Carved by Glaciers: Stewardship Across the Northern Rockies

38th Public Land Law Conference
In Partnership with the University of Calgary Faculty of Law

October 3-4, 2019
At the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana
PUBLIC LAND LAW CONFERENCE

DATE: Thursday, October 3 & Friday, October 4
LOCATION: Blewett School of Law, Room 201, Missoula, MT
TIME: 8 am – 6 pm (THURS.) & 8 am – 5 pm (FRI.)
MONTANA CLE CREDITS: 10.5 (TOTAL: 3.5 for THURS. & 7 for FRI.)

BACKGROUND:

This year’s conference explores how Canada and the United States approach environmental and natural resources challenges in their shared Norther Rockies ecosystem. Panels include Environmental Regulatory Approaches, Pipelines, Renewables & Our Energy Future, International Wildlife Corridors, Waters & Fisheries, and Tribal Sovereignty Over Natural Resources.

KEYNOTES:

Judicial Review in Environmental Matters in Canada – Canadian Supreme Court Justice Russell Brown

The Defense of Necessity: One Canadian Lawyer’s Journey to Address Climate Change – David Gooderham

OPTIONAL FIELD TRIP:

Journey through the Bitterroot Valley on this pre-conference Field Trip to learn about the geological, tribal, and cultural history of the valley and how this history impacts modern legal challenges involving wildfire, water, and wildlife management. Planned stops include Travelers Rest, Lolo Pass, and the Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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SCHEDULE

THURS. OCT 3  Optional Field Trip

7:30–8am  Check-In & Refreshments at ABIII School of Law Atrium

8:00am  Bus leaves from Adams Center, University of Montana

8–8:30am  Geology of the Bitterroot
  Dr. Payton Gardner, Assistant Professor, Geosciences Department, University of Montana

9:00am  Arrive at Lolo Pass Visitor Center

9:15–9:50am  Past, Present, and Future Tribal Resource Management in the Bitterroot and Beyond
  Nakia Williamson-Cloud, Director, Nez Perce Tribe Cultural Resources Program
  Aaron Miles Sr., Director, Nez Perce Tribe Natural Resources Department
  Myrna Dumontier, Councilmember, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

10:00am  Bus departs Lolo Pass Visitor Center and travels to Lolo Fire Site

10:30am  Arrive at Lolo Peak Fire Area (Intersection of Highway 12 and Lolo Creek Road)

10:35–11am  The Relationship of Law and Wildfire Planning in the Bitterroot Valley and Greater Missoula Area
  Dr. Mark Finney, Researcher, USDA Forest Service
  Jennifer Hensiek, Missoula District Ranger, USDA Forest Service

11:05am  Bus departs for Traveler’s Rest/Fort Fizzle

11:20am  Bus arrives at Traveler’s Rest/Fort Fizzle

11:25–11:50am  Historic Preservation Law and Land Use Designations
  Loren Flynn, Regional Manager, MT Fish, Wildlife, & Parks

11:50–12:35pm  Lunch & time to explore

12:40pm  Bus departs for Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge

1:10pm  Bus arrives at Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge

1:15–1:40pm  The Role of Water and Land Use Law in the Bitterroot Valley
  Jed Whiteley, Project Manager & Monitoring Coordinator, Clark Fork Coalition
  Tom Reed, Refuge Manager, Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge

2:00pm  Bus departs for the University of Montana

3:00pm  Bus arrives at Adams Center, University of Montana

Keynote & Reception

5–6pm  Keynote: Judicial Review in Environmental Matters in Canada
  The Honourable Russell Brown, Justice, Canadian Supreme Court

6–7pm  Reception; Second Floor Atrium at ABIII School of La
FIELD TRIP SPEAKERS

Payton Gardner, Ph.D., has dedicated his life to studying, working with and enjoying the earth and the hydrological cycle. He believes in constant learning through exploration and experience in the field, the lab, and the classroom. His fields of study center around Hydrogeology, Isotope Hydrology, Noble Gas Geochemistry, Groundwater-Stream water interactions, Groundwater in geological processes, Regional groundwater, and Nuclear waste disposal. He is interested in hydrologic systems from the local to regional scale, and their role in geologic processes. His area of expertise is in isotope hydrology and environmental tracers. He uses heat, groundwater age tracers (e.g. CFC’s, 3H, 3He, 4He, SF6, 14C), stable and radio-isotopes and noble gas geochemistry combined with numerical modeling and inversion to understand hydrogeologic system dynamics.

Nakia Williamson-Cloud lives in Lapwai, Idaho and is a member of the Nez Perce Nation. He was born and raised on his family’s original Nez Perce allotment. His grandparents had a profound impact on his life. They never spoke English. They dressed traditionally in moccasins, braids and plateau wind dress. Nakia’s parents were Lillian and Ben Cloud. His grandfather, Cloud Gatherer, was a prominent leader in the 1855 treaty. His Nez Perce family are descendants of the Dickson family from the lower Snake River area. The multi-talented Nakia has become proficient in different beadwork, quillwork, and hide work techniques. Nakia is a storyteller of historical events. Allan Slickpoo was his mentor while participating in a Cultural Service Program. He participated in the Pacific Rim Indigenous Art Gathering in Olympia, Washington, was one of four artists chosen to travel throughout the United States, attended the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico, joined a group to represent the Nez Perce for the Native American Indian Grave and Reparation Act, belonged to a native delegation hosting the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, and is helping a friend compile a book about Native American horsemanship, history of the horse among Indian people, and the role of the horse. Nakia is also a spokesperson for Clearwater Forest National Park Service. This park contains the bulk of the buffalo trail network, the Inipi trail, used by Lewis and Clark. He is featured in a short film, shown to people taking the trail, stressing the importance of these historical areas. Nakia has also become involved with traditional dances and ceremonies of his people.

Aaron Miles, Sr. was appointed as the interim Executive Director by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee after a resignation on one occasion and the passing of a longtime employee holding the position on another. During both times, he was able to stabilize the day-to-day operations which include human resources, finance, and other indirect programs, along with leadership for all the base programs. For several years, Aaron assisted the Executive Directors with the institutional knowledge and work culture of the Tribe. Now with a tremendous amount of experience in executive level management, Aaron is prepared to take on greater challenges. It is his hope to utilize this experience for another opportunity at some point in the near future. He headed the Tribal Relations effort for Washington State University (WSU). Aaron initiated and developed an adhoc Native Advisory Committee composed of Native American faculty and staff to address racial climate issues pertaining to the recruitment and retention efforts of tribal youth on the WSU-Pullman Campus. As the leader of the committee, Aaron worked with the Office of the President, and Office of the Provost. Assisted in drafting the first Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for WSU and Tribe's throughout Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana with interim Provost Geoff Gamble that WSU President
Samuel Smith signed along with a number of Tribes. The culmination of these efforts developed the Office of Tribal Relations at the Provost Office. The MOU raised Native American issues at the highest level of offices at WSU while promoting an environment conducive to the recruitment and retention of Native American students that enroll at the Pullman campus.

Myrna Dumontier was born in Superior, Montana and attended schools in Arlee where she graduated from Arlee High School in 1974. She worked in various fields, including as a medical aid, fire fighter, fire lookout, an addictions counselor, a prevention specialist, and a cultural specialist. Myrna went back to school and earned a Bachelor's of Social Work with an emphasis on addiction treatment from the University of Montana in 2005. She completed an internship at St. Patrick’s Hospital as a medical social worker. Before joining Council in 2018 to represent the Arlee District, she had worked as the Cultural Coordinator for the CSKT Early Childhood Services Department for 10 years. Myrna is a mother to one and grandmother to four children. Her husband is Greg Dumontier. She also enjoys exploring the Bob Marshall Wilderness and discovering cultural sites.

Mark Finney, Ph.D., is a research forester with the United Stated Department of Agriculture – Forest Service in Missoula, Montana. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of California, his M.S. from the University of Washington, and his B.S. in Forest Management from Colorado State University. His current research focuses on the study of fire spread in deep and discontinuous fuel beds, which has promise for understanding many of the fire behaviors that we do not understand and cannot predict today.

Jennifer Hensiek is the Missoula District Ranger for the United Stated Department of Agriculture – Forest Service. She graduated from Oklahoma State University with a B.S. in Forestry and earned a M.S. in Resource Recreation and Tourism from the University of Idaho. Jennifer started as a temporary employee working on a summer Wilderness Trail crew on the Nez Perce National Forest in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. She went on to work as a biological technician for the Rocky Mountain Research Station Forestry Sciences Lab in Moscow, Idaho. She then served as the Deputy District Ranger on the Flagstaff Ranger District on the Coconino National Forest in Arizona before moving to Missoula.

Loren Flynn is a park manager for the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and oversees interpretive programs at Travelers’ Rest State Park. He also serves as the Director of Missoula Region Parks and often works on preserving the native culture in the Bitterroot area, including those of the Salish, Pend d’Orielle and Nez Perce tribes.

Jed Whiteley joined the Coalition in 2013 as part of our Restore team, which works in the field to develop and implement restoration solutions for impaired tributary streams throughout the Clark Fork. Jed specializes in the development of flow and instream restoration projects in the Bitterroot Valley and the Middle Clark Fork. He is also responsible for the monitoring strategies that guide the way we manage project-area creeks and streams. Jed comes to the CFC with 19 years of experience in the field of river and ecological restoration, working in positions from field technician to company president. Most notably, he ran S&K Environmental from 2007-12 and was instrumental in growing the company. Jed is an avid fisherman, boater, hunter and backpacker, with a B.S. in natural resource management and forestry with a concentration in environmental management from California Polytechnic State University.
Tom Reed serves as the Refuge Manager for the Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge. He graduated from Humboldt State University with a B.S. in Wildlife Management and obtained a M.S. from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. Tom worked with the California Fish and Game Department at the Honey Lake Wildlife Management Area and studied disease in waterfowl with the National Wildlife Health Resource Center. Before coming to Montana, he worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services in Moses Lake, Washington.
MAPS & INFORMATION

Lolo Pass Visitor Center: 44000 US-12, Lolo, MT 59847; (208) 942-3113

Traveler's Rest State Park: 6717 US-12, Lolo, MT 59847; (406) 273-4253
Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge: 4567 Wild Fowl Ln, Stevensville, MT 59870; (406) 777-5552