



NRULPC Newsletter Vol. 5, No. 3

September 20, 2022

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Co-Directors' Message

Greetings colleagues,

As we enter the Fall semester we look back on some activities and prepare for future ones. We finish up the information from the May Advisory Board meeting with a summary of Marc Brinkmeyer's presentation *T Cubed to A Cubed: Timber, Talent and Technology to Academics, Analytics and Artificial Intelligence*.

The Natural Resource Use & Management Clinic has a strong start to the semester with 7 students and a new fellow, Nathan Dunn (introduced below). A hearty congratulations to Andy Groseta, NRULPC Board Member Co-chair, on the well-deserved recognition from University of Arizona Cooperative Extension with the Friend of Extension Award. Our NRULPC team members presented a

poster at the Extension conference to help Extension educators better understand what we do. The 2022 Mining Law Summit is coming up November 10th so be sure to check out the topics and register. And lastly, Issue 7 of the Regulatory Roundup is out and highlights climate change mitigation, wildfire management, and other timely material.

We are looking forward to cooler temperatures and wish you well as we slowly slide into Fall.

Best wishes,
George and John,
Co-Directors



Clinic Update

Priya Sundareshan

The Natural Resource Use & Management Clinic is back! We started this fall semester with 7 JD students enrolled in the clinic, 2 of whom are third-year students and 5 are second-year students. We have dived in to learning about various natural resource statutes and management regimes to set a broad base for the student project work. The projects this semester include:

- research into environmental justice and other arguments that can assist a farming community against gas plant expansion,
- the legal and statutory history of voter initiatives for potential natural resource management,
- evaluation of the benefits of co-locating solar projects with grazing leases, and the sufficiency of agency procedures to do so.
- and preparing and conducting initial client intake for the new water rights work for small claimants our clinic will be able to do (once we hire a water lawyer, hopefully soon!).



I am also very pleased to have the assistance of our new clinic fellow, Nathan Dunn! He started one week into the semester and has jumped right in to assisting with teaching the materials and student supervision. He was also enrolled in the clinic himself while a law student, so he brings valuable prior student perspective to this role. You can read more about Nathan's background in the section introducing him. I'm so glad to have Nathan on board!

And it's nice to be back in the classroom again after a needed parental leave. I'm glad to see that our students at the University of Arizona continue to be interested in natural resource law topics and to interact with our stakeholder community!



Friend of Extension Award

*Ed Martin, Director of University of Arizona Cooperative Extension,
presents Andy Groseta with Friend of Extension Award*

P. Andrew "Andy" Groseta is a third-generation Arizona rancher from Cottonwood who has reached the apex of success in his ranching career, industry leadership roles, and service to the community and his alma mater.

The Groseta family is one of the pioneer mining and ranching families that settled in north central Arizona, with operations including the Pine Creek Ranch, a stocker ranch north of Williams, and the W Dart Ranch, a cow and calf operation based in Cottonwood.

Andy is a partner in Headquarters West Ltd., a statewide agribusiness firm specializing in farm and ranch brokerage, appraisals, management, and consulting.

In 2008, he was selected by then-President George W. Bush to serve as a member of the U.S. presidential delegation attending the inauguration of South Korean President Lee Myung-bak. Andy represented American cattlemen in resolving the U.S.-Korean beef trade issue, allowing U.S. beef back into South Korea.

Andy earned a bachelor's degree in animal science and agriculture education and a master's degree in agriculture education from the UA. Andy has been honored with dozens of service awards for cattle and agricultural business in Arizona. Most recently, he was inducted into the Arizona 4-H Hall of Fame in 2013, presented the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Centennial Award, in 2014, and received an honorary Doctorate from the UA in 2015.

But this year, we present him with an award from the heart. Andy's support for the U of A and for UA Extension during this past legislative session was nothing short of miraculous. After the session was over, I was talking with Karen Fann, Arizona Senate President, and I thanked her for her support his year. Her reply was don't thank me thank him (pointing over to Andy at the next table). She said he sent emails, made phone calls, and came down to the capital in support of you this year.

We are truly grateful for everything that Andy has done for us and it is an honor that UA Extension calls him a friend. To show our appreciation, I am honored to present this year's Friend of Extension Award to Mr. Andy Groseta.

Welcome Nathan Dunn Fellow, Natural Resource Use & Management Clinic

Nathan was raised in southern Arizona. He finished a Bachelor's degree in Natural Resources at the University of Arizona in 2009. He has held various positions working for federal and tribal government agencies, including NPS, BLM, and USFS. Nathan returned to the University and completed a Master's degree in Environmental Law and Policy in 2017. He continued his studies at the James E. Rogers College of Law and worked in the NRUM Clinic before graduating with a J.D. in May 2020. Most recently, Nathan worked on invasive species issues at Yellowstone National Park. In his fellow position he will be guiding students with their clinic projects as well as conducting research on various natural resources activities connected to NRULPC. He is excited to be back on campus again.



Advisory Board Meeting Guest Speaker Presentation Summary

T Cubed to A Cubed: Timber, Talent and Technology to Academics, Analytics and Artificial Intelligence

The keynote speaker **Marc Brinkmeyer**, Owner and CEO of Idaho Forest Group, presented *T Cubed to A Cubed: Timber, Talent and Technology to Academics, Analytics and Artificial Intelligence*.

Idaho Forest Group (IFG) is one of America's largest lumber producers for the last 40 years. Across Idaho and Mississippi, IFG owns six sawmills and a finger-joint facility, with capacity for over 1.5 billion board feet per year.

Brinkmeyer is an accomplished business leader, a champion of education and innovation, and a longtime philanthropist.

Marc spoke about the early years of the family in Germany as farmers back in 1477 before they came to the United States in the late 1800's. In addition to agriculture his family were sawmillers in the late fall and winter. He shared the evolution in milling technology from their early years in 1900 with a single steam engine saw miller.



In 1981 Brinkmeyer formed Riley Creek and purchased his first sawmill in Laclede, Idaho. In 2003, Riley Creek purchased two additional mills from Louisiana-Pacific becoming the largest lumber producer in the Intermountain West. The company has continued to grow thru acquisition and investing in technology, becoming Idaho Forest Group. Marc described the latest venture into Southern US lumber milling with the state-of-the-art Lumberton Mill in Mississippi. IFG is based in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where it grows, harvests, manufactures, and distributes lumber and other wood by-products to customers in the United States and abroad. The company emphasizes a talented workforce of more than 1,000 employees and 2,000 partner contractors. IFG's mission is to "enhance the lives and livelihoods of our employees, customers, and Logging Contractor Families.

The Idaho Facilities operate in the Intermountain Forest which is comprised of 16,800,000 acres of timberland located in Idaho, Eastern Washington, and Western Montana. In 2018, with the encouragement of its customers, the company began to study the Southern United States. This resulted in building a new mill in Lumberton, Mississippi. It is coincidental as the last time there was a sawmill was over 100 years ago.

The first 35 to 40 years of the company embraced *T3 - Talent, Technology and Timber* where the major focus of investment is on talent and technology. Opportunities are constantly emerging in technology. From Satellite Technology for our Forestry Base to Automation and Robotics for manufacturing. IFG has developed its own Engineering and Automation Teams, embracing all forms of technology. The opportunity in Mississippi was the appropriate next step, a new era of designing their own technology with their own people – *A3 - Analytics, Academics and Artificial Intelligence*. So, what does that mean?

According to Marc, "First of all, sawmills are worthless without timber, they are single purpose facilities. One of the requirements of the resource department is to ensure we have adequate timber for our mills in perpetuity. We want to make sure that our technology is efficient and matches the raw material base for each mill. Annually, the resource department provides a Peer Reviewed audit of the raw material base where a geographical area is assigned to each mill.

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"First, we want to know what that other activity is, second, we have to be very careful of the yearly fire activity. For example, last year, the fire activity in Idaho was 500% of the 20 year average with very serious fires. Looking at what went on through the year we want to know where we stand in 16 million acres of intermountain forest." The company has shifted investment into robotics where they design the tool end and patent the designs. One example is the process of wrapping lumber that was very labor intensive now is done with robotics. In order to support robotics design, they have built a state of the art machine shop and a fabrication facility that also helps profitability and reduces supply chain issues.

One topic the company often debates is "does technology bring talent, or does talent bring technology" this aspect the company always strives to keep in balance. They are always looking for what's new and what's going on in other industries.

Marc further discussed current wood product research they are doing, University and U.S. Forest Service collaborations and the company strategy for the future.



Spreading the word about NRULPC

NRULPC poster presented at the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Conference, August 10, 2022.

Addressing Challenges to Mineral Resource Development

Seventh Annual Mining Law Summit

November 10, 2022

John Lacy

REGISTRATION

The 2022 Mining Law Summit continues to examine the challenges to mineral resource development. This year we will look at:

- innovations in education
- the use of technology for NEPA compliance
- challenges in Indigenous rights advocacy
- new sourcing requirements, and
- the evaluation of community resistance.

This free virtual conference, on Nov. 10, 2022, will combine recorded presentations from internationally recognized authorities with live participation in answering questions and providing commentary.



TOPICS

Challenges in Education—“The New Shape of Mining Education”: The director of the new School of Mining and Mineral Resources at the University of Arizona will discuss the inter-disciplinary approach to mining education being advanced by the new school.

Challenges in Indigenous Rights Advocacy: Jose Francisco Cali Tzay, Assoc. Director, Indigenous Peoples Law Human Rights Clinical Programs, the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law and United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, will be interviewed by Cassie Boggs, retired general counsel of Resource Capital Funds. University of Arizona Law has long been at the forefront of Indigenous human rights advocacy, which is particularly relevant to national and (especially) international mineral exploration and development. The interview will focus on striking the right balance between increased mining in the U.S., particularly for critical minerals to ensure U.S. national economic security, and protecting land and Indigenous rights.

Challenges and Opportunities in Responsible Sourcing: Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA) leaders will discuss the need to prevent “greenwashing” in voluntary standards for the mining sector and IRMA’s approach to maintaining the integrity of its *Standard for Responsible Mining*. This presentation will cover multi-stakeholder engagement, robust coverage and requirements, independent third-party audits, transparent reporting, and continuous improvement at the mine site level. They will also discuss approaches to incorporating circularity in the mining sector, include through strategies such as procurement practices, material recycling, and use of nature-based solutions. Possible Panelists include Aimee Boulanger, IRMA; Kristi Disney Bruckner, IRMA; Raquel Dominguez, Earthworks; Malcolm Shang, ArcelorMittal; Alan Young, Materials Efficiency Resource Group (MERG), and Jim Wormington, Human Rights Watch.

Challenges in Domestic Environmental Compliance: Laura López - Hoffman is heading up the NEPAcess program at The University of Arizona, a team that has developed a new platform that uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to search and analyze thousands of documents stemming from the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The topic will be presented

as a round table discussion between a NEPAcess representative, Aaron Lien (School of Natural Resources), Marc Miller (dean of the law school) and an industry representative.

Evaluating Community Relations: Chris Hopkins, a nationally known authority on this topic, will provide his insights on appropriate groundwork required to either get a project either off the ground or abandoned early in the process. The presentation will focus on what steps can be taken to establish meaningful dialogue and engagement with communities, to promote participation and benefit sharing, to establish, manage, and evaluate plans, and to address grievances through a local level grievance mechanism.

Wrap Up Analysis, Law and Policy: Prof. Ana Bastida, the senior lecturer in Law, Energy Environment and Society, School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Law, and the Program Leader of the MSc in Sustainability, at the University of Dundee, Scotland, will provide a live wrap up analysis of the materials presented. Dr. Bastida has concluded in her recent book, that the law and governance of mining and minerals has “historically been a chronically under-theorized and under-systematized area of enquiry in international scholarship.” Also, this time will be available for responses to questions submitted.



Regulatory Roundup

Issue 7 – Mid-September 2022

Highlights:

- Climate Change Mitigation Legislation: Inflation Reduction Act and CHIPS Act infuses climate change resilience into natural resources management, permitting and community grant funding
- Wildfire Management: Community Wildfire Defense grant and Interagency Fuel Treatment Decision Support System

- Grant and comment period deadlines for items from USDA, EPA and USFWS
- Online Planning Tools: New links to help meet your regulatory and permitting needs

See also

REGULATORY ROUNDUP

- **[Issue 6, June 30, 2022](#)** - Resilience in Western Ranching, Wildfire Management and Changes to ESA
- **[Issue 5, April 30, 2022](#)** - NEPA Implementing Regulation Revisions
- **[Issue 4, February 28, 2022](#)** - Steps to Climate Change Policy Responses
- **[Issue 3, December 30, 2021](#)** - Solving the Wildfire Mitigation Quagmire
- **[Issue 2, August 30, 2021](#)** - Legislative Remedies for Wildfire Management and Mitigation is a Hot Topic!
- **[Issue 1, June 30, 2021](#)** - A New WOTUS Rule is in the works: Arizona under scrutiny!

New Resources on the [NRULPC Website and Blog](#)

[Website](#)

- **[Regulatory Roundup](#)**
 - Issue 7: September 2022 (on website soon)
 - **[Issue 6](#)**: June 30, 2022
 - Would you like to receive the Regulatory Roundup in your email inbox? Join the NRULPC listserv by contacting **merrigan@arizona.edu**.
- Poster
 - **[How the NRULPC can help YOU!](#)** -- Cooperative Extension Conference Poster August 2022

[Western Lands, Western Waters Blog](#)

- No new posts

Natural Resource Users Law & Policy Center (NRULPC)

The Natural Resource Users Law and Policy Center (NRULPC) is a creative partnership of the University of Arizona's James E. Rogers College of Law and Cooperative Extension that grew out of grassroots discussions. The Center's aims are to collaborate with stakeholders, mentor student clinicians and fellows, provide scholarly legal and policy analysis, and address the underrepresented law and policy needs of the natural resource community of Arizona and the West.



The NRULPC website provides information on the about the center, student programs, leadership and staff, out publications and the Advisory Board.

Newsletter and Other Resources

Newsletters

- Vol. 1, Number 1 - November 2, 2017 - Welcome to the First NRULPC Newsletter!
- Vol. 1, Number 2 - December 22, 2017
- Vol. 1, Number 3 - February 9, 2018
- Vol. 1, Number 4 - March 19, 2018
- Vol. 1, Number 5 - April 30, 2018
- Vol. 1, Number 6 - May 31, 2018
- Vol. 1, Number 7 - July 24, 2018
- Vol. 2, Number 1 - October 19, 2018
- Vol. 2, Number 2 - December 20, 2018
- Vol. 2, Number 3 - February 25, 2019

[Newsletter](#)

The first issue of the NRULPC newsletter was released November 2017. It is published at various times of the year, but generally about every two months.



JAMES E. ROGERS COLLEGE OF LAW
Natural Resource Use
& Management Clinic

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Western Lands, Western Waters

Hot topics in natural resource law and policy affecting the American West

[Blog](#)

The Blog is our newest resource with our first release in April 2019. All posts carefully researched and written by NRULPC Clinic students

Would you like to be on our NRULPC listserve? If so, please contact [Sheila Merrigan](#).

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