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Introduction

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INTRODUCTION

On the cusp of its fiftieth year, the *Natural Resources Journal* opens Volume 49 true to its roots, focusing on interdisciplinary and international natural-resource topics and, not surprisingly, water.

In this first issue, our authors cover characteristically diverse topics. Two articles focus on conflicts over land use. One examines the rampant growth of recreational off-road vehicle use on U.S. public lands, while the other explores how the traditional rights of nomadic herders have been legally preserved in Mauritania. Another pair of articles explores ever-important and still-unsolved water resource issues: the creation of more efficient water markets to counter increasing demand and scarcity, and common pitfalls facing comprehensive, transboundary river-basin management. A third pair of articles considers contemporary wildlife issues: one article reviews factors employed by government agencies to evaluate species recovery under the Endangered Species Act, the other reviews public trust doctrine case law from its source in water to its tentative expansion protecting wildlife. And finally, turning to an issue of special importance in New Mexico, a pair of environmental scientists compare radioactive waste management decisions at U.S. Department of Energy facilities and offer an equitable approach for removing the shallow-buried wastes at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

We hope you enjoy these scholarly articles as much as we enjoyed editing them.

—Sally Paez & Adam Rankin
Co-Editors-in-Chief