCEANS, COASTS, AND WATERSHEDS

Engaging the law to promote sustainability for ocean, coastal, and freshwater resources.

Research Highlights

- Examining coastal land management strategies and impacts for underserved communities
- Exploring opportunities to safeguard Lake Abert, Oregon's only hypersaline lake
- Assessing Oregon's vulnerability to drought
- Advancing recommendations to inform state-level water resources management
- Educating lawmakers on water challenges and potential policy solutions

Recent Publications

- Adams-Schoen, Sarah, "Federal Flood Policy & Maladaptation" (forthcoming, 2025).
- Smith, Michelle, Andrew Archer, 2L, Natalie Gillard, 3L, Kyle Knoll, 1L, Elizabeth Mayans, 3L, and Caleb Todd, 3L, "An Assessment of Oregon's Drought Policies," in Oregon Drought Vulnerability Assessment prepared for Oregon Department of Water Resources, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (forthcoming).
- Adams-Schoen, Sarah, Alison Rieser, Donna R. Christie, and Annie Brett, *Ocean and Coastal Law: Cases and Materials*. 6th ed. West Academic Publishing, 2024.
- Smith, Michelle, Andrew Archer, 2L, Natalie Gillard, 3L, Kyle Knoll, 1L, Elizabeth Mayans, 3L, and Caleb Todd, 3L, "Legal and Policy Interventions to Restore and Protect Lake Abert," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (2024).
- Smith, Michelle, Adell Amos, Samantha Blount, JD '22, Mariah Ellis, JD '22, Natalie Gillard, 3L, and Kellie Warren, JD '23, "Removing Obstacles to Dam Removal in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Regulation of Hydropower Projects," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center, commissioned by the Resources Legacy Fund (2024).
- Smith, Michelle, Adell Amos, Andrew Archer, 2L, Elissa Karim, 3L, Kyle Knoll, 1L, and Caleb Todd, 3L, "Western State Strategies to Improve Efficiency in Water Allocation Decision Making," Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (2024).

Conferences and Events In the News

- Susan Washko, Christy Leonard, and Shaley Valentine, "Bridging the Gap Between Water Science, Law, and Policy," Environmental Justice Engagement Series, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center and Student Advocacy and Action for Environmental Justice, University of Oregon School of Law, October 3, 2024.
- Adell Amos and Adam Ward, "Navigating Water Policy After Sackett v. EPA," panel, moderated by Greg Dotson, 2023 O'Connell Conference, University of Oregon School of Law, September 22, 2023.
- Adell Amos "Experts recommend modernizing water law in 6 areas," featured by *Whale Community News*, August 13, 2024.
- Douglas Quirke, *The Last 100 Miles: The Fight for the Deschutes River*," featured by Peterson Hawley, July 9, 2024.
- Adell Amos, "Governor, bipartisan group of lawmakers issue call to action on Oregon water policy," featured by Alex Baumhardt, *Oregon Capital Chronicle*, May 30, 2024.
- Adell Amos, "Dam removal restores flows to historic Klamath River canyon," quoted by Bryony Cottam, *Geographical*, November 23, 2023.

ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT

KELLY SHERBO

Kelly Sherbo, JD '09, is an assistant attorney in Portland, Oregon, working for Metro, the US's only directly elected regional government and metropolitan planning organization. Her primary client is Metro's Waste Prevention and Environmental Services (WPES) department, where she advises the Garbage & Recycling Operations division and Asset and Environmental Stewardship division.

Metro is responsible for the region's solid waste system, including garbage and recycling stations, hazardous waste facilities, and the St. Johns landfill—the region's former garbage disposal site now being restored into a prairie. Sherbo plays a critical role in how these properties are managed and advises WPES grant programs that fund innovative waste reduction and prevention projects, low-barrier cleanup efforts, and initiatives to support communities living near waste transfer stations.

Prior to joining Metro, Sherbo spent eight years at the Multnomah County Drainage District (MCDD), where she advised on



general administrative law matters and supported the development of a new entity—the Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District—poised to take over the flood control work of all four MCDD drainage districts.

After graduating with dual concentrations in Environmental and Natural Resources Law and Ocean and Coastal Law, Sherbo began pursuing a doctorate in Public Affairs and Policy at Portland State University. She is completing her dissertation research on the collaborative behaviors of special districts.

An active member of the Oregon State Bar, Sherbo serves as treasurer of the Government Law Section. In her free time, she enjoys being with her two children (Cameryn, nine, and Darren, five) and husband, competing in agility with her three standard schnauzers, playing piano, running, and leading a fledgling nonprofit dog club.



SUSTAINABLE LAND USE

Evaluating land use laws, theories, and practices to ensure sustainable development in our communities.

Research Highlights

- Engaging in outreach to promote sustainable city planning and equitable zoning practices
- Evaluating environmental justice implications of land management frameworks
- Investigating protections for climate-displaced people living in non-traditional housing

Recent Publications

- Adams-Schoen, Sarah, Michelle Smith, Claire Malone, 2L, and Victoria Whalen, 3L, "Public Health Overlay Zones," *Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center* (forthcoming, 2024).
- Adams-Schoen, Sarah, "Juliana v. United States," *The Oregon Encyclopedia*, The Oregon Historical Society and Portland State University, fall 2023.

In the News

- Sarah Adams-Schoen, "SCYP Faculty Spotlight: Sarah Adams-Schoen," featured by Sustainable Cities Initiative, University of Oregon, July 1, 2024.
- Sarah Adams-Schoen, "City of Eugene Ignores State Law on Camping," quoted by Alexis Weisend, *Eugene Weekly*, June 15, 2023.



Conferences and Events

- Sarah Adams-Schoen, Claire Malone, 2L, and Victoria Whalen, 3L, "Confronting the Oregon Land Use System's Continuing Legacy of Land Use Racism & Environmental (In)justice for Ourselves, Our Ancestors, and Future Generations," plenary presentation, 2023 Annual Conference – Embracing the Next 50 Years, Oregon American Planning Association, October 27, 2023.
- Sarah Adams-Schoen, Mason Leavitt, and Teryn Yazdani, "Land Use Law and Environmental Justice: Opportunities for Activism in Eugene," presentation, Environmental Justice Engagement Series, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center and Student Advocacy and Action for Environmental Justice, University of Oregon School of Law, October 27, 2023.
- Sarah Adams-Schoen, Erica Fleishman, and Jay Austin, "The Climate Case Coming to Your Courtroom," plenary presentation, Annual Judicial Conference, Oregon Judges Association, October 18, 2023.

ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT

Roses Laughlin, JD '23, serves as assistant city solicitor in the Water Division of the Regulatory Unit at the City of Philadelphia's law department. In this role, she draws from experiences she had in law school, including several with the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR).

As a law student, Laughlin completed an academic certification in Environmental and Natural Resources Law. She served as staff editor for the *Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation*, competed in the 2021 National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, and joined Oregon Law's environmental law society, Land Air Water, as the organization's marketing director. She also participated in Oregon Law's Environmental Law Clinic, working with attorneys at the Western Environmental Law Center, and completed a yearlong fellowship with ENR's Sustainable Land Use Project. In her final year of law school, Laughlin partnered with classmates to co-found Student Advocacy and Action for Environmental Justice (SAAEJ), a new student organization focused on environmental law, activism, and justice. In spring 2023, the SAAEJ founders were selected for the UO Office of Sustainability's Graduate Student Leadership Award in recognition of their work to advance environmental justice on campus and beyond.

Upon earning her law degree, Laughlin began a fellowship as a research attorney with the Marine Affairs Institute (MAI) in Bristol, Rhode Island. The MAI is a partnership between Rhode Island Sea Grant and Roger Williams University School of Law that focuses on issues related to ocean and coastal law and policy. As a research attorney, Laughlin produced a series of whitepapers and related presentations examining Tribal involvement in the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's offshore wind leasing process. She also examined the role of commercial fishers in the energy transition and highlighted opportunities for partnerships between commercial fishing communities and government energy transition programs.

Laughlin thanks the ENR Center for offering experiences and relationships that helped her to establish an early career in environmental law. "I am especially grateful to Professor Adams-Schoen and Professor Amos for their guidance."

FLIGHT PATHS:

Three Alumnae Take Off as Leaders at Wildlands Network



KATIE DAVIS, JD '13



ERIN SITO, JD '20



MARI GALLOWAY, JD '20

Many enter law school with both profound clarity and deep uncertainty. They know they want to leverage their legal education to advance positive change and justice; whether, what, and where they might practice is often less clear. Opportunities for law students to engage in policy-oriented research, experiential learning, and community building are vital to their flight paths—the trajectories they take from law school into the professional world. The Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR), like other programs across Oregon Law, is a nursery for these experiences, helping prepare budding legal professionals to confront the environmental and social challenges facing our communities.

The flight paths of Katie Davis, JD '13, Erin Sito, JD '20, and Mari Galloway, JD '20, three ENR alumnae now serving in leadership roles at environmental nonprofit Wildlands Network, demonstrate how passion, ambition, and skill can pair with opportunity to affect meaningful change. In their ongoing work as champions for conservation and biodiversity restoration, Davis, Sito, and Galloway continue to draw from their formative experiences as students at Oregon Law.

WILDLANDS NETWORK: FROM VISION TO ACTION

More than thirty years ago, a group of scientists concerned about the burgeoning biodiversity crisis came together to combat habitat fragmentation and loss, becoming among the first to provide mapping and scientific modeling data to inform conservation advocacy.

In the process, Wildlands Network, a public interest conservation organization dedicated to reconnecting, restoring, and rewilding North America, was formed. Today, Wildlands Network comprises a diverse team of ecologists, law and policy experts, geographical mapping specialists, and skilled conservation communicators working across what they call the Eastern, Pacific, and Western Wildways.

With their colleagues and partners at Wildlands Network, Davis, Sito, and Galloway have undertaken dozens of ambitious environmental policy initiatives, shaping more than twenty pieces of state legislation enacted to advance wildlife crossing infrastructure and conserve and restore habitat connectivity. These campaigns have also catalyzed about \$58 million in state-level investments to support habitat conservation and wildlife crossing infrastructure projects across the continent. At the federal level, the organization's advocacy played a key role in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's inclusion of a new \$350 million grant program for wildlife crossing.

While Davis, Sito, and Galloway each possess unique skills as advocates, all credit Oregon Law for shaping how they understand and approach the work they do today.

KATIE DAVIS: CHARTING A COURSE IN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

Having developed a firm grounding in environmental science through her undergraduate studies in ecology, evolution, and organismal biology, Katie Davis entered law school knowing she



wanted to build a career in environmental advocacy; however, she was unsure how she would reach that goal. Now serving in her dream job as executive director of Wildlands Network, Davis recognizes her experiences at Oregon Law were essential to helping her realize her professional ambitions.

Davis was drawn to Oregon Law by ENR's programmatic offerings, scholarly outputs, and national reputation, and her journey as a law student was marked by deep involvement with the ENR Center. "The Center served as my home base during law school," she said. As a 1L, Davis joined Land Air Water, the environmental law society for Oregon Law students, and volunteered at the world-class Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (PIELC), which she would later help organize as a 2L conference co-director. She participated in Oregon Law's ENR and Pro Bono Clinics and joined the law school's Sustainability Committee as a student representative. She also completed a fellowship with ENR's Oceans, Coasts, and Watersheds Project, where her work on western US water issues would not only inspire her to publish an article on rainwater harvesting in Oregon Law's *Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation*; it

would also inform her now-longstanding approach to environmental advocacy.

"Working with the ENR Center instilled a belief that we can create a better world through the practice of law," Davis said. "My time as an ENR fellow cemented my understanding of the complexity and interrelatedness of social and natural systems and empowered me to seek novel ways to protect those systems through new legal frameworks that prioritize collaboration and adaptability."

"At Wildlands Network—where we have the audacious vision of achieving successful, sustained, continental-scaled conservation—we are actively shaping the law through legislative action, and that commitment to a systems-change approach was inspired and shaped by my experience working with the ENR Center."

ERIN SITO: FINDING FOOTING IN HANDS-ON WORK

Erin Sito decided to study environmental law after taking a cross-country road trip that deepened her appreciation for open landscapes and wildlife. Now serving Wildlands Network as the US public policy director, Sito's daily work includes researching, developing, and advocating for laws and policies geared toward conserving and restoring wild connected

landscapes. She began developing the knowledge, skills, and connections she uses in her work today when she was a law student.

At Oregon Law, Sito engaged broadly with ENR, which she described as "a guiding presence and resource center." She participated in the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition and served as director of the Green Business Initiative Student Association. She gained practical experience as an ENR fellow and through ENR's externship program, which supported her placement as an environmental caucus fellow with the Oregon State Legislature. She also secured summer clerkships with the Bonneville Power Administration and the US Department of Interior's Office of the Regional Solicitor. "As someone who needed to earn income during law school, many of the ENR Center's paid opportunities gave students like me a chance to support ourselves financially while gaining essential experience in legal research and writing and real-world problem solving."

For Sito, joining Land Air Water and helping organize PIELC as the conference's career coordinator was an especially impactful experience—one

that set her on her flight path. Indeed, it was at PIELC 2018, over coffee with the organization's Pacific Wildway director, that Sito first became connected to Wildlands Network. That summer, she joined the nonprofit as a law & policy intern. In this role, she drafted model state wildlife corridor legislation and presented her work before the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators. Before she graduated from Oregon Law two years later, tailored versions of Sito's model legislation were introduced and passed in Oregon, New Mexico, and Virginia, solidifying her desire to continue doing policy work after law school.

"Working with the ENR Center and connecting with its network of passionate environmental law practitioners during school truly provided me with the resources and relationships that changed my entire life trajectory," Sito said. "Now, I love what I do, and I love the people that I'm doing it with. I owe a lot of that to the hard skills and the professional network that Oregon Law provided."

MARI GALLOWAY: CONNECTING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

When Mari Galloway entered law school with a degree in environmental science and plans to become an environmental policy advocate, she knew the path ahead was not well traveled. Relatedly, she made connecting to the environmental advocacy community and gaining practical experience in environmental policy her top priority, and the ENR program her first stop.

During law school, Galloway built relationships with environmental advocates and policy professionals near and far. In her capacity with Land Air Water, she organized community potlucks, trivia nights, and presentations with local alumni, environmental attorneys, and activists. As part of Professor Greg Dotson's Environmental Policy Practicum, she traveled to Washington, DC, where she connected with policymakers, lawyers, and lobbyists working at the federal level.

Meanwhile, she sought more experiential learning and professional networking opportunities through ENR.

"In my time at Oregon Law, I had the chance to work closely with attorneys at the Western Environmental Law Center and gain exposure to litigation through the ENR Clinic; collaborate with fellow student leaders to host PIELC; and edit and publish cutting-edge legal research as an editor on the *Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation*," she said. "Working alongside environmental lawyers and benefiting from their encouragement and guidance as a law student was incredibly influential to my professional trajectory."

Today, Galloway serves as Wildlands Network's California program director, developing strategic and collaborative partnerships to promote policy and land use initiatives focused on protecting wildlife corridors and habitat across California. Just this year, she successfully shepherded A.B. 1889—a bill she co-wrote that requires local governments in California to protect wildlife connectivity in planning—through the California State Legislature to Governor Gavin Newsom's desk. In approaching this work, Galloway channels her experiences at Oregon Law, working to invite more, diverse constituencies into the fold of environmental advocacy.

PAYING IT FORWARD

As Davis, Sito, and Galloway continue their work with Wildlands Network, shaping environmental laws and policies to support life on Earth, they are also making time to give back to the Oregon Law community.

"A degree from Oregon Law provides instant credibility within the environmental law field, and I have been privileged to be able to leverage my experience and connection with ENR throughout my career," Davis said. "As an alum, I do my best to continue to pay forward those opportunities."

All three alumnae have participated in Oregon Law's professional mentorship program, working with students seeking

"Working with the ENR Center and connecting with its network of passionate environmental law practitioners during school truly provided me with the resources and relationships that changed my entire life trajectory."

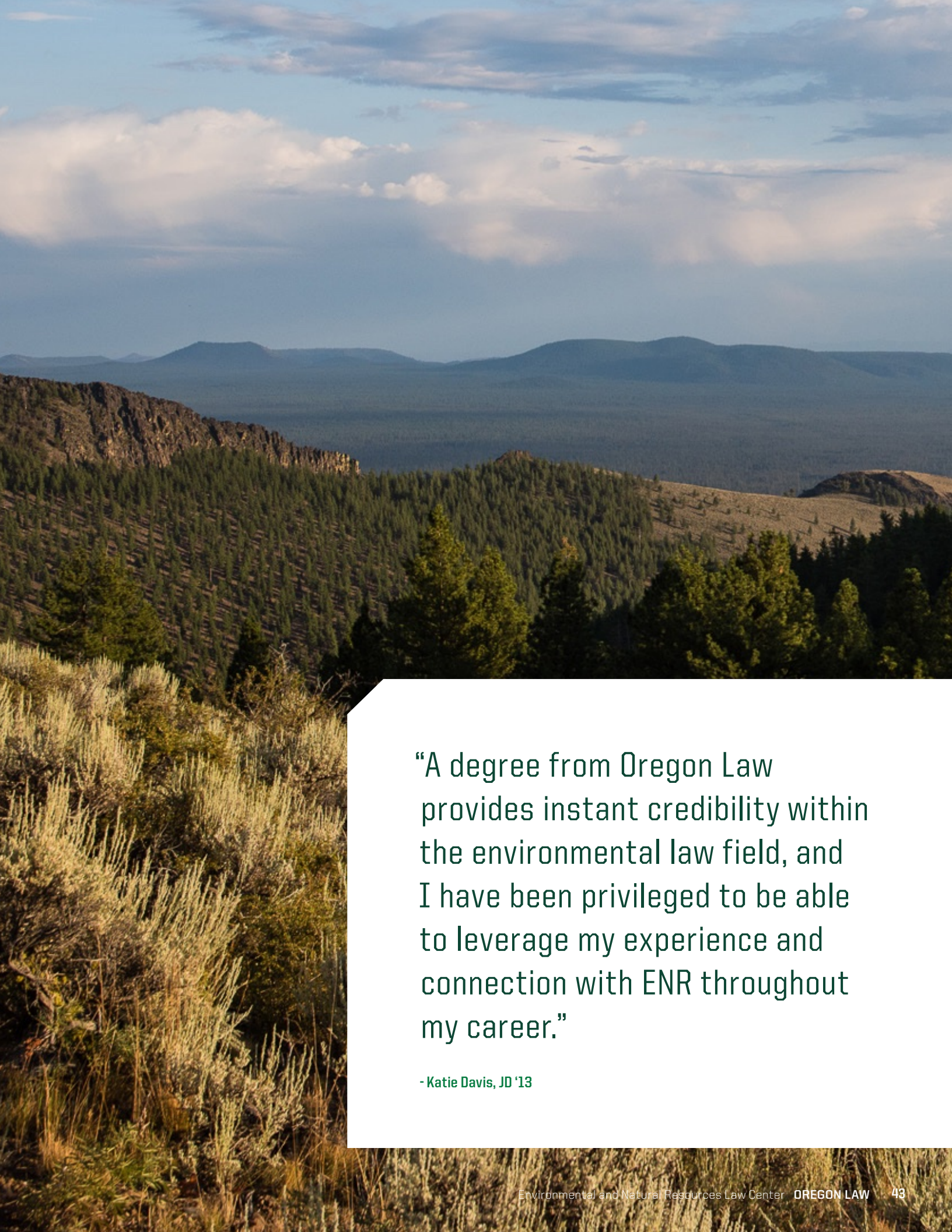
— Erin Sito, JD '20

careers in public interest environmental law and advocacy. "As an alum," Sito said, "I have mentored several ENR students. And I enjoy recruiting and working with Oregon Law students when Wildlands Network hires our annual law & policy interns."

In the 2024-25 academic year, Wildlands Network and ENR will partner to launch a fellowship program for Oregon Law students, adding to the portfolio of opportunities available to help environmental law students spread their wings and take flight. The program will provide funding and support to an Oregon Law student who will work with Wildlands Network on various environmental advocacy projects taking shape throughout the US.

As Galloway put it, "Through this partnership with the ENR Center, we hope to ensure that those with a law degree—an invaluable tool for creating real and lasting change—have opportunities to become part of the community of advocates working to combat the biodiversity and climate crises."

Photos: Katie Davis, Erin Sito and Mari Galloway, courtesy of Wildlands Network (page 40). Female puma finding safe passage through a Wildlands Network wildlife corridor, courtesy of Pathways for Wildlife (page 41).



“A degree from Oregon Law provides instant credibility within the environmental law field, and I have been privileged to be able to leverage my experience and connection with ENR throughout my career.”

- Katie Davis, JD '13

ENR Clinic at WELC

Oregon Law's Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR) is the birthplace of the first environmental law clinic in the US. Now stewarded by the Western Environmental Law Center (WELC), a nonprofit public interest environmental law firm, the ENR Clinic provides the next generation of legal advocates with real-world experience in the field. In 2023 and 2024, WELC engaged clinic students in projects spanning the Western US, including initiatives in Montana, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Oregon.

Through the ENR Clinic, law students assist WELC attorneys with case development and strategy, conduct legal research, practice client counseling, and hone their legal writing skills by drafting pleadings, briefs, and memoranda. Students fully engage in litigation and legal work, receiving direct supervision and mentorship from WELC attorneys. This practical experience confers invaluable training that prepares students for impactful careers in the law.

Clinic students' professional-level efforts culminate in capstone projects—high-level work products that often prove useful to WELC's legal proceedings long after semester's end.

In 2023 and 2024, clinic students worked on energy issues, researching questions related to funding the US Department of Energy has made available for hydrogen energy and carbon capture and storage projects. This research included a specific focus on whether and when the allocation of federal funds requires review under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Other students worked with senior WELC attorneys in Montana to complete a state-by-state study of utility regulation—how public and private utility administrators are considering (or not considering) climate hazards in their regulatory decision-making around electric and gas utilities. Their informative final report helped shape a rulemaking petition WELC filed with the public utility commission in Montana.

Another student wrote a comparative litigation memorandum surveying various judicial districts' tests for intervention, equipping WELC with a valuable resource for understanding intervention challenges that may arise in future lawsuits around agency decisions.

Finally, another student engaged in extensive legal research to support WELC's efforts to force federal wildlife managers to meaningfully aid in the recovery and promote the resilience of the imperiled Mexican wolf population in Arizona and New Mexico while advancing wolf reintroduction initiatives in the Northern Rocky Mountains.

Students' access to professional mentorship is critically important for both the future of law and the places, communities, and creatures who are seeking strong advocates in a changing world. As they mentor students in the ENR Clinic, WELC attorneys hope that real-world experience will empower these students to fiercely pursue justice—no matter what practice area ignites their passion.



"Thank you to our students—past, present, and future."

Clinics and Externships

Equipping the next generation of changemakers through practical experience.

ENR promotes student placements across a diversity of public interest organizations and government entities around the world. Past placements include:

- 1,000 Friends of Oregon
- Advocates for the West
- Beyond Toxics
- Blue River Law
- Cascadia Wildlands
- Center for Ocean Solutions
- Crag Law Center
- Delaware Riverkeeper Network
- Delegation of the European Union to the United States, Trade Section
- Earth Island Institute
- Earthjustice
- Environmental Defense Center
- Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Environmental Protection Information Center
- Hells Canyon Preservation Council
- Hudson Riverkeeper
- Humane Society of the United States
- Idaho Water Users Association
- Institute of Man and Environment of the Amazon
- Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- Klamath-Siskiyou Wildland Center
- LandWatch Lane County
- Lincoln County Counsel
- Midwest Environmental Advocates
- National Law Center for the Inter-American Free Trade
- Oregon Citizens Utility Board
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Oregon Office of the Legislative Counsel
- Oregon Public Utility Commission
- Our Children's Trust
- Sierra Club
- Socially Responsible Agriculture Project
- Squaxin Indian Tribal Community
- State of California Attorney General
- State of Colorado Attorney General
- Trout Unlimited
- Trustees for Alaska
- Tualatin Riverkeeper
- United Nations Climate Change Secretariat Legal Affairs Program
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Department of the Interior Office of the Solicitor
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Pacific Northwest Region
- U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental and Natural Resources Division
- Western Resources Advocates
- WildEarth Guardians
- Wildlands Network
- Yurok Tribe



Cultivating Community at PIELC 2024

BY: CONFERENCE CO-DIRECTORS KEIRAN HADLEY, 2L, CHARITY MARTINEZ, 2L,
MORGAN MCWILLIAMS, 2L, AND NICOLETTE OHLSEN, 2L

In early March 2024, thousands of activists, attorneys, researchers, educators, and community members convened for the 42nd annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (PIELC) at the University of Oregon. Over three days, conference participants and organizers shared victories, exchanged ideas, strengthened relationships, and laid groundwork for future collaborations related to public interest environmental law.

Organized by the dedicated students of Land Air Water, the environmental law society at Oregon Law, PIELC is the largest and longest-running such conference on the planet. In 2024, conference planning was spearheaded by 2Ls Keiran Hadley, Charity Martinez, Morgan McWilliams, and Nicolette Ohlsen. These four students selected “Cultivating Community” as the conference theme, seeking to amplify the importance of addressing today’s environmental challenges through inclusive, community-based approaches.

PIELC 2024 was organized in special collaboration with UO’s Pacific Northwest Just Futures Institute for Racial and Climate Justice (JFI). A regional partnership funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and housed within UO’s Center for Environmental Futures, JFI is a seedbed for applied, publicly engaged research to address intertwined issues of racial inequity and climate instability. Among nearly one hundred other panels and workshops offered at PIELC 2024 was a tailored “track” of learning opportunities and community-building events focused on JFI’s various recent projects and accomplishments.

THURSDAY

PIELC 2024 looked a little different from previous conferences. Land Air Water chose not to hold panels or workshops on Thursday, allowing student organizers to dedicate

more time, energy, and resources toward the heartiness of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday’s programming. In keeping with tradition, the annual Career Fair still took place on “PIELC Eve” and featured numerous public interest advocacy organizations such as Beyond Toxics, Cascadia Wildlands, and Willamette Riverkeeper.

FRIDAY

The first day of PIELC started in Oregon Law’s Wayne Morse Commons, with sweet treats provided by Sweet Life Patisserie, a local small business. Then began dozens of engaging panels with topics like “Defending the Northwest Forest Plan for the Next Generation,” “Brazilian Amazon Attorneys in Defense of their Lands and Territories,” and “Kicking the Plastic Habit: Field Reports from Global Treaty Negotiations to Local Legislative Fights.” Friday’s lunchtime programming included the always popular “Wolfshop” session and an inspiring JFI workshop, “The Healers Project: Afro-Indigenous Traditional Ecological and Medicinal Knowledge.”

For the evening’s main event, conference participants gathered in UO’s historic Erb Memorial Union, where rockstar attorney Travis Stills received the Kerry Rydberg-Jack Tuholske Award for Excellence in Public Interest Lawyering in recognition of his work within the Rocky Mountain region.

Following the award ceremony, Conference Co-Director Charity Martinez introduced Oregon Law’s very own Dr. Alai Reyes-Santos as the first keynote speaker of the year. Titled “Cultivating Community” after the conference theme, Dr. Reyes-Santos’s address encapsulated what student organizers hoped PIELC 2024 would be all about, highlighting the vital role of storytelling in our collective efforts to confront environmental issues. In



2023 PIELC organizers

the spirit of community cultivation, Dr. Reyes-Santos concluded her talk by inviting each of her collaborators and supporters on stage with her, acknowledging and celebrating the village it takes to make great change happen in our communities.

Energized by the keynote, conference-goers gathered at UO’s Ford Alumni Center for the joint PIELC, JFI, and Oregon Water Futures party, where they connected with new people, enjoyed great food, and danced the night away!

SATURDAY

Day two of PIELC 2024 began with the annual ethics workshop—this time led by Oregon Law Professor Rebekah Hanley, who discussed what the practice of law looks like in this new era of generative AI—and a presentation on “Moving Through Ecologies of the Global South.”

Throughout the day, panels and workshops spanned a variety of topics: “Public Lands for All: Blackness Outside,” “Dams are a False Climate Solution: Lessons from the Klamath to the United States,” “Getting the World Past Coal: International Perspectives,” “Saving Sage Grouse,” and many more.

Lunchtime programming started with the presentation of the David Brower Lifetime Achievement Award to Calvin Sandborn, who was selected for his lifelong work on climate change, pollution, fisheries, and Indigenous land rights, which has inspired generations of law students.

After the award ceremony, Oregon Law Professor Mary C. Wood made a special announcement. In recognition of her colleague, Professor John Bonine, who would soon be retiring from Oregon Law, PIELC would now include the John Bonine Keynote as an annual conference event. Professor Wood then introduced the inaugural John Bonine Keynote, Dune Lankard.

Dune Lankard is an Eyak Athabaskan (Eagle Clan) fisherman with ancestral ties to the Copper River Delta who is globally known as a leader on ocean activism and Indigenous rights. His captivating address, “LandBack + OceanBack = PeopleBack,” began with the story of how Dune’s own community was burdened by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill and why that preventable tragedy propelled him to fight for environmental justice. Dune then focused on the Native Conservancy, one of many organizations he has helped found, and its work to build “a regenerative economy and create a platform for us to wake up, lean in, step up, and be louder than everything else.”

Saturday wrapped up with the Oregon Wild Party, which celebrated “50 Years of Suing the Bastards,” and the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center’s annual alumni reception, where current Oregon Law students, faculty, and alumni built fellowship around public interest environmental law.

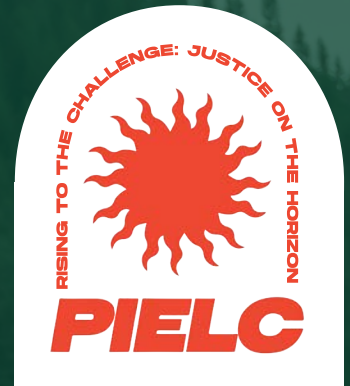
SUNDAY

The final day of PIELC 2024 kicked off with two groups of panels, covering topics from “Unions are the Mycelial Network of the Environmental Movement” and “Colorado’s Wolf Reintroduction” to “Rumble on the River – Renewable Diesel: Boon or Boondoggle?” Panelists and attendees alike acknowledged barriers to change but also shared in celebrating recent victories for our environment and communities.

The third and final formal PIELC honor, the Svitlana Kravchenko Environmental Rights Award, was presented to Our Children’s Trust attorney Andrea Rodgers for her environmental advocacy on behalf of youth throughout the US and beyond. “Andrea embodies what all of us in the legal profession should aspire to be,” said award presenter and *Juliana v. US* plaintiff Alexander Loznak, JD ’23.

Following the award ceremony, Oregon Law Professor Greg Dotson, JD ’95, introduced Jeremy Orr, Earthjustice’s director of litigation & advocacy partnerships, as the final keynote speaker. Jeremy’s compelling address, “Navigating the Waters of Justice: The Intersection of Water, Justice, and Democracy,” explored the interplay of water, democracy, and justice, delving into the essential nature of water and how communities’ varying access to this vital resource reveals inequities in our societies and decision-making processes. Jeremy concluded with hope, discussing opportunities to work through water challenges and promote democracy through equitable water governance.

On the heels of Jeremy’s address, Keiran, Charity, Morgan, and Nicolette took the stage to give a final thank you to conference-goers, panelists, presenters, and the students of Land Air Water, who once again worked tirelessly to bring together an unforgettable PIELC.



RISE TO THE CHALLENGE AT PIELC 2025

February 28 – March 2, 2025

Save the date for the 43rd annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference! PIELC 2025 will take place over three days at the University of Oregon in Eugene, Oregon.

The conference co-directors, all volunteer law students, have selected “Rising to the Challenge: Justice on the Horizon” as the conference theme.

Questions about PIELC may be directed to:

askpielc@gmail.com

AWARD-WINNING ADVOCATES AT PIELC 2024



David Brower Lifetime Achievement Award 2024 Recipient: Calvin Sandborn

The Brower Award is a twenty-six-year-old honor presented to activists and attorneys who exemplify David Brower's spirit and accomplishments. Often credited as one of the most important environmentalists of the twentieth century, Brower was the first executive director of the globally impactful Sierra Club. His leadership helped the organization establish its political voice and activate its policy advocacy arm. In 1969, Brower founded Friends of Earth and, in 1992, he started the Earth Island Institute. A "grandfather" of the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference at Oregon Law, Brower maintained that PIELC was the most important conference anywhere. Each year during PIELC, student organizers are honored to present the Brower Award to a deserving changemaker.

Based in British Columbia, Calvin Sandborn is a world-renowned environmental advocate whose life's work has been to equitably reform environmental laws and policies to better serve the Earth and its communities. His early career includes working as a lawyer and advisor with Farm Workers Legal Services, West Coast Environmental Law, the Commission on Resources and Environment, and the BC Forest Practice Board. From 2003 to 2023, Sandborn also held roles as professor, legal director, and senior counsel at the University of Victoria's Environmental Law Centre (ELC). He saw countless successes in these roles—from helping expose government censorship of scientists in policymaking to advancing more comprehensive regulation of mining and fracking to initiating the well-known Keurig coffee pods case in Canada. Now retired from the ELC, Sandborn continues to inspire young people to stand up for themselves, the environment, and their communities.

"I really see Calvin Sandborn as the embodiment of love-in-action. Like David Brower, Calvin has harnessed his personal talents, he's created community, and he's helped make our world just a little bit better."

— Murray Rankin, BC Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation



Kerry Rydberg-Jack Tuholske Award for Excellence in Public Interest Environmental Lawyering 2024 Recipient: Travis Stills

Established in 1990, The Rydberg-Tuholske Award was originally named to honor Kerry Rydberg, a private public interest lawyer who earned his law degree at the University of Oregon. Before tragically passing at an early age, Rydberg represented grassroots groups for little-to-no pay, challenging practices such as destructive old-growth logging. The award in his honor was renamed in 2020 to also recognize the lifelong advocacy of private-public interest attorney Jack Tuholske, a Montanan who passed that year. Tuholske's legacy touches not only environmental law, where his successes as an attorney included ensuring the protection of more than nineteen thousand miles of streams and rivers in the Pacific Northwest; it also remains impactful in the field of environmental-legal education, where

Tuholske inspired innovation as a law professor at the University of Montana and at Vermont Law School. Recipients of the distinguished Rydberg-Tuholske Award are selected for their demonstrated courage, commitment, and talent as grassroots-level advocates for citizens and communities facing environmental challenges.

For nearly three decades, Travis Stills has provided exceptional service as a public interest environmental attorney. As the executive director of advocacy nonprofit Energy & Conservation Law, Stills co-counsels with a variety of public interest lawyers, leveraging his expertise with state and federal courts and administrative processes to provide specialized legal representation to a diversity of clientele—from Tribal nations to small governments and community organizations. He is lead or co-counsel of record on dozens of impactful cases, including the ongoing *Rocky Mountain Wild, Inc. v. United States Forest Service* litigation, which is cited in the 8th edition of *Coggins & Wilkinson's Federal Public Land and Resources Law* casebook. Alongside developing and teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in environmental law, environmental justice, sociology, and environmental policy and politics for Fort Lewis College and the University of Colorado-Denver, Stills advances public literacy and engagement around environmental law topics through his work with clients and within issue-based networks and his participation at PIELC. He is co-author of "Preserving Our Public Lands, a Citizens' Guide to Understanding and Participating in Oil and Gas Decisions Affecting Our Public Lands," an informational resource encouraging broad civic engagement with land use decision-making.



Svitlana Kravchenko Environmental Rights Award 2024 Recipient: Andrea Rodgers

The Kravchenko Award was created in 2012 to honor those who emulate the universal kindness, academic excellence, and spirited activism of late Oregon Law Professor Svitlana Kravchenko. Kravchenko is remembered as an international force in environmental law who was deeply committed to social and environmental justice. In the early 1990s, she helped establish the first public interest environmental law firm in Ukraine, advancing democracy through environmental advocacy. Each year, PIELC's student organizers present the Kravchenko Award to a recipient whose work, like Kravchenko's, refuses to divide environmental rights from fundamental human rights.

Since she began working with nonprofit law firm Our Children's Trust in 2010, Andrea Rodgers has been a leading advocate for constitutional-level protections against climate change for children. In her current role as the organization's deputy director of US litigation strategy, she has served as counsel of record on several significant cases across the country—*Juliana v. United States*, *Genesis v. US Environmental Protection Agency*, *Held v. State of Montana*, *Navahine v. Hawai'i Department of Transportation*—and supported Canada's pioneering youth-led climate case, *La Rose v. His Majesty the King*, which recently received a favorable ruling in the Federal Court of Appeals. In addition to Rodgers's exceptional contributions as a litigator, her scholarship on environmental rights has been instrumental in advancing climate justice discourse in the US and beyond. Central to all her work is a commitment to future generations—something Kravchenko also upheld in her approach to advocacy.

WESTERN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW UPDATE



The *Western Environmental Law Update* (WELU) is a publication sponsored by Land Air Water, Oregon Law's environmental law society, and distributed annually during the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference. In recent years, the WELU has evolved from a collection of academic writings to a multi-formal 'zine' that blends justice-based, environmental-legal research with creative works such as landscape photography, drawings, political collages, short stories, and poems.

Access the 2024 WELU: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/f893c99e-282e-4bd8-92ba-2e24435eb089>

Questions about the WELU, including inquiries about how to submit an entry for the next edition, can be directed to the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center at enr@uoregon.edu.

2024 GREEN BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM

"Sustainable Land Use: Natural Resources & Green Energy"



The University of Oregon's Green Business Initiative (GBI) Student Association is one of the first student organizations of its kind. Bridging UO's School of Law and Lundquist College of Business, GBI strives to promote sustainable business practices and the legal frameworks that support them. At GBI's annual Green Business Symposium, hundreds of participants—from regional and national business leaders to law students—come together to explore opportunities to achieve a more sustainable economy.

GBI held their 2024 Green Business Symposium, "Sustainable Land Use: Natural Resources & Green Energy," in UO's Ford Alumni Center. The Symposium began with "Land Use Law & Green Energy," a discussion featuring representatives of NewSun Energy, 1000 Friends of Oregon, and the Oregon Department of Energy. Then, representatives from Idaho Strategic Resources, 1000 Friends of Oregon, and Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt led a discussion on "Land Use & Natural Resources."

"GBI's 2024 Symposium featured two great panels talking about some of Oregon's most pressing land use issues. Our attendees had a fantastic time with these engaging and thought-provoking topics. Thank you to our participants and planners for another great symposium!"

— Christopher Kittilson, 2L



Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation – Volume 39

Since 1985, Oregon Law's *Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation* (JELL) has provided an international forum for new ideas and theories in environmental and natural resources law. JELL publishes groundbreaking scholarship on evolving subjects such as renewable energy, environmental justice, and international environmental law while empowering students to become exceptional writers, editors, and scholars.

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SAGE LEADERSHIP: STUDENT VISIONARIES FOUND, STEWARD ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GROUP AT OREGON LAW

In 2022, four environmental law students—Lauren Dorsey, JD '24, Roses Laughlin, JD '23, Katie Moreland, JD '23, and Jaimie Tucker, JD '23—founded a new student organization at Oregon Law and left their mark. Student Advocacy and Action for Environmental Justice (SAAEJ, pronounced “sage”) convenes graduate and undergraduate scholars, faculty and staff supporters, and community partners to advance environmental justice through public education, outreach, and activism.

SAAEJ MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL COLLABORATORS WORK ACROSS SEVERAL THEMATIC FOCUS AREAS:

- Clean Water
- Food and Sustainable Agriculture
- Renewable Energy and Decarbonization
- Environmental Anti-Racism
- UO Campus Sustainability



In fall 2023, the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center (ENR) and SAAEJ partnered to present the ENR x SAAEJ Environmental Justice Engagement Series at Oregon Law. Featuring ten expert speakers across four public events, the series aimed to highlight critical environmental justice challenges and empower community members toward interdisciplinary solution building. Events included:

- “Bridging the Gap Between Water Science, Law, and Policy,” with Dr. Susan Washko, Dr. Christy Leonard, and Shaley Valentine, October 3, 2023.
- “Professional Pathways in Environmental Justice and Tribal Advocacy,” with Ana Colwell, JD '22, Brendan Keenan, Jr., JD '18, and Caleb J. Norris, JD '20, October 12, 2023.
- “Land Use Law and Environmental Justice: Opportunities for Activism in Eugene,” with Professor Sarah Adams-Schoen, Mason Leavitt, and Teryn Yazdani, October 26, 2024.
- “Restorative Environmental Justice: A Swinomish Perspective,” with Dr. Dean Dan, Jr., November 2, 2023.

Attracting more than one hundred attendees, the ENR x SAAEJ series informed and inspired thoughtful participation in environmental justice conversations on campus and beyond. It also confirmed a belief shared by the whole Oregon Law community: with support, students can harness their ambitions, talents, and capacity for leadership to begin creating the world they want to live in—one they will be proud to leave to future generations.







Mountain Stream, Three Fingered Jack by Photographer Mike Putnam is part of the Knight Law Center's permanent art installation featuring his photographic explorations of Oregon's scenic waterways and landscapes. Putnam calls Bend, Oregon, home.

View his work at www.mikeputnamphoto.com.

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ENR strives to use our precious finite resources wisely, moving increasingly toward digital communication. If you would like to receive future magazines electronically, please send a request to enr@uoregon.edu.

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