



IDAHO LAW REVIEW

2024 Water Law Symposium

Program Schedule

8:00-4:30 Friday, March 22, 2024



8:00 - Check-in & Coffee

8:30 - OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS: *Dirk Kempthorne, Former Idaho Governor & Secretary of the Interior*

Topic: Secretary of the Interior and Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne will deliver a reflection on Idaho's Snake River Basin Adjudication, its historic success, and continuing importance.

9:45 - Session 1: *State Water Rights Adjudications in Idaho*

Presenter: Judge Eric Wildman, Idaho Water Court

Description: Why adjudicate water rights in Idaho? An overview of the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA), its purpose, historic significance, application, and motivation for adjudicating the rest of the state. Length 1 ¼ hrs.

11:00 - Session 2: *Water Quality Regulation in the wake of Sackett v. EPA*

Moderator: Katy Riker, Chair, Environment & Natural Resources Law Section of ISB & Practicing Attorney at Holland & Hart LLP

Presenter: Norman Semanko, Practicing Attorney, Parsons, Behle & Latimer

Description: A primer on water quality regulation as administered by states and the federal government. Explores the basis for federal jurisdiction over state water resources as "waters of the United States" ("WOTUS") under the Clean Water Act. Specific focus will be placed on the implications of the 2023 U.S. Supreme Court decision *Sackett v. EPA*, affecting administrative rules defining WOTUS and wetlands.

12:00-1:15 LUNCH – *Preordered Catered Box Lunches available via EventBrite*

1:30 - Session 3: *Panel Discussion on Legal Mechanisms for Ensuring the Resilience of Interstate Water Resources*

Panelists: Burke Griggs, Professor at Washburn University School of Law; Albert Barker, Practicing Attorney & Member, Idaho Water Resources Board; Jason Robison, Professor at University of Wyoming College of Law; Dr. Robert Van Kirk, Hydrologist, Henry's Fork Foundation.

Description: Panelists will discuss the intersection of state sovereignty over water and the complex legal framework governing interstate water resources shared by multiple states, such as rivers and aquifers. The implications of federal water laws and interstate litigation over transboundary rivers and water compacts will also be explored.

3:30 - CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Robert Anderson, Solicitor, U.S. Dep't of the Interior

The current Solicitor for the U.S. Department of the Interior will address the federal approach to managing interstate rivers in the Northwest in the face of climate change.

Event Location: University of Idaho College of Law
Boise Campus - Room 114 - 501 Front Street
Free ZOOM Livestream Available