

Speaker Biographies

Bob Adler

Bob Adler is the James I. Farr Chair and Professor of Law at the University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law. He has taught and written extensively about the Clean Water Act, other aspects of water quality and environmental law, and watershed protection. His publications include *Restoring Colorado River Ecosystems: A Troubled Sense of Immensity*; *Environmental Law: A Conceptual and Pragmatic Approach*; and a book about the history and effectiveness of the Clean Water Act (*The Clean Water Act: 20 Years Later*); and numerous book chapters, law review, and other articles regarding environmental and water law and policy. Professor Adler served as a Senior Attorney and Director of the Clean Water Program at the Natural Resources Defense Council; chair of the Clean Water Network; a staff attorney and Executive Director with Trustees for Alaska; and an attorney with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. He has a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and a B.A. in ecology from Johns Hopkins University.

Reed Benson

Reed D. Benson is a professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law, where he teaches courses relating to water law, natural resources, and administrative law, and also serves as faculty advisor to the *Natural Resources Journal*. He served from 2002-08 on the University of Wyoming law faculty, the last two as Winston S. Howard Distinguished Professor. Prof. Benson has published several articles on water law and policy in the West, most recently *New Adventures of the Old Bureau: Modern-Day Reclamation Statutes and Congress' Unfinished Environmental Business*, 48 *Harvard Journal on Legislation* 137 (2011). He is also co-author of the 6th edition of the *Water Resource Management* casebook from Foundation Press, joining longtime authors Dan Tarlock, Jim Corbridge, and David Getches.

Before he began teaching, Prof. Benson worked in Oregon for the nonprofit conservation group WaterWatch, serving four years as a staff attorney and five as executive director. He has also worked as an attorney for a Boulder, Colorado law

firm, for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC, and for the Land and Water Fund of the Rockies (now Western Resources Advocates). He earned a B.S. with honors in economics and environmental studies from Iowa State, and a J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Michigan Law School in 1988.

John Bezdek

John Bezdek is currently the Assistant Solicitor for Water and Power which is the senior career position within SOL on Reclamation law. Mr. Bezdek supervises a staff of 7 attorneys and is responsible for advising the Commissioner, Assistant Secretary, and Secretary on matters pertaining to the operations and administration of the Reclamation program. Mr. Bezdek has been with the federal government since 1994- working first for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Louisiana and then the Office of the Solicitor General at the Department of Justice--joining the Solicitor's Office in 1997. From 2003 - 2007, Mr. Bezdek was Deputy Director of the Secretary's Indian Water Rights Office where he was responsible for managing 19 Indian Water Rights Negotiating Teams. Mr. Bezdek was named Assistant Solicitor in 2008. Career highlights include developing the legal/regulatory compliance for the Animas-LaPlata Project; developing the ESA compliance protocols for California 4.4; successfully defending Reclamation before FERC on PG&E's attempts to pass on \$100 million of power costs to BOR contractors; leading the Department's efforts on the Navajo-Gallup settlement; and leading the administration's efforts on the Klamath Agreements where he was named Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Klamath Basin Matters. Mr. Bezdek holds a Master's of Laws from the George Washington University, a Juris Doctor (Magna Cum Laude) from the Southern University School of Law, and a Bachelor's of General Studies from Louisiana State University.

Curt Brown

Curt Brown is Director of Research and Development for the Bureau of Reclamation. He has a PhD in social psychology with an emphasis in decision analysis from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He has been with Reclamation 32 years. Prior to his current position he managed the Platte River EIS Office, working on an endangered species recovery program for the Platte River. He was also the Program Manager for the Western Water Policy Review Advisory Commission.

Anne Castle

Since June 2009, Anne Castle has served as the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science in the Department of the Interior where she oversees water and science policy and has responsibility for the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Geological Survey. Prior to joining Interior, Castle served as a partner in the Denver, Colo. office of Holland & Hart LLP from 1981 to 2009. Castle's practice included litigation and multi-party negotiations involving water issues, water related transactions and advice on water policy and strategy. Her clients included a wide assortment of water users. She was elected to chair the firm's management committee and served in that position from 2001 to 2004. Castle has served on the South Platte River Basin Task Force; as chair and elected member of the Board of Directors, Genesee Water and Sanitation District; and as a member of the Colorado Ground Water Commission.

Betsy Cody

Betsy Cody is a specialist in natural resources policy with the Congressional Research Service, U.S. Library of Congress, Washington D.C., where she specializes in western water resources issues. Issue areas include water resources management, water transfers and marketing, water reclamation and reuse, watershed and river basin management, title transfer, federal water resource planning and project evaluation, and projects, programs, and policies of the Bureau of Reclamation. She also works on national water policy issues, handling questions related to the Water Resources Council and various national water commissions. She has published numerous reports and analytic memos for Congress on Bureau of Reclamation policies and programs, the Bureau of Land Management, and related federal legislation. Topics of specialty include drought and federal project and species management issues in the California Bay-Delta, San Joaquin River Restoration, and other western water issues. She has testified several times before the U.S. House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee, as well as the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, including testimony on the Bureau of Reclamation's water reuse program (Title XVI). Cody is a past President of the National Capital Regional section of the American Water Resources Association (AWRA), a past Finance Chairman for the national AWRA, and former editorial board member of Choices magazine. She holds a B.S. in Urban Design/Land Use Planning, Lewis & Clark

College, Portland, Oregon; MPA, Evans School of Public Affairs, University, of Washington, Seattle, WA.

Cliff Dahm

Dr. Dahm is an ecosystem ecologist with expertise in restoration ecology, biogeochemistry, microbial ecology, hydrology, climatology and aquatic ecology. He has been on loan the past three years to the US Geological Survey in Sacramento, California to serve as lead scientist for the Delta Science Program and has just returned to the University of New Mexico where he is a professor in the Department of Biology. He emphasizes interdisciplinary approaches required for understanding aquatic ecosystems. He has served as interim director for the Sevilleta Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Program at the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge in central New Mexico and director for the Freshwater Sciences Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program at UNM. He has served as a program director for the Division of Environmental Biology of the National Science Foundation. He has worked on river restoration, flow criteria, and adaptive management protocols in Florida, Queensland-Australia, New Mexico, and California. Dr. Dahm received a B.S. in chemistry from Boise State University, a M.A. in chemical oceanography from Oregon State University, and a Ph.D. in aquatic ecology and oceanography from Oregon State University.

David Feldman

David Lewis Feldman is Chair of the Department of Planning, Policy and Design at the University of California, Irvine, and Professor of Political Science. He is author of the forthcoming book *Water* (2012), editor of *The Geopolitics of Natural Resources* (2011), and author of *Water Policy for Sustainable Development* (2007), *Water Resources Management: In Search of an Environmental Ethic* (1995), *The Energy Crisis: Unresolved Issues and Enduring Legacies* (1996), *Global Climate Change and Public Policy* (1994) and nearly 80 articles and book chapters. Feldman served as a lead author for a 2008 U.S. Climate Change Science Program report on climate variability and water produced by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He was the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's first Scholar-in-Residence, head of the Department of Political Science at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (2003-7), and a Research Staff member at Oak Ridge National

Laboratory. His PhD. in political science is from the University of Missouri, and his B.A. is from Kent State University in Ohio.

Kira Finkler

Kira Finkler was named Reclamation's Deputy Commissioner, External and Intergovernmental Affairs by President Barack Obama in August 2009. She directs Reclamation's Congressional, Legislative and Public Affairs activities and manages the agency's interaction among federal and non-federal governments and national-level citizen groups. Prior to joining Reclamation, Finkler served as Counsel to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in the U.S. Senate providing advice and analysis regarding natural resources policy and legislation. From 2004 to 2007, Finkler was Senior Policy Advisor and Government Affairs Director for Trout Unlimited. She served as Environmental Legislative Assistant, Office of Senator Dale Bumpers from 1995 to 1996 and Special Assistant to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management in 1995. Finkler received her J.D. from the Washington College of Law at American University in Washington, D.C. and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Arizona.

Denise Fort

Denise Fort is a Professor of Law at the University of New Mexico School of Law and Director of the School's Utton Center. She writes about environmental law, water policy, river restoration, and climate policy. She chaired the Western Water Policy Review Advisory Commission, by appointment of President Clinton, which prepared a seminal report on western water policy. Fort also served as Director of New Mexico's Environmental Improvement Division, as an attorney with New Mexico PIRG and Southwest Research and Information Center, and as Executive Director of Citizens for a Better Environment (CA). She was a member of the National Research Council's Water, Science, and Technology Board and participates in NRC reports. She has worked in public finance as the Secretary of Finance and Administration for New Mexico and an assistant Attorney General in the Taxation and Revenue Department of the state. Contact: fortde@law.unm.edu

Susan George

Susan George is the director of the Regulatory Programs and Training Center at the University of New Mexico School of Law, Institute of Public Law, where she works on public interest issues ranging from environmental and wildlife protection to driving safety and ignition interlock programs. Prior to this she served as Senior Counsel for Defenders of Wildlife for twelve years, where she co-authored numerous publications on state wildlife law issues, including "Saving Biodiversity: State Laws, Policies and Programs", "Protecting New Mexico's Natural Heritage: Recommendations on Steps Toward a Comprehensive Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for New Mexico" as well as a recent chapter on state endangered species acts in the ABA publication "Endangered Species Act: Law, Policy and Perspective" (2nd edition). She also worked for the Western Environmental Law Center, as well as in a private firm where she focused on civil litigation and environmental issues, and has been an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law where she taught Wildlife Law. Susan is a 1988 graduate of the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Andrea K. Gerlak

Andrea K. Gerlak is the Director of Academic Development for the International Studies Association, and Senior Policy Associate with the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at the University of Arizona. Her research interests are in the fields of public policy, institutional theory, natural resource management, and water governance. She has published articles in Policy Studies Journal, Natural Resources Journal, Water Policy, Society and Natural Resources, Global Environmental Politics, the University of Denver Water Law Review, Publius: The Journal of Federalism, and Environmental Management.

Mike Hamman

Mike Hamman currently manages the Albuquerque Area Office for the Bureau of Reclamation. He previously worked as the Executive Director of the Trinity River Restoration Program in northern California, and also as the Resource Management Division Director. He has also served as the Regional Water Planning Director for the New Mexico Interstate Streams Commission, as the City of Santa Fe's Water Utility Director, and has worked on water management and development with the Jicarilla

Apache Nation. Hamman is a registered Professional Engineer in New Mexico, earned a BS in Engineering from the University of New Mexico, and was raised in Taos, New Mexico.

Tim Karpoff

Tim Karpoff helps community groups, businesses and government agencies plan effectively and explore complex issues, through well-designed processes and conversations that matter. Tim has 35 years experience in community and organizational development, meeting facilitation, strategic planning, and multi-party collaboration. He worked for 16 years as a regional director and vice president of the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) in the United States and Southeast Asia and has had a consultant practice in Albuquerque, New Mexico since 1992. Mr. Karpoff helped organize the public outreach, and facilitation of a community advisory committee helping to develop a regional master plan for water and wastewater infrastructure, engaging people from traditional and newer communities in making long-range decisions about water and wastewater services in Valencia County. Mr. Karpoff facilitates a regular forum of representatives of state agencies, tribal governments, municipalities, flood control authorities, and other agencies to discover ways to improve water quality in the middle Rio Grande (the Middle Rio Grande Water Quality Work Group).

Susan Kelly

Susan Kelly led the planning team for organizing the River Restoration conference. She is a licensed attorney and also has experience in urban planning. As former director of the Utton Transboundary Resources Center, she worked on a variety of projects related to the Utton Center's mission of promoting sustainable management of natural resources that cross national, state, tribal or other jurisdictional boundaries, including editing *Water Matters!* each year. *Water Matters!* is full of information on water topics, with helpful maps and other information. Susan is a frequent speaker and has worked with a group of experts exploring the nexus between land use and availability of water. She spoke on this topic at the 2009 Water Resources Research Institute Conference, at the annual conference of the New Mexico Chapter of the American Planning Association, at a 2009 Land Use CLE International event, and at the 2011 New Mexico Water Dialogue meeting.

Mark McKinstry

Mark McKinstry is a Biological Scientist with the Bureau of Reclamation's Office of Adaptive Management, Upper Colorado Region. He is based in the Salt Lake City Office and is the Science and Technology coordinator for UC region. He is the Program Manager for San Juan Recovery Implementation Program but also works on programs and projects throughout the Colorado, Rio Grande, and Pecos river basins. Mark has worked over 20 years in the restoration field, mostly with aquatic systems. Mark has published many papers on restoration including co-writing and editing the recent book "Wetland and Riparian Areas of the Intermountain West: Ecology and Management."

Michael Newsom

Michael Newsom is a research program coordinator for the PN region. He has worked as a botanist, wetland scientist, writer-editor, mathematician and hydrologist in his mostly federal career. His work interests include facilitating the intersection of science and policy. He was instrumental in the creation of the Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership, a coalition of federal, state and tribal scientists. His major field of interest is mathematical ecology. He is seeking fame and fortune in photography.

Adrian Oglesby

Adrian Oglesby managed industrial environmental cleanup projects before attending UNM Law School. He has since provided legal counsel to tribes and NGO's on water and environmental issues; represented the Interstate Stream Commission as a Special Assistant Attorney General on the Pecos and Gila Rivers; and, established and managed the Living Rivers Program for The Nature Conservancy in New Mexico. He currently represents Bernalillo County on the Board of Directors of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District and enjoys his private law practice in Albuquerque.

Tim Randle

Tim Randle is a Supervisory Hydraulic Engineer and Manager of the Bureau of Reclamation's Sedimentation and River Hydraulics Group. He received his B.S. in Civil

Engineering from the University of Utah in 1981 and his M.S. in Civil Engineer from the University of Colorado in 2004. He is a registered professional engineer. Also, he is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, U.S. Society on Dams, and a Diplomate, Water Resources Engineer with the American Academy of Water Resources Engineers. Mr. Randle has been with Reclamation for 31 years—nearly all of that time with the Sedimentation and River Hydraulics Group. He has developed several computer models and conducted geomorphic and hydraulic studies of many rivers throughout the western United States. Mr. Randle was named “Engineer of the Year” for 1997 by the Bureau of Reclamation and honored as one of the top ten Federal Engineers by the National Society of Professional Engineers. He managed the interagency team that prepared the environmental impact statement (EIS) for operations of Glen Canyon Dam. Mr. Randle worked on Elwha River Restoration Project, in Washington, which involves the removal of two hydroelectric dams. Mr. Randle also organized and led data collection efforts of the Platte River in Nebraska in 1989.

Tanya Trujillo

Tanya Trujillo is the Counselor to the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the Department of the Interior. She previously worked for Senator Bingaman as counsel to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water and Power. Prior to moving to Washington, Ms. Trujillo served as general counsel to the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission and before that was an attorney in private practice with Holland & Hart in New Mexico.

Tony Willardson

Tony Willardson was named as the Executive Director of the Western States Water Council in 2009. Affiliated with the Western Governors’ Association, WSWC members are appointed by the governors of 18 states. Formerly the Deputy Director, he has been with the Council for over 30 years. He holds a BA in political science from Brigham Young University, and a MS in public administration from the University of Utah; and is a member of the National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration (Pi Alpha Alpha). He oversees publication of a weekly newsletter, *Western States Water*, and is the author of numerous articles and reports covering a wide range of water resource issues, including water project financing and cost

sharing, ground water management and recharge, water conservation, drought, and interregional water transfers. He is also one of the principal author's of the WGA's 2006 Report, *Water Needs and Strategies for a Sustainable Future* and 2008 *Next Steps Report* and 2010 *Update*.

Rodney J. Wittler

Rod Wittler is the Mid Pacific Regional Science Liaison to Reclamation's R&D Office. Dr. Wittler served as the Senior Scientist of the Trinity River Restoration Program for from 2004-08. For 15 years prior Dr. Wittler was a Research Hydraulic Engineer in the Water Resources Research Laboratory of Reclamation's Technical Service Center. Dr. Wittler has 27 years of general and research engineering experience in hydraulic models, river mechanics, flow measurement, sediment analysis, temperature modeling, and river restoration. He holds Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Colorado State University, and is a registered professional civil engineer in Colorado.