

# Public Land and Resources Law Review

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## Editor's Letter

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**PUBLIC LAND & RESOURCES  
LAW REVIEW**

Dear Reader,

As another academic year comes to close, so to does the curtain close on our turn at the helm of the *Public Land & Resources Law Review*. With the changing of the guard in law review leadership, like the passing of each successive chapter in life, a chance for reflection presents itself. The arrival of this year, 2015, carries with it particular significance as it marks the thirty fifth year of our publication and operation.

In remembering those that have guided and shaped this law review, we wish to honor their efforts, mentorship, and legacy. Of all the influential leaders who have played a role in creating the notable reputation that follows this law review, both here in Montana and around the country, perhaps none were more important than professors Margery Hunter Brown and Ray Cross. Both of these individuals exemplified a depth of character and knowledge of the law that enshrined their place among the West's leading scholars in Indian, natural resource, and public land law. However, more importantly to us, as those inextricably tied to this publication's legacy, both professors served to instill the guiding mission and principles which we carry with us to this day.

As innovators in legal education and significant contributors to the world of Western scholarship, it is safe to say that these two advisors have left this law review, the great state of Montana, and Tribal governments across the nation with innumerable benefits that may only be fully realized in time. Although we, as the most recent graduates of the University of Montana School of Law, did not have the distinct

pleasure of participating in either professor's various seminars, lectures, or classes, we take with us a feeling of good fortune to be connected with them as ambassadors of this law review. As students and future practitioners of the distinct legal fields to which our publication is dedicated, we can only hope to embody the intangible personal characteristics which made these individuals who they were: integrity, excellence, and commitment to public service.

Although the fate of this law review now rests with the next generation of our editorial staff, we feel confident parting ways with the future in such capable hands. In fact, next year looks to be full of important developments and contributions. In October of 2015, the new editors and staff will host the 36th Public Land Law Conference, centered around the theme of transcending boundaries and achieving success in cooperative management of natural resources. As the conference's distinguished speakers examine issues in the governance and management of natural resources across international, state, and Tribal boundaries, the conversations will focus on creative and emerging solutions to the varied challenges which lie ahead.

Today, the *Public Land & Resources Law Review* benefits from the vision and wisdom of two new advisors, who both share the virtuous attributes of their distinguished predecessors. We wish to thank professors Michelle Bryan and Martha Williams for their incalculable assistance and mentorship. Without them, this publication, next year's conference, and this law review would not be where it is today. More importantly, their personal dedication to us, and the rest of the student body here at the law school, has left us well prepared and well positioned to embark on our own professional journeys.

Ultimately, it is with a great sense of pride that we pass the torch on to those that follow. By honoring those that have shaped and guided the tremendous legacy we were fortunate to inherit, we hope to continue the great importance of their life's work.

Sincerely,

*The Public Land & Resources Law Review* Editorial Board, 2015