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INTRODUCTION

As Democratic Staff Director of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Phil Barnett ’83 negotiates the language of environmental legislation. Abigail Burger Chingos ’09 of the Office of Enforcement at the Department of Energy writes regulations to ensure that consumer products meet efficiency standards. Elizabeth Forsyth ’11, the Beagle/HLS Fellow at the Natural Resources Defense Council, has sued the government for failing to protect endangered fish species from overfishing. And Christopher Davis ’80, the Director of Investor Programs at Ceres, advises corporations to encourage investment in environmentally-sound business practices. These are only a few examples of the many and varied career options for environmental lawyers.

Environmental lawyers often appear before federal, state, and administrative law courts—representing government agencies, enforcing laws through citizen suits, and challenging agency action in administrative hearings. But environmental law practice involves a much broader skill set. Environmental attorneys draft legislation and lobby elected officials; advise policymakers in all levels of government; participate in the rulemaking process and design new regulatory regimes; develop innovative approaches to permitting; coordinate community education and outreach efforts; and engage in public policy discussions at think tanks and academic institutions. Environmental attorneys also support business and property transactions for land conservation; negotiate financing deals for start-up renewable energy companies; participate in public-private partnerships to experiment with new technologies; and consult with industry on how to achieve compliance with myriad environmental laws. In short, the field of environmental law offers professional choices that can be remarkably diverse and satisfying for the public interest lawyer.

Initially, environmental legal issues were addressed primarily through common law negligence, nuisance, and property lawsuits, and to a lesser degree through a limited number of federal, state, and local laws controlling land and water usage. Environmental law as practiced today, however, has much of its basis in federal environmental statutes enacted within the past forty years. This body of law aims to protect the environment from pollution and overuse, and gives individuals and groups the right to bring legal action. Some major federal environmental laws include:

- **The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1970**, which requires that federal agencies undertake “Environmental Impact Studies” before pursuing projects that impact the environment.
- **The Clean Air Act of 1963 and the Clean Water Act of 1972**, which regulate the release of pollutants into the air and water.
- **The Endangered Species Act of 1973**, which designates and protects species on the verge of extinction.
- **The Comprehensive Environmental Response and Conservation Act (The “Superfund” Act) of 1980**, which assigns liability to polluters who contaminate sites with hazardous waste and requires them to pay for clean-up.
Despite nontrivial legislative grounding, environmental law is not limited to environmental statutes. Administrative regulations, agency decisions, and policy at the federal, state and local levels all help to achieve these goals. In addition, environmental law cuts across many different disciplines including corporate law, contract and commercial law, administrative law, constitutional law, property law, bankruptcy law, criminal law, food and drug law, land use planning law, and international law.

A distinctive aspect of environmental practice is the role of science in advocacy efforts. Many would-be environmental attorneys are intimidated by the field because of the perception that it requires scientific expertise. While environmental lawyers often work alongside scientists to achieve their goals, this collaboration allows scientists to concentrate on the science and lawyers to concentrate on the law. Most environmental practitioners agree that the key to the successful practice of environmental law is the mastery of fundamental lawyering skills—negotiation, research, writing, and oral advocacy —important to the practice of law in any field. As Allan Kanner '79 puts it, “Being an environmental attorney is all about simplifying.” Your job is to make sure that people who may be unfamiliar with environmental issues—juries, judges, regulators, legislators, corporate actors, and the public—understand and agree with your argument.

Environmental protection often creates unique litigation challenges. Public interest environmental attorneys’ traditional clients are government entities, community groups, and nonprofit organizations, although occasionally they represent nontraditional clients like wildlife, endangered species, ecosystems and natural landmarks. In addition to litigating traditional disputes involving direct personal injuries, they bring nontraditional cases: defending nature, asserting aesthetic values, and challenging the legitimacy of public policies. In these cases, environmental litigators can face jurisdictional hurdles. Because environmental plaintiffs frequently claim that the defendant’s actions harm the public interest, courts may conclude that the plaintiff does not have standing. Plaintiffs in environmental cases often must prove mootness, or that some action of the court could effectively deter the defendant from future violations. Environmental cases may be dismissed if the court believes that they are not “ripe,” meaning that the plaintiff has not yet suffered any demonstrable harm.

Environmental attorneys also grapple with serious ethical questions. They must manage the tension between environmental protection and economic development. They protect not only the environment but also human interests by distributing environmental risks fairly, preventing job loss, and ensuring access to natural resources. Since the scientific understanding of environmental issues evolves rapidly, attorneys must make sure that the law keeps up – and must build legal regimes from scratch to handle new environmental problems. For example, environmental attorneys are currently working to devise regulatory frameworks to enable carbon capture and sequestration. In energy law, attorneys are developing a system of liability to protect people and the environment from the risks of hydraulic fracturing, a natural gas extraction method. Lawyers are also crafting legal and financial frameworks to promote solutions to climate change. Ultimately, attorneys must deal with what is perhaps the seminal environmental challenge of our time: asking society to pay “here and now” for benefits that will accrue “there and then” to other parts of the world and future generations. They must convince politicians, the public, and the courts that environmental problems—which often have effects that are not readily evident—are worth solving.
These are complicated, ongoing dilemmas, and environmental attorneys tackle them daily. This guide offers a glimpse into the options available to a public interest environmental law practitioner. In the pages to follow, you will find a summary of issue areas and practice settings in the field, information about environmental law opportunities at HLS, strategies for starting a career, and insights from accomplished environmental lawyers. We hope that this *Trail Guide* is a useful introduction to this fascinating area of legal practice.
CHAPTER 1

CONTENT AREAS

There are many ways to categorize the different issues lawyers may tackle in the complex field of environmental law. This particular organization is designed to give you a sense of the shape and breadth of the field, and is not meant to be exhaustive or authoritative. Because many environmental offices practice in a variety of areas, the following content distinctions do not necessarily correspond to discrete practice settings.

POLLUTION CONTROL

Pollution laws prevent the contamination of air, water, and soil by hazardous substances. In addition to statutes at the state and local level, major federal pollution laws include:

- The Clean Air Act of 1967
- The National Environmental Policy Act of 1970
- The Clean Water Act of 1972

At government agencies, lawyers develop and enforce these pollution laws. For example, in his work for the U.S. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Tom Benson ’04 has enforced the Clean Air Act by suing polluters. “As people are brought into compliance with the law, they’ll pollute less, and that has a real impact on people’s lives,” Benson notes. In non-governmental settings, pollution control lawyers lobby legislatures, litigate citizen suits, and challenge regulations in administrative courts.

Currently, concerns about climate change drive the work of many pollution control lawyers. For instance, lawyers work to ban substances that damage the ozone layer. They advocate for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions not only to protect air quality, but also to mitigate the effects of global warming.

NATURAL RESOURCES LAW

Natural resource laws govern the extraction and use of water, minerals, oil, and timber; the protection of wildlife and their habitats; and the use of public lands like national forests and parks. These laws prevent the misuse, overuse, and damage of resources. At government agencies, natural resources attorneys write regulations and make sure that developers follow relevant statutes. Non-governmental lawyers lobby and litigate to lessen the environmental impacts of resource development.

Sustainable development, a resource use strategy

“As people are brought into compliance with the law, they’ll pollute less, and that has a real impact.”

- Tom Benson ’04, Attorney, United States Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division
designed to meet existing needs while saving for the future, is a current goal in the field of natural resources law. In other words, attorneys are working to craft natural resource laws with future generations in mind. Another significant issue in the field is the impact of technological advances on resource production. Often, new extraction technologies have unknown environmental effects, making it difficult for lawyers to determine how best to litigate or update the law. James Gignac ’01, Environment and Energy Counsel at the Illinois Office of the Attorney General, clarifies, “Everyone is working on understanding [new natural resource extraction methods] and how to properly manage their environmental impacts.”

LAND USE LAW

Land use laws limit the permissible uses of land. They define rules for zoning, city planning, and residential patterns. In the public interest, lawyers ensure that these laws protect natural or scenic resources and maintain biodiversity. Attorneys practicing in this field may work for state and local governments enforcing local land use laws and defending permitting decisions; in nonprofit organizations representing environmental interests in all stages of land use planning; and in private firms challenging permitting decisions or advising nonprofit and government developers. In her position as Counsel to the Secretary of the Department of Interior, Molly McUsic ’89 protected wilderness regions from mining, logging, and other development. “I was lucky to be at the forefront of a campaign to protect the American West. We established more monuments and passed more land conservation legislation than any previous Administration,” McUsic explains.

Up-and-coming issues in land use law include planning innovative and sustainable cities. Environmental lawyers support and advocate for city plans that consume less energy and release fewer emissions.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Low-income neighborhoods and communities of color are more likely to face environmental risks. Since the 1980s, environmental justice lawyers have worked to achieve a fairer distribution of environmental burdens and benefits for these disadvantaged groups.

Combining civil rights, social justice, and environmental concerns, public interest lawyers pursue two strategies to achieve environmental justice. First, they represent disadvantaged groups in environmental and toxic tort claims. On behalf of these groups, they sue the government or a company engaged in harmful environmental practices. For example, as the Director of the Environmental Justice Program at New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, Gavin Kearney sued the City of New York to remove toxic light fixtures from inner-city schools. In doing so, “I had the opportunity to directly advance the health of these communities,” he remarks.

Second, through community organizing and media campaigns, lawyers seek to empower people affected by environmental hazards. Environmental justice attorneys argue that disadvantaged groups ought to participate in the policy-making process. Nancy Marks ’83 of the Natural Resources Defense Council comments, “Working with communities on their issues is both challenging and rewarding. It takes a long time to establish deep ties and a trusting relationship.”
INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Most environmental problems—like pollution, resource scarcity, and threats to biodiversity—are not confined within national borders. Current issues of international concern include: ozone depletion, oil spills, over-fishing, and air pollution from nuclear tests or accidents. There are also extensive opportunities to deal with environmental concerns in emerging economies like China, Brazil, and India. International treaties, agreements, and negotiations work to solve these global environmental problems. Some of the most significant international environmental agreements include:

- The 1989 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer
- The 1989 Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Environmental Waste and Their Disposal
- The 1999 Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- The 2009 Copenhagen Accord to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

These agreements were all achieved with the input of environmental lawyers who serve as representatives of governments, international bodies, corporations, and nongovernmental organizations. Kristen Hite, for instance, served as a Senior Attorney in the Climate Program of the Center for International Environmental Law, where she worked to encourage the creation of an international legal architecture to address climate change.

Not only do environmental lawyers draft international laws, they also enforce them. International environmental lawyers participate in arbitration tribunals and help resolve disputes between states. Attorneys also make sure that international environmental agreements are implemented as planned. One practicing international environmental attorney says, “Understanding the institutional bodies that run international environmental programs, including the World Bank and the World Trade Organization, is essential for those looking to enter my field.”

CLIMATE CHANGE

“It’s a great time to be working on climate change,” says Kevin Reuther ’96. “There’s a certain urgency to this issue.”

The combustion of fossil fuels has changed the Earth’s temperature, precipitation, and ecosystems. Since the early 2000s, the scientific consensus around climate change—the warming of the Earth’s climate system as a result of human activities—has inspired a new field of climate change law. Lawyers in this field must adapt existing environmental regulatory regimes

“‘It’s a great time to be working on climate change. There’s a certain urgency to this issue.’”

- Kevin Reuther ’96, Legal Director, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

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Climate change lawyers also work to address the cause of climate change: greenhouse gas emissions. Designing legal tools to incentivize emissions reduction, like cap-and-trade programs or carbon taxes, is a current priority. Many climate change lawyers, like Dale Bryk ’93 of the Natural Resources Defense Council, support the development, regulation, permitting, and financing of new technologies to reduce emissions. In particular, Bryk creates policies that encourage technological innovation. In As the Director of Investor Programs at Ceres, Christopher Davis ’80 mobilizes companies to invest in climate change technologies. “I do economic advocacy for better environmental policy,” Davis says. “Investor voices have high leverage on climate change issues.”

ENERGY LAW

Energy law governs the use of electricity, gas, and oil, along with renewable energies like nuclear, solar, wind, water, and geothermal power. State and federal regulations define nearly every aspect of utility use. Since public utility companies maintain monopolies over the utility industry, they are highly regulated, explains David Littell ’92, the Commissioner of the Maine Public Utilities Commission.

Government lawyers ensure that companies follow mandated price structures, permit rules, and emission standards. Abigail Burger Chingos ’09 of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Enforcement enforces federal minimum energy conservation standards for consumer products, like washing machines, and industrial equipment. “One of my most exciting cases,” recalls Chingos, “was a settlement for approximately $4.5 million against Midea, a Chinese appliance manufacturer, for various standards violations.”

Unsurprisingly, recent trends in energy law center on climate change and its effects. Energy lawyers are laying the legal groundwork for cleaner sources of energy. They design regulatory regimes for new power sources or advocate for climate conscious energy policies. They also support the permitting and financing of solar, wind, geothermal and hydroelectric power.

FOOD LAW

Federal, state, and local laws govern how food is grown, transported, and processed. The relatively new field of “food law” aims to remedy problems in our food systems, including lack of access to fresh food, risks from genetically engineered foods, and the effects of climate change on agriculture. Interdisciplinary by nature, “food law spans a lot of issues,” says Ona Balkus ’13, a Fellow at the Food Law Clinic at HLS. “It’s an effective way to address concerns about the environment, social justice, poverty, and many other areas we grapple with as a society.”

With the goal of making food systems safer and healthier, government and nonprofit lawyers research food problems and inform policy-making. They might draft guidelines, laws, and regulations, or educate and empower communities about food issues. Alternatively, many food
attorneys perform conventional litigation. In suing corporations or government agencies for practices that are harmful to human health or the environment, they appear in court, participate in discovery, and draft motions, briefs, and memos.

WATER LAW

Laws protect water sources from pollution, and defend marine habitats from degradation. Some of the major federal statutes that affect the field of water law include:

- The Clean Water Act of 1972
- The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972
- The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974

Water lawyers confront threats to our rivers, lakes, oceans, groundwater, and wetlands. As a result of climate change and environmental accidents, issues in water law are abundant and constantly changing; oil spills, melting polar ice caps, and shipping emissions are only a few current problems.

A key objective for many water lawyers, like Jill Witkowski of San Diego Coastkeeper, is to ensure access to safe, local, and reliable sources of drinking water. Combining environmental and public health concerns, Witkowski litigates, lobbies, and campaigns for clean water laws and regulations. Other water lawyers preserve ecosystems; Eric Bilsky ’91, a Senior Litigator at Oceana, protects marine species from destructive fishing and climate change. For example, Bilsky worked to change fishing practices that threatened sea turtle populations. Describing this accomplishment, he remarks, “Progress may not happen as quickly as we like, but through our work, we are able to achieve tangible changes that help the environment.”
With increased concern about climate change and environmental protection in the U.S. and abroad, work for environmental lawyers has expanded in the past few decades. This section provides background information on the three most common settings in which public interest environmental lawyers practice: government, nonprofit organizations, and private public interest firms.

I. GOVERNMENT

Both the executive and the legislative branches offer numerous opportunities for lawyers to engage in environmental practice. From drafting legislation and regulations to defending and enforcing environmental laws, the activities of government lawyers are many and varied.

A. Federal

On the federal level, environmental attorneys provide counsel to agencies, litigate cases on behalf of the government, and write legislation, regulations, and implementation standards. The work of federal attorneys may be substantively varied or narrow; some federal attorneys may tackle diverse issues ranging from the effects of climate change to applications of Native American law in a single appointment, while others may litigate to enforce just one environmental statute. “These attorneys become experts on a particular piece of federal legislation, like the Clean Air Act,” says Tom Benson ’04. It is not uncommon for federal attorneys to find themselves on both the affirmative and defensive side of environmental disputes; as Elizabeth Forsyth ’11 explains, “In a federal job, you may be defending coal permits, for example.” Indeed, it is the job of federal attorneys to defend the government when it is sued for damaging the environment.

One advantage to practicing in the federal government is access to resources. According to Matthew Littleton ’11, an attorney with the Department of Justice’s (DOJ) Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD):

> We have unparalleled internal resources. […] If I want to understand how an agency reached a particular interpretation of a statute—a story that isn’t always clear from the public record—I can call up the agency and they’ll tell me. If I want to understand a particular technology at issue in the case, I have access to people who can explain it to me.

Tom Benson ’04, who is also an attorney with ENRD, agrees: “We have been co-plaintiffs with [nonprofit public interest environmental organizations,] and they cannot bring resources together like the federal government can. […] When DOJ decides that an issue is a priority, we can devote unmatched resources to a case,” he says.
Other advantages of federal environmental work include the possibility of travel and geographic diversity. Many ENRD lawyers participate in temporary details at U.S. Attorney’s Offices across the country. In addition, federal employment need not require relocation to Washington, D.C., since many agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of the Interior, have regional offices.

According to Matthew Littleton ’11, perhaps one of the greatest benefits of government work is that “compared to the private sector, there is room for autonomy and responsibility at an early stage.” In leanly staffed federal agencies, every entry-level attorney is given significant responsibility from day one. Federal jobs give attorneys a role in shaping environmental policy. Abigail Burger Chingos ’09, an attorney in the Department of Energy’s Office of Enforcement, explains:

I really enjoy both major components of my job (enforcing our statute and regulations and helping draft regulations and guidance documents), and I wouldn’t be able to do either at a non-governmental entity. My office has the power to enforce our nation’s laws and to do so fairly, in ways that incentivize good behavior while taking into account mitigating factors in certain cases.

Many government attorneys point to bureaucratic and political frustrations as major disadvantages of their job. “There are several layers of bureaucratic review for all work product,” Littleton says. “It can be frustrating to work on cases where a legislative solution ought to be feasible, but the political reality is disheartening.” Environmental work, in particular, faces partisan gridlock. Issues are hotly contested in the legislature. Dale Bryk ’93 elaborates, “Much of Congress does not acknowledge that climate change is occurring. It can be difficult, if not impossible, to make environmental progress at the federal level.”

1. Executive Branch

The Department of Justice is responsible for the enforcement of federal law and employs both criminal prosecutors and civil lawyers who handle affirmative and defensive litigation. While the great majority of DOJ attorneys are litigators (both trial and appellate), some DOJ attorneys also work on legislation, policy development, and other federal initiatives.

Most of the over fifty federal executive branch agencies also have lawyers on staff serving as in-house counsel or in other capacities. Here, the work focuses less on litigation and more on the legal opinion, counseling or regulatory aspects of lawyering. Lawyers work closely with agency administrators, give advice on legal issues, provide meaningful input into the development and implementation of the agency’s substantive programs and policies, draft legislation and regulations, review and investigate applications and complaints, and represent the agency in administrative proceedings. Although the Department of Justice generally represents federal agencies in litigation, some in-house agency attorneys may conduct specialized litigation. Other agencies may have been given independent litigating authority in their enabling statutes; these agencies typically have a team of litigators, often involved in enforcement work.

Below, we profile those federal agencies with significant roles in environmental oversight. For each agency, we describe its mission and discuss litigation, regulatory, and policy careers.
a. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division

To “ensure clean air, water, and land for all Americans,” ENRD brings civil and criminal cases on behalf of the federal government against those who violate pollution and wildlife protection laws. The Division also litigates to protect government interests on related issues, including: Native American rights and land claims, land acquisition by eminent domain, and the management of public lands. By representing federal agencies in litigation, ENRD enforces agency decisions on environmental questions. ENRD often represents, for instance, the Forest Service, the Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Department of Transportation. At the same time, ENRD lawyers advise these agencies on the litigation impacts of their regulatory decisions. In their defensive capacity, ENRD lawyers frequently represent the government when it is sued for violating environmental statutes. For example, ENRD protects federal facilities against allegations of Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act violations.

ENRD’s work is best suited for students who are interested in litigation at the federal district and appellate level. ENRD lawyers rarely practice in administrative or state courts, or conduct policy work. As Matthew Littleton ’11, an attorney in the Appellate Section, describes:

98 percent of my job is litigation related. I represent the United States (and the component agencies of the executive branch) in appellate litigation in federal and state courts. I spend about [half] of my time researching and writing briefs and dispositive motions. The remaining time is split among oral argument preparation, settlement negotiations, and working with agencies, trial attorneys, and the Office of the Solicitor General to coordinate strategy on appellate and Supreme Court litigation.

Students interested in ENRD should be prepared for the challenges of litigation. Tom Benson ’04 says, “Litigation is inherently frustrating; it’s adversarial, judges don’t agree with us, and we often lose.”

b. Environmental Protection Agency

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is “the federal agency with primary responsibility for implementing the nation’s environmental laws,” including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the “Superfund” Act. Attorneys primarily work in the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), providing advice on nearly 90 federal laws, along with many executive orders, regulations, and international treaties. EPA attorneys provide litigation support to the DOJ and U.S. Attorneys Offices and propose, evaluate, and enforce regulations; for example, an EPA attorney might interpret a federal law and then draft a regulation to impose a penalty on industries that emit a certain pollutant. Attorneys also work in the agency’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA). There, they sanction polluters and work on the EPA’s environmental justice initiatives.

1 Department of Justice. [http://www.justice.gov/enrd/About_ENRD.html](http://www.justice.gov/enrd/About_ENRD.html).
3 Environmental Protection Agency, [http://www.epa.gov/ogc/regional.htm](http://www.epa.gov/ogc/regional.htm).
Since each of the EPA’s ten regions has its own Office of Regional Counsel (ORC), the EPA offers many geographic options outside of Washington, DC. At each ORC, attorneys give advice on federal, state, and local environmental laws. As a result, ORCs afford the opportunity to specialize in the environmental issues that affect a particular climate.

c. **Department of Energy**

The Department of Energy (DOE) works to encourage the use of clean, sustainable energy resources. While DOE’s mission is to implement new and innovative power sources, it also works to make gas, coal, and oil more efficient. DOE is also charged with enhancing nuclear safety and dealing with nuclear waste.

DOE offers a wealth of litigation, transactional, regulatory, and policy opportunities:

- For those interested in litigation, the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) defends challenges to DOE programs in federal and administrative courts.

- For those interested in transactional work, the Office of Technology Transfer and Procurement offers opportunities to advise on the financial and intellectual property activities of the DOE.

- For those interested in regulatory work, the Office of Enforcement ensures that consumer products and industrial equipment meet energy and water efficiency standards. **Abigail Burger Chingos ’09** explains the positive effects of her work as an attorney in that office: “We help conserve energy and water and make sure consumers are getting products that are as efficient as they’re required to be.” Chingos says her other duties include “assisting in drafting and reviewing […] regulations (especially to make sure they’re enforceable)” and writing “guidance documents related to regulations.”

- For those interested in policy, attorneys in Office of the Deputy General Counsel for Energy Policy comment on energy legislation and rulemaking.

d. **Department of the Interior**

The Department of the Interior (DOI) is tasked with the conservation of federal lands. Specifically, DOI manages national parks and wildlife refuges, invests in natural resource development, and conducts research on climate change, energy, and ecological issues. DOI also administers the government’s programs for tribal nations, so it is the federal agency of choice for students interested in Native American affairs.

Most attorneys at DOI work in the Office of the Solicitor (OS), where they provide legal advice, counsel, and representation to the Department. They frequently litigate before administrative tribunals and collaborate with the DOJ to litigate in federal courts. OS attorneys must resolve complicated disputes arising under the takings clause, Indian law, land use law, and environmental protection law. For those interested in policy rather than litigation, the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs (OCL) serves as DOI’s liaison to Congress, interpreting environmental legislation for the agency and articulating the agency’s position in congressional
testimony. As Counselor to Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt ‘65, Molly McUsic ’89 represented the Secretary’s perspective before Congress and other regulatory bodies, advocated for legislation to create national conservation areas and led a campaign to protect land. McUsic found her work at DOI extremely rewarding. “Working to save the planet is a fulfilling way to spend a career,” McUsic says.

DOI offers attorney appointments throughout the U.S. in eight regional offices and ten field offices.\(^4\) In fact, over half of the agency’s 600 attorneys are stationed outside of Washington, DC. For students interested in living outside of the nation’s capital, or in protecting a particular U.S. region, DOI is a promising option.

**e. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

In response to the Enron Scandal and California electricity crisis in 2001, Congress gave the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) sweeping powers to oversee energy markets. FERC regulates oil, natural gas, and electricity that are transmitted across state boundaries. The Commission’s responsibilities include setting wholesale rates for transporting energy, approving the construction of pipelines, reviewing mergers and acquisitions by electrical companies, and ensuring that energy transport follows environmental guidelines.

At FERC, many attorneys work in the Office of Administrative Litigation (OAL), where they litigate cases against the energy industry in administrative courts. Those interested in market oversight might be drawn to the Office of Enforcement (OE), which monitors the energy industry, assures compliance with the Commission’s rules, and issues penalties. Larry Parkinson ’83 serves as the Director of the Division of Investigations within the OE. He supervises forty-five attorneys who investigate two primary areas of regulatory violation: energy market manipulation and disturbances on the electrical grid. In the case of a major blackout, Parkinson’s staff examines whether industry violations played a role. Ultimately, Parkinson keeps electricity markets safe, reliable, and fair for consumers. “We just reached a resolution in a case against J.P. Morgan. They were required to pay a $410 million penalty for energy manipulation schemes in Michigan and California,” he describes. FERC’s Office of the General Counsel (OGC) represents the Commission in litigation before federal district and appellate courts, and advises on the legality of the Commission’s rules. For students interested in legislative policy, OGC attorneys represent the Commission before Congress.

**f. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) monitors and informs the public about the condition of the weather, oceans, and atmosphere. Staffed by scientists, NOAA works to ensure that communities are prepared for the effects of climate change and natural

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disasters. In the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), attorneys provide legal support to NOAA’s research services, including the National Weather Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the National Ocean Service. Enforcement attorneys act as NOAA’s civil prosecutors, suing companies that violate NOAA regulations. Both the Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Office of International Affairs, which represent NOAA before Congress and other governments, respectively, offer opportunities for policy work.

g. **Department of Defense**

The Department of Defense (DOD) works to reduce the environmental impact of its defense missions. Attorneys in the Office of the General Counsel’s (OGC) Environment and Installations Section support this work by advising the agency on the legal implications of a wide range of environmental security challenges, such as developing environmentally efficient weapons, restoring contaminated land, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from military installations. These attorneys make sure that DOD projects meet environmental regulatory standards. DOD attorneys also represent the agency in challenges to its environmental program.

h. **Department of Transportation**

Tasked with administering programs for aviation, railroad, maritime, and highway travel, the Department of Transportation (DOT) also promotes environmentally sound policies. For instance, DOT enforces fuel economy standards, regulates oil pipelines, governs the disposal of hazardous materials, and finances public transit. Attorneys in DOT’s Office of the General Counsel (OGC) assist the agency in implementing and enforcing transportation-related environmental legislation. They also advise specific DOT agencies, including the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, and Federal Transit Administration, on environmental regulations related to emissions reduction, pipeline safety, and wildlife hazard mitigation.

i. **Department of Agriculture**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administers programs to support agriculture, nutrition, and food safety. Attorneys in the Office of the General Counsel provide legal advice to agency officials in all Departmental branches and services, including the Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Services, and work with the Department of Justice to represent the Department in civil and criminal litigation. In their advisory role, many attorneys write and revise regulations on issues ranging from food safety and child nutrition programs to pesticide use. Attorneys working with the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) also perform enforcement work, making sure that food producers comply with relevant regulations. For those interested in policy work, the USDA has an Office of Congressional Relations (OCR), which serves as the Department’s liaison with Capitol Hill. These attorneys communicate the USDA’s agenda to the House Committee on Agriculture and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a USDA agency, runs federal programs in land use, water management, soil quality protection, and climate change mitigation. Combining food and environmental issues, NRCS ensures that agriculture does not damage the sustainability of the land. Attorneys at NRCS can work in legislative policy or in implementing conservation...
contracts and programs. OGC attorneys regularly assist the NCRS with administration of the Conservation Stewardship Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program, the Grassland Reserve Program, Wetland Reserve Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, and the Healthy Forest Reserve Program.

\textit{j. Nuclear Regulatory Commission}

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) protects people and the environment from the harmful effects of nuclear radiation. NRC regulates reactor safety, plant siting, nuclear waste disposal, and nuclear security issues. Lawyers in the NRC’s Office of the General advise on all aspects of rulemaking and represent the agency in administrative litigation. Enforcement lawyers ensure that nuclear power programs comply with NRC regulations. The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel also hires attorneys to adjudicate hearings and issue permits. Because attorneys in NRC offices are encouraged to use alternative dispute resolution (ADR) in lieu of litigation in their dealings with nuclear power providers, NRC offers unique opportunities for students interested in ADR work.

\textit{k. Army Corps of Engineers}

Keeping environmental sustainability in mind, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) manages engineering projects for military and civilian infrastructure. Attorneys at ACE work in the Legal Services System, where they support ACE’s construction projects. Environmental attorneys, in particular, ensure that ACE programs meet regulatory standards. They also assist on ACE’s clean-up and preservation projects, like those in the Florida Everglades. Kristen Hite, for example, began her legal career with ACE in New Orleans, where she advised the Corps on coastline regeneration projects after Hurricane Katrina. ACE offers opportunities for attorneys to work in 51 offices throughout the U.S. and the world, including Iraq, Korea, Japan, and Germany.\textsuperscript{5}

\textit{l. White House Council on Environmental Quality}

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) was established in the 1970s under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). NEPA acknowledged that federal agencies ought to lessen their environmental impact and tasked the CEQ with that goal. CEQ assesses the actions of federal agencies and makes sure they fit environmental standards. When agencies disagree about environmental rules, CEQ referees. The Council also provides policy support to the President; CEQ’s chair serves as the President’s key environmental advisor. As a result, CEQ develops the White House’s environment, energy, and sustainability initiatives.

\textit{2. Legislative Branch}

If legislative work interests you, there are many opportunities to affect environmental policy on Capitol Hill. Several committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives handle environmental issues, including: the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; the House Committee on Energy and Commerce; the Senate Committee on the

\textsuperscript{5} United States Army Corps of Engineers, \url{http://www.usace.army.mil/ChiefCounselOffice.aspx}.
Environment and Public Works; and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. These committees are further organized into subcommittees to address specific topics, such as the House Subcommittee on Aviation and the Senate Subcommittee on National Parks.

Each committee and subcommittee hires its own counsels from the majority and minority parties. These attorneys might research the committee’s issues, advise members on legislative responses, and draft legislation. The most common way to find work as Committee Counsel is through the office of a committee member. For example, Philip Barnett ’83, who serves as the Democratic Staff Director of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, also works in the office of the Committee’s Ranking Member, Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA). In his position, Barnett was deeply involved in the passage of major environmental legislation, including the Clean Air Act of 1990. “It’s incredibly rewarding to work in Congress and have a great impact on environmental policy,” Barnett says.

Not only do committees perform legislative work, they also participate in oversight. They are charged with investigating federal agencies to make sure that the agencies are applying a law as Congress intended. In this capacity, committees can subpoena agency officials, hold hearings, write reports, and set up temporary or permanent subcommittees to gather information. Most environmental committees hire Oversight and Investigations Staff who monitor the regulations promulgated by related agencies, like the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy, and Department of the Interior. This work ensures that federal programs are efficient and effective. Jeff Baran ’01, who works under Barnett as Staff Counsel to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, monitored the implementation of a federal program to clean up uranium contamination on Navajo tribal lands. “We held hearings, and developed a Five-Year Plan,” he says. “Before we joined the project, federal agencies hadn’t done much for the Navajo. We pushed them along.”

B. State

Many opportunities for environmental work exist at the state level. Not only do states implement federal environmental laws, many have their own parallel systems of environmental protection. As a result, most states have environmental agencies that rely on attorneys to develop and enforce state environmental laws and regulations. For example, as Deputy Commissioner of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, David Littell ’92 worked to implement state greenhouse gas initiatives and wetlands protection laws. Examples of state environmental agencies include the California Environmental Protection Agency, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the Arizona Department of Water Resources. It is useful to keep in mind that certain states, like California, have expansive environmental programs and thus more opportunities for environmental attorneys.

For attorneys interested in energy law, many states have public utilities commissions. David Littell ’92 currently works as the Commissioner of the Maine Public Utilities Commission, a regulatory body that establishes rates, issues permits, and adjudicates cases for electricity, telephone, water, and gas companies in Maine. Littell, and other public utility lawyers at the state level, ensure that utilities are safe, reliable, and environmentally efficient.
In addition to practicing in state environmental agencies, attorneys also serve in environmental sections of state attorney general offices. In that capacity, they represent the state and its environmental protection agencies in defensive and affirmative litigation, advise agencies on environmental policies, lobby the legislature, assist in the development of environmental laws, and coordinate public education efforts. As Environment and Energy Counsel for the Illinois Attorney General, James Gignac ’04 concentrates on passing clean energy laws in the Illinois legislature. Gignac remarks that his work is meaningful because these issues are “fundamental and integral […] to our overall society, economy, and the future of our planet.” He finds his job a worthwhile challenge. “It’s a genuine fight at every step of the way as the incumbents try to hold their ground against cleaner, cheaper, better energy alternatives,” he says.

In the absence of comprehensive federal climate change legislation, many states have taken the lead on climate adaptation. States are also tackling unique geographic, economic, and ecologic challenges because of climate change. As a result, some of the most innovative work in climate change law can be found at the state level. Several states including Alaska, California, Florida, and Maryland have Climate Adaptation Working Groups that hire scientists and policymakers to devise climate adaptation plans. Recent legislation in California, New Jersey, New York, Washington, and other states creates economy or industry-wide greenhouse gas reduction targets. Usually these programs are administered by the state’s executive agencies, whose attorneys write and enforce new regulations. States are also collaborating across borders. For example, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which was negotiated by Dale Bryk ’93, creates a cap-and-trade program in ten Northeastern states.

C. Local

Local governments also have agencies focused on environmental protection. Examples of local agencies with an environment-specific mission include the Boston Conservation Commission and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. Local governments also employ environmental attorneys in their city/county attorney’s offices, in units such as the Land Use and Environmental Law Division of the Broward County Attorney’s Office in Florida, or the Environmental Law Division of the New York City Corporation Counsel’s Office. Environmental attorneys can also work in sections of local district attorney’s offices, such as the Consumer and Environmental Protection Division of California’s Alameda County District Attorney’s Office. These agencies/units implement and enforce state and federal environmental laws and pass local environmental ordinances usually in areas of local jurisdiction such as conservation, wetlands protection, waste disposal, and land use zoning.
As an Assistant Corporation Counsel at the Environmental Law Division of the New York City Law Department, Devon Goodrich ’11 has a diverse practice. She litigates in toxic tort suits, advises the city on compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, and deals with natural gas permitting. Goodrich says that representing a major city can be demanding. “We are sometimes the staunch enforcers of environmental regulations, and other times we’re on the defensive, handling the city’s management of garbage and wastewater,” she explains. “But at the end of the day, we’re trying to protect the city’s best interests, both financially and environmentally.” In your job search, consider that many local environmental agencies do not have the resources to keep attorneys on staff and instead contract out for legal services. There can be, however, opportunities to perform local government work as a consultant.

Like at the state level, many municipal governments are taking on cutting edge climate change projects. Just a few of these programs are the Boston Climate Action Program, the PlaNYC Climate Change Initiative, and the San Francisco Carbon Fund. Climate change programs are usually created by executive order of the mayor, by municipal ordinance, or by local Departments of Environmental Protection. For attorneys interested in municipal and climate change law, these initiatives offer promising career options.

D. International

As governments negotiate more agreements, more opportunities for international environmental lawyers arise. These lawyers participate in treaty negotiations, develop environmental laws, and litigate before international tribunals. International environmental law work can be found domestically in government agencies like the Department of State and the EPA. At the international level, Treaty Secretariats hire lawyers to administer agreements like the Montreal Protocol and the Basel Convention. Environmental lawyers also advise bodies of the United Nations, like the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) or Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). Keep in mind that UN attorney hires usually have outstanding international public policy experience; it can be extremely difficult to find entry-level international environmental work.

II. NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

A substantial amount of environmental advocacy is conducted by nonprofit organizations. To achieve their goals, these organizations engage in a wide range of legal work, from impact litigation to legislative advocacy to public education and community organizing.

The advantages of working for a nonprofit include superior training, a relaxed office culture, and enough flexibility in scheduling to achieve a work-life balance. Perhaps the greatest advantage is the reward of advancing the public good. The testimony of nonprofit

“On the nonprofit side, you have to work smarter, harder, and more creatively to overcome the much greater resources that our opponents in the private sector tend to have.”

- Howard Learner ’80, Director, Environmental Law and Policy Center
environmental attorneys speaks for itself: “It’s noble work, protecting the earth and the environment,” says Jill Witkowski, a Waterkeeper at San Diego Coastkeeper. “When I did corporate work, the cases were intellectually interesting but not as fulfilling from a moral standpoint.” Gavin Kearney, Director of the Environmental Justice Program at New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, comments, “I get to be on the ‘right’ side—the environmentalist side—of every case, every time.” And Howard Learner ’80, Director of the Environmental Law and Policy Center, echoes these sentiments. “I wanted to make a difference in the world, and to work on cases that reflect my values and interests. This work is vital to the legacy of ecological health for future generations.”

Because nonprofits are leanly staffed and mission-driven, attorneys can choose their own cases. “We have the freedom to fight the good fight,” Jill Witkowski remarks. A small office also means that nonprofit attorneys apply many advocacy strategies to a diversity of issues. “If I were working for the federal government, I’d probably be focusing on one particular aspect of a regulatory regime,” says Brett Dakin ’03, Assistant General Counsel at Rainforest Alliance. “Here, I have a broad-based practice.”

A disadvantage of working for a nonprofit organization is limited resources. In environmental litigation and lobbying, this can be an obstacle to achieving a victory. “We’re always underfunded,” remarks Jill Witkowski, “And the other side knows it. Our opponents […] try to flood us with documentation requests we can’t afford to handle.” Before students enter nonprofit environmental work, Howard Learner ’80 recommends that they consider if they have the perseverance to advocate with limited resources against powerful forces. “In my cases, there are 30 attorneys for various polluting interests against two public interest attorneys,” he says. “On the nonprofit side, you have to work smarter, harder, and more creatively to overcome the much greater resources that our opponents in the private sector tend to have.” Of course, nonprofit jobs also offer lower salaries than most for-profit or government work.

Environmental advocacy organizations can be broadly categorized as either litigation or policy oriented. Many organizations, of course, employ both strategies. While some organizations, such as Earthjustice and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), focus exclusively on environmental issues, others, such as New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, carry out work in other areas, as well.

A. Litigation-Oriented Nonprofits

Litigation-oriented environmental nonprofits work to bring about lasting changes in the law through individual cases that present significant legal questions or hold the potential for systemic reform. Rather than representing individual clients, these organizations represent their membership, other non-litigating environmental groups, or plaintiffs that the groups identify as
appropriate litigants. “I get to cherry pick the most interesting, challenging cases that I believe will have the greatest impact. We want cases that solve the biggest environmental problems, not that bring the most money through the door,” says Dale Bryk ’93, a Senior Attorney at NRDC. For these cases, attorneys carefully choose plaintiffs in hopes of meeting strict standing requirements, because failure to do so could block worthy cases from adjudication. Many nonprofits integrate litigation into wider, broad-based advocacy campaigns that also involve media, lobbying, and public education.

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<th>Organization Profile: Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)</th>
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NRDC is a national organization of scientists, lawyers, and environmentalists dedicated to protecting public health and the environment. Founded in 1970, NRDC has more than 500,000 members nationwide and offices in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, along with the District of Columbia, Livingston, Montana, and Beijing, China. NRDC addresses a wide range of environmental issues including climate change, renewable energy, recycling, endangered wildlife and fish, pollution control, toxic chemicals and public health, nuclear weapons and waste, and sustainable cities.

HLS alumni at NRDC engage in varied work. Nancy Marks ’83, a Senior Attorney, brings citizen suits against polluters. Over the course of her career, she won a long-running suit against a chemical plant that was dumping mercury into a river in Maine and reached a settlement to clean up neighborhoods in Jersey City, New Jersey that were contaminated by a cancer-causing chemical. In a position requiring expertise in energy law, Dale Bryk ’93 works as the Director of NRDC’s Energy and Transportation Program. In that role, she negotiated a multi-state agreement, called the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which sets caps for polluters and encourages the use of clean energy. When New Jersey Governor Chris Christie pulled out of RGGI, NRDC sued the state’s Department of Environmental Protection. Elizabeth Forsyth ’11, NRDC’s most recent Beagle Fellow, worked on a suit against the National Marine Fisheries Service to protect two rare species of grouper off the South Atlantic Coast. She considers herself a generalist, and has contributed to NRDC cases on issues ranging from toxic chemicals to fishery conservation.

**B. Policy-Oriented Nonprofits**

Policy-oriented nonprofits primarily pursue non-litigation strategies to achieve their environmental goals. These organizations might produce research and policy recommendations, campaign for candidates with environmental agendas, mobilize companies and community groups, or promote environmentally-friendly policies in the legislature. They may also lobby legislatures and government agencies to reform existing environmental laws (usually to require more stringent standards) and advocate for the passage of new laws to tackle developing issues.
III. PRIVATE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW FIRMS (PPILF)

There are a limited number of small private law firms that handle affirmative environmental cases. Like nonprofits, these firms are mission-driven and pursue cases that advance their vision of environmental change. Unlike nonprofits, however, these firms are for-profit businesses. They typically finance their practices with contingency fees and attorney’s fees from successful lawsuits, or follow a traditional billable hours fee structure. Although some firms dedicate their practices solely to environmental law, most must handle other types of cases as well, in order to earn sufficient revenue.

Many PPILF represent individual or class-action plaintiffs who are bringing suit against an institutional actor, like a corporation or the government. They usually focus on toxic tort cases, where the

“I like novel cases—the bigger the challenge, the better. My practice allows me to find that.”

- Allan Kanner ’79, Founder, Kanner & Whiteley LLC
plaintiff sues a defendant responsible for environmental toxins in the air or water. Firms may also represent public interest clients like local civic groups and government agencies in other civil cases. For example, they might represent a nonprofit in a case challenging an environmental law, or a state’s environmental agency in a suit against a company responsible for dumping hazardous materials. Not all environmental firms litigate; many perform land use and zoning work for government clients.

**Allan Kanner ’79** founded Kanner & Whiteley, LLC, a PPILF with an environmental litigation practice. Kanner explains, “I like novel cases—the bigger the challenge, the better. My practice allows me to find that.” Kanner specializes in representing government and class action plaintiffs in actions against corporations, particularly oil companies. Kanner recently represented the state of Louisiana in connection with the Deepwater Horizon explosion, as well as the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in a case against Exxon Mobil.

Working at a PPILF allows attorneys to reap many of the benefits of a firm career while maintaining a connection to a public interest mission. Advantages of firm work include high earning potential and the possibility of bonuses during profitable years. Firms also have better access to resources than nonprofits. The flipside, however, is that attorneys at firms must balance their public interest mission with fiscal goals; they often must take on non-environmental cases to keep the firm afloat or turn down clients with worthy but unprofitable environmental complaints.
Since the establishment of the Environmental Law Program in 2005, the environmental law community at HLS has grown substantially. In this section, we describe the plentiful opportunities—both inside and outside of the classroom—to pursue environmental law at Harvard.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAM

Established by Professor Jodi Freeman, LLM ’91, SJD ’95 in 2005, the Environmental Law Program (ELP) plans the law school’s environmental curriculum and organizes special events. In the past few years, the program has brought former Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt ’65, Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, and EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy to speak about their environmental expertise on campus and has hosted a conference to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Clean Water Act. ELP also hosts the Emmett Environmental Law Clinic and the ELP Policy Initiative, which we describe in greater detail below. To learn more, explore ELP’s website at: http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/environmentallawprogram/, or contact ELP at environment@law.harvard.edu.

Emmett Environmental Law Clinic

Under the supervision of Clinical Professor Wendy Jacobs and Clinical Instructor Sean Goho, students in the Emmett Environmental Law Clinic engage in real-life and real-time legal and policy work. Clinic offerings include local, national and international projects covering the spectrum of environmental issues. Depending on the project, students may undertake litigation and advocacy work by drafting briefs, preparing testimony, conducting research, developing strategy, and reviewing proposed legislation. The Clinic also places some students at off-site locations, including the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office, the U.S. Department of Justice, and nonprofit organizations.

Current and previous clinical projects include:

- **Assessing regulatory reliance on private standards to manage offshore drilling in the Arctic**: In a collaborative project with the Vermont Law School Institute for Energy and the Environment, the Clinic examined whether, and if so how, the regulation of offshore drilling in the Arctic should incorporate private standards such as industry best management practices.
- **Municipal climate change adaptation**: Representing the City of Boston, the Clinic investigated the City’s authority to take action and adopt measures to address climate change adaptation at the municipal level.
• **Solar photovoltaic litigation**: The Clinic represented small renewable energy companies in litigation related to a new interpretation of the electrical licensing laws adopted by the Massachusetts Board of State Examiners of Electricians. The Board claims that all aspects of a solar photovoltaic (PV) installation must be performed only by licensed electricians. The Clinic defended the ability of small businesses to continue performing the financial, planning, and other non-electrical parts of PV projects.

For a more in-depth discussion of the Clinic’s work, visit: [http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/environmentallawprogram/clinic/](http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/environmentallawprogram/clinic/).

**ELP Policy Initiative**

Created in 2012, the Policy Initiative uses legal analysis and research to improve governance design. By partnering with scientists, economists, psychologists, public health specialists, and other technical experts, the Policy Initiative produces cutting edge research on environmental and energy challenges. In addition to recommending legislative and regulatory text, the Policy Initiative releases practical products that are accessible to diverse populations, including white papers, podcasts, training manuals, workshops, and policy checklists. In its first year, the Initiative released a white paper entitled “Legal Fractures in Chemical Disclosure Laws,” which evaluates the use of a regulatory compliance tool in the hydraulic fracturing industry. The Initiative also brought together legislative, nonprofit, and business leaders for its “Clean Energy and the Constitution Project,” which examines constitutional challenges to clean energy laws passed at the state level. Students frequently contribute to Policy Initiative projects. For more information about the Policy Initiative, visit: [http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/environmentallawprogram/policy/](http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/environmentallawprogram/policy/) or e-mail the **Policy Director**, Kate Konschnik, at kkonschnik@law.harvard.edu.

**CENTER FOR HEALTH LAW AND POLICY INNOVATION**

**Food Law and Policy Clinic**

Led by **Professor Robert Greenwald** and **Senior Clinical Fellow Emily Broad Lieb**, the Food Law and Policy Clinic provides pro bono legal assistance on food policy issues to vulnerable communities. Students conduct legal research, investigate best practices, and make policy recommendations. Several of the clinic’s past and current projects take environmental concerns into account, such as:

• **The Mississippi Delta Project**, which works to promote access to farmers markets in rural Mississippi. Students drafted legislative recommendations relating to farmers markets, including how different states treat the taxation of farmers markets, food safety laws affecting farmers markets, and the ability to use food stamps and other federal benefits at farmers markets.

• **Best practices for Food Policy Councils (FPCs)**: FPCs bring together farmers, food industry representatives, educators, advocates, and health professionals to analyze the
food system and work to forge improved food policies. The clinic created best practices toolkits for FPC members, addressing issues such as: local vs. state vs. federal authority over food; zoning and land use planning; school food procurement; food safety regulations and inspections; and food access.

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

**Harvard Environmental Law Review (ELR)**

The Harvard Environmental Law Review publishes a semi-annual journal addressing issues including land use and property rights; air, water, and noise regulation; toxic substances control; radiation control; energy use; workplace pollution; science and technology control; and resource use and regulation. The journal accepts submissions from students, lawyers, professors, and policymakers that address developments on the local, state, federal, foreign, and international levels.

ELR’s staff is composed entirely of students. First-year students work with editors on all stages of the publication process—researching and editing, selecting articles and checking citations, and preparing the articles to go to press. Second- and third-year students (and selected first-year students) assume additional responsibility and work closely with authors while editing articles for substantive, structural, and stylistic clarity. For more information, visit: [http://www3.law.harvard.edu/journals/elr/about/](http://www3.law.harvard.edu/journals/elr/about/) or e-mail hlselr@mail.law.harvard.edu.

**Harvard Environmental Law Society**

The Harvard Environmental Law Society (ELS) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization directed and staffed by Harvard Law School students. ELS provides students with firsthand exposure to the numerous legal, policy, science, and management issues that confront today’s environmental legal professionals. To this end, ELS efforts include:

- **Events**: ELS invites speakers from the University, the local community, and the nation to discuss contemporary issues in environmental law. In addition, ELS informs its members about speaker events in Boston and the Harvard community. Previous events include a panel on “Fracking and the Law: The Legal and Environmental Implications of the Hydraulic Fracturing Boom,” and an “Environmental Law and the Supreme Court” discussion series.
- **Career Guidance**: ELS provides access to alumni working in environmental law and organizes several career-oriented panels each year.
- **Social Outings**: ELS offers students the opportunity to meet their environmentally-minded colleagues at social outings. In past years ELS has organized trips to the New England Aquarium and whale watching off Cape Cod.

Visit [http://www3.law.harvard.edu/orgs/els/](http://www3.law.harvard.edu/orgs/els/), or e-mail els@mail.law.harvard.edu for more information.
Harvard Food Law Society

The Harvard Food Law Society fosters on-campus dialogue about numerous issues in law, policy, science, and management that confront professionals in the fields of food law and food policy. Members participate in clinical projects and conferences, host speakers, take trips, and collaborate with groups throughout the university and the world in order to address food issues. Many of the Food Law Society’s past initiatives and events have addressed the intersection between food and environmental issues, such as:

- **Screening of the film Dirt! with Dr. Jed Weddell:** This discussion and documentary screening examined the importance of soil preservation for sustainable agriculture.
- **Fighting Back in an Age of Industrial Agriculture Book Signing and Discussion with author Mark Winne:** Food policy expert Mark Winne addressed the effects of genetically modified, factory farmed, and chemically fertilized food on food systems and the environment.
- **TEDx Harvard Law Conference:** This event included nine speakers on food issues including farmland preservation.


Harvard Law School Green Living Program

The Green Living Program is a peer-to-peer education initiative that promotes sustainable living in the Harvard Law School residence halls and elsewhere on campus. Six Green Living Representatives (“Reps”) connect with fellow students about energy and water conservation, recycling, and waste reduction through activities and information sharing, and also take on independent projects to help students reduce their environmental impact. The program is supported by HLS Facilities Management and is coordinated through the Office for Sustainability. See [http://www.law.harvard.edu/about/administration/facilities/energy/hls-green-living-program.html](http://www.law.harvard.edu/about/administration/facilities/energy/hls-green-living-program.html) for more information.

COURSES

HLS offers many courses that will help prepare you for a career as an environmental lawyer. Professors and alumni with environmental expertise have recommended the following classes. Be advised that the classes highlighted below were listed in previous course catalogs and may or may not be offered again. Consult the registrar’s office for updated course listings at: [http://www.law.harvard.edu/academics/registrar](http://www.law.harvard.edu/academics/registrar).

Administrative Law
Professor Jody Freeman, Professor Todd Rakoff, Professor Cass Sunstein, or Professor Adrian Vermeule
4 classroom credits
Fall and Spring Terms
This course will study law making and law application by executive departments of government. Using the material covered in the first-year "Legislation and Regulation" course as a foundation, this class will cover a variety of topics, including the legal framework (both constitutional and statutory) that governs administrative adjudication; the proper role of agencies in interpreting statutory and regulatory law; judicial review of agency decisions; public participation in agency rulemaking; and non-traditional
approaches to regulation, including negotiation and privatization. The central theme of the course is how the law manages the tension between “rule of law” values (e.g., procedural regularity, accountability, and substantive limits on arbitrary action) and the desire for flexible, effective administrative governance.

Advanced Environmental Law in Theory and Application
Professor Richard Lazarus
3 classroom credits
Spring Term
This course complements the general survey course in environmental law. The primary contrast between the two courses lies in their relative breadth and depth of coverage. The survey course can perhaps be best described as a series of broad, shallow dives into the substance of federal environmental law. This class includes a series, far fewer in number, of much narrower and deeper dives into some of the same material, but also different material, potentially including natural resources law. The basic objective of this advanced course is to teach students how to navigate and think about an exceedingly complex regime of statutes, regulations, and informal agency practices, in the context of addressing a concrete environmental problem. By examining in detail environmental law in application, the theoretical underpinnings and the challenges of environmental lawmaking are well highlighted. There are no formal prerequisites, although the environmental law survey course is recommended.

Climate Energy Law and Policy
Professor Jody Freeman
3 classroom credits
Spring Term
This course integrates traditional U.S. energy law with U.S. climate law. Topics covered include: federal and state laws governing electricity regulation and transmission; coal, natural gas, nuclear and renewable power; energy efficiency; federal climate policy under the Clean Air Act; oil and alternatives to oil for the transportation sector; state clean energy programs; and energy “security”. The materials will raise interesting questions about the federalism, regulatory design, economic, and technological challenges in this space and will push students to confront the obstacles to aligning the sometimes conflicting goals of energy and environmental policy. The animating question for the course is: what legal infrastructure is necessary to facilitate a transition to cleaner energy, while controlling costs, ensuring system resilience, and protecting national security? Readings will include traditional legal materials such as cases and statutes (we will use a casebook on energy law) but also a variety of supplementary policy documents drawn from government, nonprofit, academic and private sector sources. There are no pre-requisites although the survey course in environmental law will be helpful.

Environmental Dispute Resolution
Visiting Professor Lawrence Susskind
3 classroom credits
Spring Term
This course surveys federal environmental law and serves as a useful introduction both to environmental law’s particular complexities as well as to the skills necessary in mastering any complex area of regulation. The first part of the course considers the character of environmental disputes, the problems inherent in fashioning legal rules for their resolution, and the history of the emergence of modern environmental law in the United States. The second part of the course reviews several specific federal environmental statutes. The statutory review combines a close examination of several statutes – including the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act – with a more general review of the basis operation of other laws, such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. All the statutes serve as illustrations of different regulatory approaches to environmental problems: “command and control,” information disclosure, and market-based instruments. The class includes more extended consideration climate change law, and class discussion frequently extends beyond court rulings to include the underlying litigation strategies of the parties that led to those rulings. There are no pre-requisites.

Environmental Regulatory and Policy disputes, both in the United States and elsewhere, can be settled by using mediation and other informal problem-solving techniques. This advanced course will examine the theory and practice of environmental dispute resolution and explore the ways in which energy facility siting, water resource allocation and habitat restoration disputes have been successfully mediated. The focus will be on the ways in which informal problem-solving techniques complement conventional adjudicative approaches, as well as the justification in Administrative Law, for these supplementary methods. Students will participate in carefully designed role play simulations that deal with the siting of both on-shore and off-shore wind energy plants, the management of in-stream river flow in the face of changing demands for water and shifts in water availability, and science-intensive disagreements over the best ways of adapting to the risks of climate change in coastal cities. Comparisons between mediated multiparty problem-solving and more conventional approaches to resolving environmental disputes will highlight on-going controversies over the use of ADR in environmental decision-making situations. Similarly, comparative analyses of environmental dispute resolution efforts in Asia, Latin America and the Middle East will provide still another way of exploring the pros and cons of environmental mediation. Some background in environmental law is required. Prior coursework in negotiation is helpful, but not required.

Environmental Law
Professor Richard Lazarus or Professor Jody Freeman
3 classroom credits
Fall and Spring Term
This course surveys federal environmental law and serves as a useful introduction both to environmental law’s particular complexities as well as to the skills necessary in mastering any complex area of regulation. The first part of the course considers the character of environmental disputes, the problems inherent in fashioning legal rules for their resolution, and the history of the emergence of modern environmental law in the United States. The second part of the course reviews several specific federal environmental statutes. The statutory review combines a close examination of several statutes – including the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act – with a more general review of the basis operation of other laws, such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. All the statutes serve as illustrations of different regulatory approaches to environmental problems: “command and control,” information disclosure, and market-based instruments. The class includes more extended consideration climate change law, and class discussion frequently extends beyond court rulings to include the underlying litigation strategies of the parties that led to those rulings. There are no pre-requisites.
This reading group will read and discuss pending, recent, and historic cases in the Supreme Court that raise environmental and natural resources law issues.

**Environmental Practice Skills, Methods, and Controversies: Siting and Permitting of a Wind Farm as a Case Study**

**Clinical Professor Wendy Jacobs**

3 classroom credits

**Spring Term**

This course teaches the actual practice of environmental law, including mechanisms for raising and resolving controversies. We will examine—and work through—a wind farm project from a variety of perspectives and meet with people who represent some of these interests: regulatory, community, NGO and private sector. The emphasis will not be on mastering the substance of the various environmental laws that are triggered (although some of that will be necessary), but instead on the practical skills and knowledge necessary to: identify the environmental impacts of a project; parse and apply relevant statutes and regulations; analyze mechanisms for mitigating project impacts and managing controversies; identify the permits and approvals needed for a project; select and hire environmental scientists and experts to support or oppose a project; and, defend (or challenge) a project in administrative and judicial proceedings. Students in this class will learn how projects proceed through environmental review, challenges, and permitting. Depending on the time available and level of class interest, we will also look at some of the project financing issues.

**Embryos, Animals, and the Environment: Ethically Ambiguous Entities and the Law**

**Dr. Jeffrey Skopek**

2 classroom credits

**Spring Term**

Cutting across issues in bioethics, animal rights, and environmentalism, this course explores the law’s treatment of entities whose ethical status is ambiguous and contested. We will address questions such as: What does it mean for something to “harm the environment”? Do different regulatory schemes answer this question differently? What if anything is wrong with paying to pollute? Should animals be patentable? How does standing doctrine impact animal rights? Should the creation of human-animal hybrids be regulated, and if so, using what criteria? Can an activity that significantly alters the genetics of an embryo—that changes who the resulting person is—be considered beneficial or harmful to that person? Why did embryonic stem cell research cause so much more controversy in the United States than it did in the United Kingdom? Should prenatal sex selection be prohibited, and if so, on what basis?

In exploring these questions, we will touch areas of law including property, tort, constitutional law, and environmental law, focusing on the interconnected resolution of legal and ethical uncertainty. Grading will be based on class participation and written work. Students can choose to write either multiple reading responses or a single research paper. The course is open to law students and other interested graduate students. There are no prerequisites.

**Federal Public Land and Resources Law**

**Visiting Professor John Leshy**

2 classroom credits

**Fall Term**

This course focuses on laws and doctrines governing management of about one-third of the nation’s land base—that owned by the U.S. government. It starts with a capsule history of federal land policy, exploring how and why such a large body of lands came to be in federal ownership. It then addresses constitutional issues, the relationship between the executive and the legislative branches and between the national government and the states, judicial review questions, and generic laws and processes that govern most federal lands decisions (such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act). It will explore particular issues growing out of management of special areas like national parks, wildlife refuges, wild & scenic rivers, and wilderness. Considerable attention will be given to contemporary policy disputes, such as making federal lands available for renewable energy projects, and managing federal lands for adaptation to a destabilized climate. There are no prerequisites. Credit is based upon a one-day take-home final examination, but students will have the option of doing a substantial paper instead. Laptops will not be allowed in class.

**Food Law**

**Professor Jacob Gersen**

2 classroom credits

**Fall Term**

This seminar will explore the legal regulation of food. We will study the state, local, federal, and common law regulation of food, with an emphasis on both the historical evolution of legal regimes that govern production, labeling, and sale; and frontier policy issues like banned foods, obesity, dietary supplements, organics, bioterrorism, and genetic modification. Although our focus will be mainly domestic law, we will occasionally consider trade and international regulation as well. Students may write either a series of short papers or one long paper on a topic of their choosing. There are no prerequisites for this seminar.

**Human Rights and the Environment**

**Clinical Professor Tyler Giannini and Ms. Bonnie Docherty**

2 classroom credits

**Spring Term**

Over the past half century, human rights law and international environmental law have made great strides, largely independent of one another. This seminar examines the connection between human rights and the environment, and efforts to bridge the two distinct legal discourses in the context of advocacy and social movements. What are the origins of efforts to link human rights and environmental movements and where are these movements headed? What do the movements share in common and where do they diverge? What are the main challenges and dilemmas facing those engaged in rights promotion and defense? The
This course focuses on the laws and doctrines governing the acquisition and control of natural resources, including water, wildlife and federal public lands. The course begins with the history of the allocation of property interests in natural resources between the government and private citizens as well as the division of authority over natural resources between the federal government and the states and, at the federal level, among the different branches of government. This is followed by an examination of the key federal agencies responsible for managing federal public lands, including the Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. The course next explores key issues surrounding the management of wildlife, including implementation of the Endangered Species Act. Finally, the course explores challenges in modern water management in light of climate change, with particular emphasis on property “takings” disputes arising from regulatory restrictions on the use of water.

Public Interest Environmental Litigation
Shaun Goho, Lecturer in Law
2 classroom credits
Fall Term
This course provides an overview of the practice of public interest environmental litigation. Most federal environmental statutes, such as the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act, include a provision allowing “any person” to bring suit in federal court against “any person” who violates the statute. These “citizen suits” have many unique characteristics that distinguish them from typical civil litigation. Public interest plaintiffs may also challenge agency action under certain other environmental statutes, such as the National Environmental Policy Act, pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act. Students in this class will learn, from start to finish, how to litigate cases under the federal environmental laws—both true citizen-suit cases and cases brought under the APA. The emphasis will not be on mastering the substance of the various environmental laws (although some of that will be necessary), but instead on the practical skills and knowledge necessary to prosecute and defend these suits.

The topics to be covered include:

- Factual investigation of potential claims and evidentiary issues.
- Drafting notice letters.
- Conditions precedent to suit and other procedural requirements and defenses.
- Standing declarations: interviewing clients and helping them prepare a declaration to establish their standing.
- Intervention.
- Remedies, including injunctions, civil penalties, and attorneys’ fees.
- Characteristics of different types of environmental suits.
- Strategies for plaintiffs, defendants, and intervenors.
- Media relations.
- Ethical issues in public interest environmental litigation.

Environmental Trail Guide 2013
HLS students can supplement their law school curriculum by cross-registering in environmental courses offered by other components of the University, including the Kennedy, Business, Education, Extension, Design, Medical, and Public Health schools and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Search the Harvard University Course Catalog at https://coursecatalog.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do for an updated list of environmental courses available in 100 different departments.

You may also find it helpful to explore the environmental initiatives of other Harvard schools, including:

- **Harvard University Center for the Environment**
- **Environmental Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government**
- **Center for Health and the Environment at Harvard Medical School**
- **Harvard Graduate School of Design Executive Education**
- **Harvard NIEHS Center for Environmental Health at Harvard School of Public Health**
Although a wide range of opportunities exist for environmental law practice in the public sector, the job search process demands aggressive research, planning, and networking. This section includes advice on finding a job and building the foundation for a successful career.

BUILD A TRACK RECORD

As Christopher Davis ’80 puts it, “Grow your credentials, credibility, and expertise.” Planning your law school activities with an eye towards your career goals will help you develop the necessary background for an environmental law career.

Public interest employers look for several key elements in an applicant’s background. First, employers consider a demonstrated commitment to public interest work to be critically important. Employers want to see that you are invested in advancing the public good -- not merely looking for an alternative to private sector work. “More important to me than substantive experience is previous public interest work. I’ve hired people with civil rights experience, but no environmental experience. Environmental work is social justice work,” says Nancy Marks ’83.

Second, many employers look for a demonstrated interest in environmental law. Tom Benson ’04 remarks, “When my colleagues look at a resume, they ask: ‘how has this applicant shown that she is interested in the environment?’” Plan your law school curriculum to include environmental law and related courses such as administrative law, constitutional law, and federal courts. Note that some courses that may appear unrelated upon first glance may in fact provide useful substantive knowledge; for example, many environmental litigators recommend that students take Corporations in order to better understand the structure and legal constraints of their frequent opponents. For energy work, David Littell ’92 suggests that students cross-register in statistics or econometrics courses at other Harvard schools. Be sure to take on environmental research projects whenever possible—in class, with professors, or even with local environment groups.

Extracurricular activities can be an excellent way to show a strong interest in environmental law while meeting other students who share your interest. At HLS, the Environmental Law Society (ELS) offers a variety of events, speakers, and social opportunities, while the Environmental Law Review (ELR) allows students to assist in the publication of original scholarship in the
field. More information about ELS, ELR, and other environmental opportunities at HLS can be found in Chapter 3 of this guide.

Perhaps most importantly, expose yourself to different types of environmental law practice in a variety of settings through summer internships, clinics, and volunteering. Matthew Littleton ’10 advises:

Do as many internships and off-campus clinical activities as possible. You can learn a lot about what you want to do by immersing yourself in different work environments, even if only for a short period of time. Be aggressive in pursuing those opportunities, and be flexible on hours, credit, and pay to the extent possible.

Substantive experience can help set you apart from other applicants. Elizabeth Forsyth ’11 says, “This is a small field, and it’s immensely competitive. [...] I was able to find my position, at least in part, because there’s nothing on my resume that doesn’t say ‘environmental’ in it.” In addition to building your credentials, internships and other work experiences will broaden your professional network.

Of course, environmental public interest employers also look for all of the usual qualifications expected from applicants in any field of law – meaning strong analytical, writing, and research skills are essential. Eric Bilsky ’91 advises, “The legal field is very conservative. The more traditional indicators of success that you can amass, the more successful you will be as an applicant. Good grades, law review, moot court, prestigious internships and judicial clerkships all matter.”

TAILOR YOUR APPLICATION MATERIALS

The best way to showcase your accomplishments and talents to potential employers is in your application materials. Employers often spend less than a minute reading each resume, so it is essential that your application materials clearly and powerfully make a case in your favor. Your resume should include and highlight the experiences most relevant to the job for which you are applying. This might mean editing and rearranging your resume each and every time you apply to a job. The visual aesthetics of your resume matter; it should be polished and easy to read.

Your cover letter is also important. Merely rehashing the qualifications in your resume is insufficient. A cover letter must persuasively convey your interest in the position, and should directly connect your skills and substantive background to both the employer’s needs and the position’s responsibilities. Both of these documents must be error-free and written in a polite, professional tone. For more information about writing resumes and cover letters for public interest jobs, visit OPIA’s Job Search Toolkit at http://www.law.harvard.edu/current/careers/opia/toolkit/index.html.
As with many public interest jobs, networking is key to finding positions in environmental law. To learn about opportunities, you must diligently pursue and maintain contacts in the field. As Allan Kanner ’79 recommends:

“Get yourself into the information loop. Find out who’s who in the field.”

- Allan Kanner ’79, Founder, Kanner & Whiteley, LLP

Get yourself into the information loop. Find out who’s who in the field. It’s small world, so it’s important to network. We’re more likely to hire or work with someone when they know about us and we know about them.

Howard Learner ’80 says that networking is vital to setting yourself apart from other applicants. “We get hundreds of resumes for every job opening, and we can’t possibly read them all,” he explains. “If I get a call from a colleague who I trust, and he or she recommends that I look at your resume, then you have an advantage.”

Seize every possible opportunity for networking during your law school career: develop and maintain contacts through your internships, clinics, and volunteer projects, and spend as much time as possible talking to people at environmental organizations. Networking can happen within the HLS community, too -- your fellow students are often terrific sources of advice about internships and will help you make the most of your interactions with like-minded environmental enthusiasts. Get to know your professors and the staff of the Environmental Law Program as well as possible; they are not only expert teachers but also seminal scholars in their fields. They likely know other key players who may be able to help you in the future.

HLS alumni hold a wide variety of positions in environmental law practice; harnessing this built-in network is a useful way to learn more about the field. The following HLS-specific resources can help you locate and connect with alumni practicing environmental law in the public sector:

- Students interested in government work should reach out to Current and Past Heyman Fellows. These HLS alumni work in federal public service and have agreed to mentor students and other graduates. Many fellows have performed environmental work in settings that include the Department of Justice’s Environment and Natural Resource Division, the Department of Energy’s Enforcement Section, and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Visit http://www.law.harvard.edu/current/careers/opia/fellowships/hls-fellowships/heyman-fellowship/current-&-past-heyman-fellows.html, and reach out to those fellows working in environmental practice.

- The Alumni Advising Network (AAN) is a database of HLS alumni who have agreed to share information about career development, job search strategies, work/life balance, geographical locations, and practice areas with HLS students and alumni. The network offers a mechanism for searching by issue area and includes many attorneys active in...
environmental practice. Explore the AAN at http://www.law.harvard.edu/alumni/hlsconnect/. Current students can request a login username and password by e-mailing alumnionline@law.harvard.edu.

- You can make contact with professors who are interested in environmental issues through OPIA’s Faculty Directory; they, in turn, may be able to refer you to attorneys working in the field.

- OPIA advisors can direct you to former Wasserstein fellows, alumni, and others working in the field.

You can also meet practicing attorneys through bar association committees. Many associations host both networking and practice-oriented events. Examples of relevant committees include:

- American Bar Association, Environment, Energy and Resources Section: http://www.americanbar.org/groups/environment_energy_resources/committees.html


- New York State Bar Association, Environmental Law Section: http://www.nysba.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Environmental_Law_Home&Template=/CustomSource/SectionHome.cfm&Sec=ENVI

- Boston Bar Association, Environmental Law Section: http://www.bostonbar.org/sections/environmental-law

WHERE THE JOBS ARE

I. ENTRY-LEVEL HIRING

There are numerous entry points to public interest environmental law work. Two of the most common are government Honors Programs and fellowships, which we discuss below. You will need to conduct a significant amount of research on the offices, agencies, or organizations to which you would like to apply. Some organizations conduct on-campus recruiting; others hire only from previous summer intern classes or offer fellowships with very early deadlines.

A. Government Honors Programs

Because most agencies prefer to hire lawyers with several years of experience, government honors programs represent the chief hiring vehicle for entry-level attorneys at the state and federal level.
Perhaps the most well known post-graduate honors program is the DOJ Honors Program. Additional information on the application process can be found in *The OPIA Insider’s Guide to the U.S. Department of Justice SLIP and Honors Program Application Process*. You are only eligible to apply to the DOJ Honors Program if you have just graduated or if you are coming out of a clerkship or certain types of fellowships.

The following federal and state agencies engaged in environmental work have also offered Honors Programs in the past:

- Army Corps of Engineers
- California Attorney General’s Office
- Colorado Attorney General’s Office
- U.S. Department of Energy
- Environmental Protection Agency, Office of the General Counsel
- Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
- Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3
- Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
- Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
- Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
- Food and Drug Administration
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor
- Maryland Attorney General’s Office
- Massachusetts’ Attorney General’s Office
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- Oregon Attorney General’s Office
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- Washington Attorney General’s Office

Consult Chapter 7 for more detailed information about these Honors Programs. If you are interested in state and local government fellowships, it may be helpful to read OPIA’s *Careers in State and Local Government Guide*. For updated information about the status of Honors Programs, consult the University of Arizona College of Law Government Honors and Internship Handbook (the “Arizona Guide”). HLS students and alumni may contact OPIA for a username and password to access the Arizona Guide.

**B. Fellowships**

Fellowships offer excellent opportunities for entry-level attorneys to join the environmental law field. Generally speaking, there are three types of fellowships for which students may apply. First, government fellowships such as the Presidential Management Fellows Program offer an avenue for entry-level attorneys to break into public policy positions. Second, advocacy organizations and private public interest law firms may fund their own fellowships to hire entry-level personnel for a specified period of time. Finally, third-party fellowships such as the Equal Justice Works Fellowship offer financial sponsorship to new attorneys who wish to pursue particular projects in existing public interest organizations. For advice on crafting a winning
fellowship proposal, be sure to read OPIA’s *Insider’s Guide to Writing a Successful Fellowship Application*. HLS students should be sure to work with OPIA’s Fellowships Director, Judy Murciano, on all phases of any fellowship application.

1. **Government Fellowships**

Government fellowships are one way to launch an environmental law career. The Presidential Management Fellows Program (PMF) is a prestigious two-year paid government fellowship sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management for graduates who want to work with a federal agency. Following a rigorous assessment process, fellows are selected and can then seek placements with agencies such as the Departments of Energy, Agriculture, and Defense. After the two year fellowship, the fellows are generally offered full-time permanent positions with their agency. More information on the PMF and application process can be found at [https://www.pmf.opm.gov](https://www.pmf.opm.gov). For those who would prefer to gain experience on the legislative side, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, and the Asian Pacific American institute for Congressional Studies all offer fellowships that expose recent graduates to a variety of policy areas.

These federal opportunities are not the only government fellowships available, however. State legislative fellowships, such as the California Senate Fellows program, the New York State Senate graduate fellowships, and the Ohio Legislative Service Commission Fellowship, provide another point of access for those seeking careers in government. The two-year Capital City Fellows program in the District of Columbia hires 3Ls and recent graduates to work in a selection of local agencies. You can read more about these and other government fellowships at the state and local level in OPIA’s [Careers in State and Local Government](https://www.opiaweb.org/careers) guide.

2. **Organization-Specific Fellowships**

Some advocacy organizations (e.g., the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Environmental Law and Policy Center, to name just a few) and private public interest law firms (e.g., Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger) also fund their own fellowships to hire entry-level personnel for time-limited positions. For a partial listing of organization-specific environmental fellowships, see Chapter 7 of this guide. Be sure to regularly check OPIA’s [public interest jobs database](https://www.opiaweb.org/jobs) and the National Association for Law Placement’s public interest job search website, [PSJD](https://www.psjd.com), for additional fellowship postings.

3. **Third-Party Fellowships**

Third-party sponsored fellowships allow new attorneys to design their own public interest projects and carry them out at organizations that may not have the financial resources to pay a fellow themselves. Examples of third-party fellowships include the Skadden and Equal Justice Works fellowships. HLS students and alumni can also access the HLS Public Service Venture Fund; through a competitive process, the Fund provides both “seed money” for startup public interest ventures and salary support to graduating HLS students who hope to pursue post-graduate work at nonprofits or government agencies in the United States and abroad.
Some third-party fellowships will not support traditional environmental law work, so be sure to check all relevant funding requirements before beginning the fellowship application process. For a partial listing of third-party fellowships, see Chapter 7 of this guide.

II. LATERAL HIRING

“Market the value of your law firm training, because it provides you with a practical skill set.”

- Christopher Davis ’80, Director of Investment Programs at Ceres

Government employers and advocacy organizations will seek similar skill sets in lateral hires as they do in entry-level attorneys; however, they will expect greater substantive experience from laterals. In general, especially in government agencies, there is not much turnover, so the demand for jobs typically exceeds the available supply. Therefore, it is critical to make your application stand out with relevant experience and great references. If your previous experience is in the private sector, distinguish yourself through pro bono cases and volunteer with a government agency or nonprofit in your free time.

Although many applicants for lateral environmental law positions will have prior public sector experience, it is possible to make the switch from private sector law firm work to environmental public interest practice. Christopher Davis ’80, who left a senior partnership at Goodwin Proctor LLP for a position at Ceres, an environmental nonprofit, advises attorneys looking to transition to the public sector to “market the value of your law firm training, because it provides you with a practical skill set.” Davis further notes, “try a number of different things to gain environmental expertise. Be opportunistic in this economy, because it is difficult to have a straight career path.” David Littell ’92 also successfully transitioned from private to public interest practice; he encourages lateral hopefuls to volunteer for progressive environmental work in order to demonstrate a continuing commitment to the field.
NANCY MARKS ’83
Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council

If someone had told me at age 24 that I would become a lawyer, I would have told them they were crazy. I had majored in geology as an undergraduate, spent a couple of summers at Woods Hole, and entered a Ph.D. program with the idea of becoming a marine geologist. After deciding that path was not for me, I had an M.S. in geology and no career aspirations. I considered a number of options, ranging from scientific journalism to carpentry. Deep down, though, I was seeking a way to turn my 1960s activist spirit into a job. As a young teenager, I had been angry and passionate about the Vietnam War, civil rights, and what we then called women’s liberation. Environmental issues were never at the top of my list of political concerns, but I was attracted to environmental advocacy because it would allow me to integrate my love of science with political action.

When I started at Harvard Law School in 1980, the environmental offerings were paltry. I almost dropped out after one year, because I couldn’t envision how a law degree could translate into meaningful work. But I was fortunate to connect with the Conservation Law Foundation (a regional environmental advocacy organization headquartered in Boston) as a 2L, and I worked there as an intern over the next two years. The lawyers there were stopping offshore oil leasing, battling pollution, and saving forests, and I was hooked. After law school, I spent one year as a legal fellow for the Natural Resources Defense Council in San Francisco and two years as a Massachusetts assistant attorney general in the environmental protection division. I learned to my surprise that I actually thrived as a litigator, in spite of my initial terror at any type of public speaking. When family life brought me to the New York area, I was lucky to land another position at NRDC as a litigator in its “citizen enforcement project.” That project—which was disbanded in 1994—focused almost exclusively on enforcing Clean Water Act discharge permits. But the cases were more varied than one might expect: one enforcement action against a Texaco oil refinery lasted for 19 years, requiring several trials and appeals to hold the refinery accountable for its pollution. (The moral of that story is that public interest lawyers have to be like pit bulls; once we latch on, you can never shake us off!)

I am now a member of NRDC’s litigation team, a group of about a dozen lawyers, located in four of our offices, who specialize in litigation, rather than a particular substantive area. (Most other

“My favorite cases typically involve a big, bad actor (industry or government); an intractable environmental problem; and feisty clients.”

- Nancy Marks ’83, Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council
NRDC lawyers focus on a discrete set of issues, like energy, oceans, clean air, or endangered species.) Thirty years after becoming a lawyer, I am having the most fun of my career—because of the excellence and camaraderie of my team, the freedom to choose what cases to tackle, and the rewards of mentoring young litigators. I also love seeing a case go from the first development of the legal theory through motions, discovery, trials (occasionally), and appeals. My favorite cases typically involve a big, bad actor (industry or government); an intractable environmental problem; and feisty clients. In the past few years, I have helped to secure a cleanup of chromium from historical industrial operations in a working-class community in New Jersey; to challenge EPA’s registrations of pesticides that pose risks to human and ecological health; and to formulate legal strategies to target mold in New York City public housing. I am particularly drawn to environmental justice litigation and have learned that environmental advocacy is intimately bound up in the political, economic, and social concerns that moved me as a teenager.

My advice for HLS students who are aspiring environmental advocates is to learn to be a great writer, a critical thinker, and a resourceful researcher. Those generic skills—combined with a demonstrated drive to serve the public good—will carry you far. At HLS, you now have an exciting array of academic and clinical choices, along with a vibrant environmental community, to help you on your path to a rewarding career.

DAVID LITTELL ’92
Commissioner, Maine Public Utilities Commission

Environmental law allows me to combine my passion for being outside—I enjoy cross-country skiing, hiking, and swimming—with meaningful, intellectually challenging work. When I started at HLS in 1989, I took all of the environmental law classes available at the time (although there are much more offered now) and cross-registered at MIT for two environmental classes.

When I graduated, my family in Maine and desire to be closer to the outdoors brought me to the firm of Pierce Atwood LLP, in Portland. I became a partner in 1999 with the environmental, permitting and litigation practice. There, I gained a thorough understanding of state and federal regulatory processes. Advising businesses on air, water, and waste law compliance, permitting large and small projects and representing companies in related litigation allowed me understand the issues important to business and industry. I learned which protections cost businesses a lot and which protections might have big environmental gains at lower or no cost.

In 2003, Governor John Baldacci nominated me to serve as the Deputy Commissioner, and then later as Commissioner, of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Governor

“My career proves that good economic development and regulation works hand-in-hand with good environmental policies.”

- David Littell ’92,
Commissioner, Maine Public Utilities Commission
Baldacci challenged DEP to keep our businesses profitable while making Maine a national model for state environmental protection. We adopted the toughest mercury emissions limit in the country—which all of our facilities have subsequently met. We passed the Electronics Waste Law, requiring computer manufacturers to take responsibility for end-of-life management of their products. We implemented a 54-point Climate Action Plan aimed at reducing greenhouse gas to 1990 levels by 2010 (we met it) and to 10 percent below those levels by 2020 (we’re already close). The DEP adopted habitat protections for Maine’s wetlands species, including wading birds, shorebirds, and waterfowl. We passed legislation to ensure that only cars with the most stringent emission standards could be sold in Maine. While I managed a department of 460 environmental professionals (including 14 rounds of budget cuts) and dealt with problem-solving, my other duties at DEP were policy-oriented; I frequently testified before the legislative committees, spoke out of state, testified to Congress and spoke at four official events at the Copenhagen Conference of Parties (COP) of the UNFCC in 2009.

In 2010, I became the Commissioner of the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC), a regulatory body that oversees the state’s electricity, telecommunications, gas, and water industries. Here my work is more judicial than policy-oriented. There are three commissioners (myself included) who hear about 410 to 430 cases per year and release decisions. Our cases arise when utility companies file rate-making cases, competitive providers require approvals, safety standards are violated or companies seek certain certifications for transmission project or renewable energy certifications. Like any court, we hear testimony, hold hearings, and consider stipulations arising from negotiations of parties. We have an expert staff of engineers, lawyers, accountants, and other experts who help us make our decisions. This is one of the best parts of my job. I enjoy working with experienced and talented public servants who are committed to keeping Maine’s utilities fair for consumers and safe for the public.

I’ve also been working in environmental policy at the regional level. I served as chairman of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and as RGGI’s vice-chair twice. I currently represent Maine on the Eastern Interconnect States Planning Committee (EISPC), where I chair a working group that is developing criteria to identify and map clean energy zones for onshore and offshore wind, tidal biomass, and geothermal resources. I have also chaired the New England Governors’ Committee on the Environment, the Environmental Council of the States Cross-Media Committee, and co-chaired the New England Governors’/Eastern Canadian Premiers Committee on the Environment. Environmental issues are not confined within state borders, and our initiatives shouldn’t be either. We need and are working towards regional cooperation to confront climate change.

Maine is a small place. Building a solid reputation for honesty, acquiring good references, working hard and producing high-quality work are essential. As Commissioner at the DEP and the PUC, I worked long hours and tackled complex issues. I’ve never worked harder in my life and never achieved more for the public. I was lucky to be able to protect the environment and public health while creating and retaining thousands of jobs for Mainers through tough times. It’s rewarding to realize what you can do working with many others to make things happen that you would have thought frankly impossible, and it’s humbling to realize how many people it takes to make it happen. My career proves that good economic development and regulation works hand-in-hand with good environmental policies.
Mercury, coal ash, nuclear waste, distributed solar, shark fins... What do these seemingly random things have in common? Answer: all of these are things I worked during a recent day in the life serving as Environmental and Energy Counsel to Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan! In my special counsel type role at the Attorney General’s Office, I either seek out or am tasked with all kinds of issues centered around environmental and energy law, policy, and regulation. Most of my time is spent researching, reading, working in meetings, and participating in conference calls. I have directed almost all of my attention toward policy, regulatory, and legislative matters instead of litigation—although I do coordinate closely with the environmental enforcement and public utility lawyers that do a lot of the core litigation work in our office.

This arrangement suits me because I went to law school not necessarily to be a practicing attorney but to get professional training to allow me to work in the environmental field in various types of capacities. Previous to my current role, I worked for the Sierra Club helping to manage and coordinate the organization’s Beyond Coal Campaign. In addition to serving as a sort of in-house counsel, I was also able to develop experience in management, fundraising, communications, and organizing activities. Prior to Sierra Club, I spent close to three years doing general environmental litigation, regulatory, and transactional work at a private firm here in Chicago, working on a wide variety of matters for all sorts of industrial and other types of private sector clients.

My interests and career arc have led me to focus on developing and marketing my versatility in terms of skill-set, experience, and knowledge. Many other environmental and energy attorneys end up choosing to focus on specific, technical areas where they can develop the necessary expertise to be at the top of the field in that area. Examples include lawyers who spend almost all of their time on Clean Air Act issues or perhaps have dockets dominated by energy efficiency issues. I have shied away from being channeled into a specific environmental or energy speciality and have instead tried to become a multi-faceted generalist that might someday step into an executive director type of role in non-profit or government or perhaps be a chief policy advisor for a progressive company or foundation.

In terms of advice, many lawyers that work in the environmental field are there because something resonates with them personally about saving the world, working in a scientific or technical area, etc. So if you are a student interested in the field, make sure you have items on your resume and a personal story that conveys your passion or commitment to the environmental and energy fields. This will help you connect with the people deciding whether to hire you! An additional piece of advice is to relentlessly focus on what excites you and motivates you and never stop pursuing it. How important is to you to perceive impact and meaning from your work? Do you get fired up doing litigation or do you quickly grow weary of it? Who is doing the kind of work you want to do and how can you obtain opportunities to work with them? The big, active issues today all seem to revolve around energy (i.e., the explosive growth in U.S. oil
and gas development, the steady expansion of renewables, the gradual evolution of electric utilities to the smart grid era, etc.).

HOWARD A. LEARNER ’80
Founding Executive Director, Environmental Law & Policy Center

My public interest law career has spanned housing civil rights law, environmental and energy litigation, transportation reform and innovative economic development strategies. The unifying approaches have been strategically focused litigation as necessary and important to help advance social change and economic justice, and working on developing positive solutions that achieve environmental progress and economic growth together. At the Environmental Law & Policy Center, we put that sustainability principle into action. Moreover, with entrepreneurial public interest colleagues, I’ve worked to create and build several new public interest consumer, energy, environmental and legal organizations that fill gaps and meet advocacy infrastructure needs.

I’ve had the opportunity as a public interest attorney to work on some of the most interesting, challenging and important public issues with dedicated colleagues and clients who share a commitment to making a difference in the world. Following HLS graduation, I worked as a Staff Attorney and later became the General Counsel of Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), a public interest law center in Chicago, my hometown. My initial focus was on housing civil rights and community economic development issues, engaging in federal court litigation and proactive policy development and advocacy. I also began representing Illinois environmental organizations at a time when there were no environmental law organizations in the state, and we began to break new ground on toxic pollution reduction and energy efficiency issues. With diverse partners, we created the Illinois Citizens Utility Board, a consumer-ratepayer advocacy group, for which I served as the first Board Chair leading the start-up and helping build this new consumer organization from scratch.

With BPI colleagues, we commenced litigation challenging Commonwealth Edison’s costly and overextended nuclear power plant construction program. I served as the lead attorney for a coalition of Illinois consumer organizations and government agencies in successfully litigating four major cases before the Illinois Supreme Court reversing the Illinois public utilities regulatory commission’s rate hike decisions. Following those victories, we then negotiated comprehensive settlements with Commonwealth Edison that produced more than $2 billion of refunds – then the largest ever in the U.S. It was a classic “David and Goliath” battle – a small group of public interest attorneys took on the most powerful business and largest law firms in Chicago, and we won. Our suggested solution of advancing cleaner and cheaper energy efficiency and renewable energy resources was ahead of its time.

In the early 1990’s, several environmental advocates and foundations identified a gap and the need to create a new Midwest-based public interest environmental legal advocacy group to focus on cleaning up and reforming the energy and transportation sectors, which account for 70% of the greenhouse pollution causing climate change and most of the pollution harming the Great Lakes. I was asked to develop a strategic plan and then became the Executive Director of the
Environmental Law & Policy Center (ELPC), a ground floor start-up. We built the organization around the dual strategies of hard-hitting, effective strategic litigation and policy advocacy combined with putting into practice sustainable development principles and environmental solutions. Sometimes it takes a lawsuit to achieve change; other times, it takes a business suit.

ELPC’s multidisciplinary staff of attorneys, M.B.A.s, policy advocates, communications professionals and scientists can forge win-win-win clean energy and clean transportation solutions that are good for job creation, good for economic growth and good for the environment. We’ve grown from a start-up to almost 50 dedicated staff in eight offices in Chicago, other Midwestern cities and Washington D.C. ELPC celebrated our 20th Anniversary of proud successes protecting the Midwest’s environment and natural heritage in April 2013. See www.elpc.org to learn more.

My job has evolved as ELPC has grown, and my strategic organizational leadership responsibilities have increased. I still take on some major litigation issues (with strong second chairs) because it’s in my attorney DNA and unifies my work more with our program staff.

I’ve been moving full speed ahead as a public interest attorney since graduating from HLS about 33 years ago. It’s an honor. I’ve learned much and enjoyed working together with dedicated colleagues on some of the most important environmental and transformational clean energy challenges of our times. Message to today’s HLS students: Use your legal training to make a difference in our world. Carpè diem!
CHAPTER

SELECTED ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ORGANIZATIONS

A great way to explore careers in public interest environmental law is to read about organizations that hire attorneys. This section provides a list of selected environmental law organizations. We divide these organizations into three categories—nonprofits, private public interest law firms, and government.

NONPROFITS

III. Multi-Issue Nonprofits (National and International)

AS YOU SOW
http://www.asyousow.org
Oakland, CA

BLUEGREEN ALLIANCE
http://www.bluegreenalliance.org
Minneapolis, MN; San Francisco, CA; and Washington, DC

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL
http://www.conservation.org
Arlington, VA Headquarters; 27 Global Offices

DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
http://defenders.org
Washington, DC

EARTHJUSTICE
http://www.earthjustice.org/regional/international/
Anchorage, AK; Bozeman, MT; Denver, CO; Honolulu, HI; Juneau, AK; New York, NY; San Francisco, CA; Seattle, WA; and Tallahassee, FL; and Washington, DC

ENVIRONMENT AMERICA
http://www.environmentamerica.org/
Boston, MA and Washington DC Headquarters; 29 State Affiliates

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND
http://www.environmentaldefense.org

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY PROJECT
http://www.environmentalintegrity.org/contact_us.php
San Antonio, TX and Washington, DC

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ALLIANCE WORLDWIDE
http://www.elaw.org
Eugene, OR

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE (ELI)
http://www.eli.org/
Washington, DC

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
http://www.foe.org
Berkeley, CA; and Washington, DC

GREENPEACE
http://www.greenpeaceusa.org
San Francisco, CA; and Washington, DC

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
http://www.audubon.org
National offices in New York, NY; Washington DC; 500 Chapter Offices throughout the US

NATURE CONSERVANCY
http://www.nature.org
Arlington, VA; and Boston, MA
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER  
http://www.nelconline.org  
Boston, MA; and Seattle, WA

NATIONAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL (NRDC)  
http://www.nrdc.org  
Beijing, China; Chicago, IL; Livingston, MT; New York, NY; San Francisco, CA; and Santa Monica, CA

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION  
http://nwf.org  
Washington, DC Headquarters, 48 state affiliates

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY  
http://www.peer.org  
Denver, CO; Georgetown, CA; Nashville, TN; North Easton, MA; Ringoes, NJ; Tallahassee, FL; Tucson AZ; and Washington, DC

RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK  
http://www.ran.org/ran  
San Francisco, CA

RAINFOREST ALLIANCE  
http://rainforest-alliance.org  
New York, NY; Northfield, MN; Ottawa, ON; Richmond, VT; Washington, DC; and 15 Global Offices

SCENIC AMERICA  
http://www.scenic.org  
Washington, DC Headquarters and 40 State Affiliates

SIERRA CLUB ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAM  
http://www.sierraclub.org  
San Francisco, CA

WILDERNESS SOCIETY  
http://www.wilderness.org  
Albuquerque, NM; Anchorage, AK; Boise, ID; Bozeman, MT; Denver, CO; Durango, CO; Hallowell, ME; Hinesburg, VT; Los Angeles, CA; Salt Lake City, UT; San Francisco, CA; Seattle, WA; Sylva, NC; and Washington, DC

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND  
http://www.worldwildlife.org  
Gland, Switzerland; and Washington, DC

IV. Multi-Issue Nonprofits (Regional)

1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON  
http://www.friends.org  
Eugene, OR; Grants Pass, OR; and Portland, OR

1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA  
http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org  
Tallahassee, FL

ADVOCATES FOR THE WEST  
http://www.advocateswest.org  
Boise, ID

ALASKA CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
http://akcenter.org  
Anchorage, AK

APPALACHIAN CITIZENS LAW CENTER — KENTUCKY  
http://www.appalachianlawcenter.org  
Whitesburg, KY

ARIZONA CENTER FOR LAW IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST  
http://www.aclpi.com  
Phoenix, AZ; and Tucson, AZ

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ALLIANCE — WYOMING  
http://www.voiceforthewild.org  
Laramie, WY

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY — WASHINGTON  
http://www.celp.org  
Seattle, WA

CONNECTICUT FUND FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
http://www.ctenvironment.org/  
New Haven, CT

CHESAPEAKE LEGAL ALLIANCE  
http://chesapeakelegal.org  
Annapolis, MD

CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION (CLF) — NEW ENGLAND  
http://www.clf.org  
Boston, MA
CRAG LAW CENTER – PACIFIC NORTHWEST
http://crag.org
Portland, OR

EASTERN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER – NEW JERSEY
http://www.easternenvironmental.org/about-us/
Newark, NJ

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE CENTER — CALIFORNIA
http://www.edenet.org
Santa Barbara, CA

DAKOTA RESOURCE COUNCIL
http://www.drcinfo.com
Bismarck, ND; Dickinson, ND; and Fargo, ND

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES OF NEW YORK
http://www.envadvocates.org
Albany, NY

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER — MIDWESTERN U.S.
http://www.elpc.org
Columbus, OH; Chicago, IL; Des Moines, IA; Jamestown, ND; Madison, WI; Sioux Falls, SD; and Washington DC

ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS
http://www.environmentalleague.org
Boston, MA

GULF RESTORATION NETWORK
http://healthygulf.org/
New Orleans, LA

MIDWEST ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES — MIDWESTERN U.S.
http://www.midwestadvocates.org
Madison, WI

MINNESOTA CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY
http://www.mncenter.org/
St. Paul, MN

NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL OF MAINE
http://www.maineenvironment.org
Augusta, ME

NORTHWEST ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE CENTER — PACIFIC NORTHWEST
http://law.lclark.edu/centers/northwest_environmental_defense_center/
Portland, OR

OREGON NATURAL DESERT ASSOCIATION
http://www.onda.org
Bend, OR

PEE DEE LAND TRUST — SOUTH CAROLINA
http://www.peedeelandtrust.org
Florence, SC

PENNFuture
http://www.pennfuture.org
Harrisburg, PA; Philadelphia, PA; and Pittsburgh, PA

Pennsylvania Environmental Council
http://www.pecpa.com
Harrisburg, PA; Luzerne, PA; Philadelphia, PA; and Pittsburgh, PA

PIEDMONT ENVIROMENTAL COUNCIL — VIRGINIA
http://www.pecva.org
Warrenton, VA

PRESIDIO TRUST—CALIFORNIA
http://www.presidio.gov
San Francisco, CA

SOUTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER — SOUTHERN U.S.
http://southernenvironment.org
Asheville, NC; Atlanta, GA; Birmingham, AL; Chapel Hill, NC; Charlottesville, VA; Nashville, TN; Richmond, VA; and Washington, DC

SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE
http://www.suwa.org
Moab, UT; Salt Lake City, UT; and Washington, DC

TRUSTEES FOR ALASKA
http://www.trustees.org
Anchorage, AK

WESTERN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER — WESTERN U.S.
http://www.westernlaw.org
Eugene, OR; Helena, MT; and Taos, NM

WESTERN RESOURCE ADVOCATES
V. **Climate Change**

1SKY  
http://www.1sky.org  
Takoma Park, MD

CENTER FOR RESOURCE SOLUTIONS  
http://www.resource-solutions.org/index.php  
San Francisco, CA

CLEAN AIR TASK FORCE  
http://www.catf.us  
Boston, MA; Brunswick, MN; Carbondale, IL;  
Columbus, OH; and Henniker, NH

GLOBAL GREEN USA  
http://globalgreen.org/about  
New Orleans, LA; New York, NY; Santa Monica,  
CA; and Washington, DC

VI. **Energy**

AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR AN ENERGY EFFICIENT ECONOMY  
http://www.aceee.org  
Washington, DC

ALLIANCE FOR AFFORDABLE ENERGY  
http://www.all4energy.org  
New Orleans, LA

BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY  
http://www.bcse.org  
Washington, DC

CERES  
http://www.ceres.org  
Boston, MA

COALITION FOR SMARTER GROWTH  
http://www.smartergrowth.net  
Washington, DC

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLEAN AIR AGENCIES  
http://www.4cleanair.org/  
Washington, DC

PUBLIC CITIZEN — CRITICAL MASS ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM  
http://www.citizen.org/cmcp  
San Antonio, TX; and Washington, DC

SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION  
http://www.seia.org  
Washington, DC

VII. **Environmental Justice**

ALLIANCE FOR HEALTHY HOMES  
http://afhh.org  
Washington, DC

ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT  
http://www.ace-ej.org  
Roxbury, MA

CENTER ON RACE, POVERTY & THE ENVIRONMENT  
http://www.crpe-ej.org  
Delano, CA and San Francisco, CA

COMMUNITIES FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT (CBE)  
http://www.cbecal.org  
Huntington Park, CA; Wilmington, CA; and  
Oakland, CA

COMMUNITY RIGHTS COUNSEL (CRC)  
http://www.communityrights.org  
Washington, DC

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER  
http://www.communitywatercenter.org/  
Visalia, CA

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COALITION  
http://www.environmentalhealth.org  
National City, CA

NEW YORK LAWYERS FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST – ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM
VIII. **Food**

ALLIANCE FOR FAIR FOOD  
http://www.allianceforfairfood.org/  
Immokalee, FL

ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY  
http://allianceforsustainability.net  
Minneapolis, MN

CENTER FOR FOOD SAFETY  
http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org  
Portland, OR; San Francisco, CA; and Washington, DC

CENTER FOR SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST  
http://www.cspinet.org  
Washington, DC

FAIR FOOD NETWORK  
http://www.fairfoodnetwork.org/  
Ann Arbor, MI

FARMERS LEGAL ACTION GROUP  
http://www.flaginc.org  
St. Paul, MN

THE FOOD PROJECT  
Boston and Lincoln, MA  
http://www.thefoodproject.org/

FOOD RESEARCH AND ACTION CENTER  
http://www.frac.org  
Washington, DC

NATIONAL FAMILY FARM COALITION  
http://www.nffc.net  
Washington, DC

NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE COALITION  
http://www.sustainableagriculture.net  
Washington, DC

URAL NUTRITION INITIATIVE  
http://urbannutrition.org/  
Philadelphia, PA

WHOLESALE WAVE  
http://www.wholesomewave.org  
Bridgeport, CT

IX. **International Environmental Law**

ACCOUNTABILITY COUNSEL  
http://www.accountabilitycounsel.org  
San Francisco, CA

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (CIEL)  
http://www.ciel.org/  
Washington, DC

EARTHRIGHTS INTERNATIONAL  
http://www.earthrights.org/about/contact-us  
Chang Mai, Thailand; Lima, Peru; and Washington DC

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT  
http://inee.org  
Washington, DC

X. **Land Use**

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
http://www.nthp.org/law  
Washington, DC

PLANNING AND CONSERVATION LEAGUE  
http://www.pcl.org  
Sacramento, CA
XI. Natural Resources

ALLIANCE FOR BIRD CONSERVANCY
http://www.abcbirds.org
Washington, DC

CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
http://www.biologicaldiversity.org
Anchorage, AK; Duluth, MN; Flagstaff, AZ; Joshua Tree, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Minneapolis, MN; Pomona, NY; Portland, OR; Richmond, VT; San Francisco, CA; St. Petersburg, FL; and Washington, DC

NORTHERN FOREST CENTER
http://northernforest.org
Concord, NH; and South Portland, ME

XII. Pollution Control

GROUP AGAINST SMOG AND POLLUTION
http://gasp-pgh.org
Pittsburgh, PA

NORTHEAST STATES FOR COORDINATED AIR USE MANAGEMENT
http://www.nescaum.org
Boston, MA

XIII. Water Law

ALLIANCE FOR THE GREAT LAKES
http://www.greatlakes.org
Chicago, IL

AMERICAN RIVERS
http://americanrivers.org
Washington, DC

ANTARCTIC AND SOUTHERN OCEAN COALITION
http://asoc.org
Washington, DC

CLEAN WATER ACTION
http://cleanwateraction.org
Washington, DC Headquarters and 20 State Affiliates

NATURAL HERITAGE INSTITUTE
http://www.n-h-i.org
San Francisco, CA

OCEAN CONSERVANCY
http://www.oceanconservancy.org
Anchorage, AK; Austin, TX; New Orleans, LA; Portland, OR; Santa Cruz, CA; St. Petersburg, FL; and Washington, DC

OCEANA
http://www.oceana.org
Belize City, Belize; Brussels, Belgium; Copenhagen, Denmark; Fort Lauderdale, FL; Geneva, Switzerland; Juneau, AK; Madrid, Spain; Monterey, CA; New York, NY; Portland, OR; Santiago, Chile; and Washington, DC

SAVE THE HARBOR/SAVE THE BAY
www.savetheharbor.org
Boston, MA

TAUNTON RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE
www.trwaonline.org
Taunton, MA

TROUT UNLIMITED
http://www.tu.org
Arlington, VA

WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE
http://www.waterkeeperalliance.org
New York, NY Headquarters and 200 member offices around the world

XIV. Think Tanks

CENTER FOR A NEW AMERICAN SECURITY
http://www.cnas.org
Washington, DC

CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS
http://www.americanprogress.org
WASHINGTON, DC

CENTER FOR CLEAN AIR POLICY
http://ccap.org
Washington, DC

CENTER FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY SOLUTIONS
http://www.c2es.org
Arlington, VA

FOOD & DRUG LAW INSTITUTE
http://www.fdl.org/
Washington, DC

RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE
http://rff.org
Washington, DC

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE
http://www.wri.org
Washington, DC

PRIVATE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW FIRMS

ADAMS BROADWELL JOSEPH & CARDOZO PC
http://www.adamsbroadwell.com
San Francisco, CA

ALTSHULER BERZON LLP
http://www.altshulerberzon.com
San Francisco, CA

ANDERSON & KRIEGER LLP
http://www.andersonkrieger.com
Cambridge, MA

ANGEL LAW
http://www.angellaw.com
Santa Monica, CA

BEASLEY ALLEN
http://www.beasleyallen.com
Montgomery, AL

BLACKBURN & CARTER PC
http://www.blackburncarter.com
Houston, TX

BRICKLIN & NEWMAN LLP
http://www.bnd-law.com
Sandpoint, ID; Seattle, WA; and Spokane, WA

CASCADIA LAW GROUP
http://cascadialaw.com
Olympia, WA; Seattle, WA

CHATTEN-BROWN & CARSTENS LLP
http://www.cbearthlaw.com
Hermosa Beach, CA; and San Diego, CA

DONAHUE & GOLDBERG LLP
http://www.donahuegoldberg.com
New York, NY; and Washington DC

HARMON, CURRAN, SPIELBERG, & EISENBERG, LLP
http://www.harmoncurran.com
Washington, DC

KANNER & WHITELEY, LLC
http://kanner-law.com/contact
New Orleans, LA

KAPLAN KIRSCH & ROCKWELL
http://www.kaplankirsch.com
Denver, CO; and Washington, DC

MEYER GLITZENSTEIN & CRYSTAL
http://www.meyerglitz.com
Washington, DC

PAWA LAW GROUP PC
http://www.pawalaw.com
Boston, MA; and Washington, DC

SONOSKY, CHAMBERS, SACHSE, ENDRESON & PERRY, LLP
http://www.sonosky.com/about.html
Albuquerque, NM; Anchorage, AK; Juneau, AK; San Diego, CA; and Washington, DC

TERRIS, PRAVLIK & MILLIAN, LLP
http://www.tpmlaw.com
Washington, DC
GOVERNMENT

I. Federal

Below are links to the websites of federal executive agencies that perform a significant amount of environmental work.

- Department of Agriculture (USDA)  
  http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome
- Army Corps of Engineers (ACE)  
  http://www.usace.army.mil
- Department of Defense (DOD)  
  http://www.defense.gov
- Department of Energy (DOE)  
  http://www.energy.gov
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
  http://www.epa.gov
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)  
  https://www.ferc.gov
- Department of the Interior (DOI)  
  http://www.doi.gov
- Department of Justice (DOJ), Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD)  
  http://www.justice.gov/enrd
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
  http://www.noaa.gov
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)  
  http://www.nrc.gov
- Department of Transportation (DOT)  
  http://www.dot.gov
- White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)  
  http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq

II. State

If you are interested in working in the environmental section of a State Attorney General’s Office, you should visit the National Association of Attorneys General website at http://www.naag.org/current-attorneys-general.php, which will provide you with links to each office.
Because of the vast number of state agencies that perform environmental work, we have provided you with links to each state government’s website below. There, you will easily find links to each state’s environmental agencies and public utilities commissions.

- Alabama: http://www.alabama.gov/portal/index.jsp
- Alaska: http://www.alaska.gov/
- Arizona: http://az.gov/
- Arkansas: http://portal.arkansas.gov/Pages/default.aspx
- California: http://www.ca.gov/
- Colorado: http://www.colorado.gov/
- Delaware: http://delaware.gov/
- District of Columbia: http://dc.gov/DC/
- Florida: http://www.myflorida.com/taxonomy/government/
- Georgia: http://www.georgia.gov/00/home/0,2061,4802,00.html
- Idaho: http://www.idaho.gov/
- Illinois: http://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/default.aspx
- Indiana: http://www.in.gov/
- Iowa: http://www.iowa.gov/
- Kentucky: http://kentucky.gov/Pages/home.aspx
- Louisiana: http://www.louisiana.gov/
- Maryland: http://www.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx
- Massachusetts: http://www.mass.gov/
- Michigan: http://www.michigan.gov/
- Minnesota: http://www.minnesota.gov/
- Mississippi: http://www.mississippi.gov/
- Missouri: http://www.mo.gov/
- Montana: http://mt.gov/
- Nebraska: http://www.nebraska.gov/
- Nevada: http://www.nv.gov/
- New Hampshire: http://www.nh.gov/
- New Jersey: http://www.state.nj.us/nj.gov/
- New Mexico: http://www.newmexico.gov/
- New York: http://www.state.ny.us/
- North Carolina: http://www.ncgov.com/
- North Dakota: http://www.nd.gov/
• Ohio: http://ohio.gov/
• Oklahoma: http://www.ok.gov/
• Oregon: http://www.oregon.gov/
• Pennsylvania: http://www.pa.gov/portal/server.pt/community/pa_gov/20387
• Puerto Rico: http://www2.pr.gov/Pages/default.aspx
• Rhode Island: http://www.ri.gov/
• South Carolina: http://sc.gov/Pages/default.aspx
• South Dakota: http://sd.gov/
• Tennessee: http://www.tennessee.gov/
• Texas: http://www.texas.gov/en/Pages/default.aspx
• Utah: http://www.utah.gov/index.html
• Vermont: http://www.vermont.gov/portal/
• Virginia: http://www.virginia.gov/
• Washington: http://access.wa.gov/
• West Virginia: http://www.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx
• Wisconsin: http://www.wisconsin.gov/state/
• Wyoming: http://www.wyoming.gov/

III. **Local**

If local government interests you, do some research on the cities where you’d like to work. Check out their websites, learn about their environmental programs, and look around for any job openings.
Altshuler Berzon Environmental Fellowship
Altshuler Berzon LLP
Michael Rubin
Partner
177 Post St, Ste. 300
San Francisco, CA 94104
(415)421-7151
Fax: (415) 362-8064
mrubin@altber.com
http://www.altshulerberzon.com/
Description: The fellow's time is spent working on cases brought jointly by NRDC and Altshuler Berzon to enforce federal and state environmental statutes in the areas of water law and public health and safety, including cases brought under Proposition 65, California's innovative anti-toxics law restricting contamination in consumer products, drinking water, the workplace, and the environment.
Areas of Specialization: Environment, Pollution
Types of Advocacy: Individual Litigation, Impact Litigation
Special Qualifications: Background in environmental issues and/or demonstrated commitment to public interest law strongly preferred. Judicial clerkship or litigation experience is preferred but not required, as are excellent writing skills and the ability to work as part of a team with attorneys, scientists and staff of a nationwide non-profit organization and a public interest law firm.
Term: 1 year
Stipend: Commensurate with experience

Beagle/HLS Fellowship at the Natural Resources Defense Counsel
New York, NY or Washington, D.C. office
Kathy Curley
Assistant, Environmental Law Program
1575 Massachusetts Ave
Hauser 406
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-3097
curley@law.harvard.edu
www.nrdc.org
Description: The purposes of the Fellowship are to provide training and supervision for the Fellow; to enhance the Fellows lawyering/litigation skills; and to promote the Fellows’ interest in pursuing a career in nonprofit litigation and environmental law.
Areas of Specialization: Environment
Types of Advocacy: Administrative, Grassroots/Organizing, Impact Litigation, Policy, Public Education
Special Qualifications: The Beagle/HLS Fellowship will be awarded to graduating Harvard Law School students, judicial clerks or recent alumni (up to three years out of law school). NRDC seeks fellows who have demonstrated an interest in, and commitment to, nonprofit law, especially environmental law, and who demonstrate promise for an outstanding career in nonprofit environmental law.
Term: 2 years
Stipend: About $55,000/year

California Sea Grant State Fellowship Program
California Sea Grant College System
Shauna Oh
Associate Director
9500 Gilman Dr. Dept. 0232
La Jolla, CA 92093-0232
(858) 534-4440
Fax: (858) 534-2231
shaunaoh@ucsd.edu
www.csgc.ucsd.edu/education/statefellow.html
Description: The Program provides a unique educational opportunity for graduate students interested both in marine resources and the policy decisions affecting these resources. The Program matches highly motivated and qualified graduate students with hosts in the California State Legislature or in State agencies for a nine-month Fellowship in Sacramento.
Areas of Specialization: Civil Rights, Consumer, Environment, Health, Housing, Labor
Types of Advocacy: Legislative/Lobbying, Policy
Special Qualifications: Applicants must be registered graduate students in a marine-related field at a California university or have recently completed their degrees. Applicants should demonstrate interest in both marine science and public policy.
Number of Fellows: Varies
Term: 12 months
Stipend: $3,333/month

Center for Food Safety Legal Fellowship
Center for Food Safety
Ryan Crumley
Legal Assistant
303 Sacramento St
San Francisco, CA, 94111
(415)-826-2770
rcrumley@centerforfoodsafety.org
http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/
Description: As a member of the legal team, the Legal Fellow will work on cutting edge issues including genetic engineering, factory farming, food labeling, organic standards, global warming, sewage sludge, aquaculture, irradiation, nanotechnology, and state and federal
legislative initiatives. The Legal Fellow will work alongside the legal team on litigation in cases in federal and state courts, including case investigation, discovery, trial practice, and appellate work. Other duties will include, but are not limited to, rule-making and administrative work at the state and federal level, as well as work on general legislative, public policy, and public education issues.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Food Law

**Types of Advocacy:** Litigation, Policy, Legislative/Lobbying, Public Education, Administrative

**Special Qualifications:** Timely admission to the California, Oregon, or Washington bar; an interest in and experience with administrative and environmental law or another relevant area; a demonstrable passion for enforcing and strengthening environmental laws, as well as an interest in sustainable agriculture and / or food law; excellent legal research and writing skills.

**Number of Fellows:** 1

**Stipend:** Contact organization

**Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) Fellowship**

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
Intern Coordinator
1367 Connecticut Ave., NW, Ste. 300
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 785-8700
Fax: (202) 785-8701
info@ciel.org


**Description:** Law Fellows assist in one or more program areas: Trade and the Environment, International Financial Institutions, Bio-diversity and Wildlife, Law and Communities, Human Rights and Environment, Climate Change or Chemicals. Focus on challenges of international environmental law within public interest law context through independent research and publication, advice and advocacy and teaching and training.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Human Rights, International

**Types of Advocacy:** Policy, Teaching

**Special Qualifications:** Recent law graduates.

**Number of Fellows:** Varies

**Term:** 3-6 months

**Stipend:** None

**Climate and Air Legal Fellowship, Environmental Defense Fund**

Boulder Regional Office
2060 Broadway, Ste. 300
Boulder, CO 80302
(303) 440-4901
Fax: (303) 440-8052
[http://www.edf.org](http://www.edf.org)

**Description:** The Legal Fellow works closely with the rest of the legal team on legal and regulatory advocacy aimed to secure effective greenhouse gas mitigation and cleaner air. The work ranges from strategy sessions about what legal arguments will be most effective in a specific briefing effort to intensive legal research on cutting-edge environmental law questions to
the development of comments to advocate for and support the development of protective environmental standards.

**Areas of Specialization:** Climate, Energy, and Pollution  
**Types of Advocacy:** Policy, Advocacy, Litigation  
**Special Qualifications:** Recent law school graduate with understanding of the federal Clean Air Act, excellent legal research, analytical, writing and advocacy skills.

**Number of Fellows:** 1  
**Term:** June 1 to July 31 of the following year  
**Stipend:** Contact organization

**Climate Change Law Fellowship, Columbia University Center for Climate Change Law**  
Michael B. Gerrard  
Hiring Contact  
435 W 116th St  
New York, NY, 10027  
(212) 854-3287  
michael.gerrard@law.columbia.edu  
http://web.law.columbia.edu/climate-change

**Description:** The Fellow will function as Associate Director of the Center; will supervise various fellows, visiting scholars and interns; will work on a wide variety of research and writing projects; and will help organize conferences, seminars, collaborative publications, and other projects concerning climate mitigation and adaptation.  
**Areas of Specialization:** Climate Change  
**Types of Advocacy:** Research  
**Special Qualifications:** Applicants must have received a J.D. degree within three years prior to the beginning of the Fellowship. Strong academic qualifications and background in environmental or energy law and policy will be expected.  
**Term:** 1 year  
**Stipend:** $60,000/year

**Peter B. Cooper Legal Fellowship, Connecticut Fund for the Environment**  
Valerie Wormely-Radford  
Administrative Associate  
142 Temple St, Ste. 305  
New Haven, CT 06510  
(203)-787-0646  
Fax: (203)-787-0246  
vwormely-radford@cenv.org  
http://www.ctenvironment.org/

**Description:** The fellowship will involve legal writing and advocacy before administrative agencies, state and federal courts and the legislature. This advocacy often combines litigation with coalition building on a variety of issues, including protecting open space, streams, rivers and the Long Island Sound as well as work on urban air quality and transportation.  
**Areas of Specialization:** Environment  
**Types of Advocacy:** Litigation, Advocacy, Legislative/Lobbying  
**Special Qualifications:** J.D.
Term: 2 years  
Stipend: Contact organization

**David C. Lincoln Fellowship in Land Value Taxation**  
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy  
113 Brattle St  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 661-3106  
Fax: (617) 661-7235  
fellowships@lincolninst.edu  
http://www.lincolninst.edu/education/dcl_fellowships.asp

**Description:** Fellowship projects may address either the basic theory of land value taxation or its application to specific issues, domestic or international, with an emphasis on specific investigations, case studies and theoretical work rather than on general discussions of land value taxation principles. The research may deal with land value taxation from the perspective of economic analysis, legal theory and practice, political science, administrative feasibility, valuation techniques, or other approaches in order to achieve a better understanding of land value taxation as a component of fiscal systems. Fellows will each present a seminar at the Lincoln Institute and attend a symposium with other Fellows.

**Areas of Specialization:** Land, Tax Law

**Types of Advocacy:** Policy

**Special Qualifications:** See application guidelines.

**Number of Fellows:** 5-7

**Term:** Up to 3 years

**Stipend:** $20-30,000/year

**Distinguished Environmental Law Scholar, Natural Resources Law Institute**  
Lewis and Clark Law School  
Janice L. Weis  
Assistant Dean  
10015 SW Terwilliger Blvd  
Portland, OR 97219-7799  
(503) 768-6649  
Fax: (503) 768-6671  
elaw@lclark.edu  
https://law.lclark.edu/programs/environmental_and_natural_resources_law/faculty_and_staff/visiting_scholar_opportunities/distinguished_environmental_law_scholar/

**Description:** Fellows write at least one article or book, participate in a graduate seminar and contribute to the life of the environmental and natural resources community at the law school.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment

**Types of Advocacy:** Policy, Research

**Special Qualifications:** Excellent experience in natural resources or environmental law.

**Number of Fellows:** 1

**Term:** 6 month or 1 year

**Stipend:** $25,000/year
Early Career Fellowship, Center for Ocean Solutions
99 Pacific St, Ste. 155A
Monterey, CA, 93940
(831)-333-2077
Fax: (831)-333-2081
earlycareerfellowship@centerforoceansolutions.org
http://centerforoceansolutions.org
Description: The fellow/s will work with COS staff, marine managers and policymakers to advance legal and policy practice to address innovations in science and technology.
Areas of Specialization: Environment
Types of Advocacy: Research, Policy
Special Qualifications: The fellow/s should possess experience in any of the following areas: international ocean law frameworks; climate change adaptation; integration of scientific standards and knowledge into existing regulatory frameworks and emerging policy; adaptive management; cumulative and environmental impact analysis. Applicants must have received a terminal graduate degree (PhD, JD and/or MBA) in the last five years and be fluent English speakers and writers. Successful candidates will have demonstrated: (1) strong research skills (basic and applied); (2) substantial course work and/or gained experience in ocean or coastal science, law, or policy; (3) a growing record of publications and scholarly activities of high impact in their field; and (4) a commitment to connecting research to real-world issues.
Term: 1 year, renewable for up to 3 years
Stipend: $63,000/year with graduated annual salary increase

Earthjustice Associate Attorney
Denver, CO; Honolulu, HI; and Washington D.C.
Recruiting Coordinator
203 Hoge Bldg., 705 2nd Ave.
Seattle, WA 98104-1711
(206) 343-7340
Fax: (206) 343-1526
eajuswa@earthjustice.org
http://earthjustice.org/about/jobs_education/associate
Description: Fellows serve as associate attorneys and practice public interest environmental law under the supervision of the Earthjustice's staff attorneys. Fellows help develop, investigate and litigate cases.
Areas of Specialization: Environment
Types of Advocacy: Grassroots/Organizing, Impact Litigation, Public Education
Number of Fellows: Varies
Term: 2 or 3 years, depending on location
Stipend: $40-50,000, plus benefits

Emmett/Frankel Fellowship in Environmental Law and Policy
UCLA School of Law
405 Hilgard Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90095
(310) 794-5272
Description: The Fellow will further the work of the Frankel Program by pursuing research on issues relating to environmental law and policy and generating policy-oriented written work to be published through the Frankel Program as well as in other venues. The Fellow will also assist the Center's Executive Director with other projects and will co-teach the Frank G. Wells Environmental Law Clinic each of the four semesters of the Fellowship in conjunction with a faculty member.

Areas of Specialization: Environment, Research, Teaching
Types of Advocacy: Policy, Research, Law teaching and Writing
Special Qualifications: Candidate must possess a J.D. earned within the past several years or expected at the end of the spring before the Fellowship begins. Requires a strong academic record, excellent analytical and writing skills and demonstrated interest in environmental law and policy. Previous experience in law practice or clinical instruction is preferred.

Number of Fellows: 1
Term: 2 years, beginning August
Stipend: Approximately $45,000/year plus benefits.

Equal Justice Works Fellowships
1730 M St, NW, Ste 1010
Washington, DC 20036-4511
(202) 466-3686
fellows@equaljusticeworks.org
http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/

Description: Fellows design unique projects that serve and address a range of legal issues including domestic violence, homelessness, community economic development, immigration, civil rights, juvenile justice, employment rights, health care, consumer fraud, and environmental justice. Equal Justice Works then matches the fellow with sponsors to support their projects.

Areas of Specialization: Public Interest
Special Qualifications: 3L or recent graduate, must have a full-time position with host organization before applying for fellowship
Types of Advocacy: Administrative, Grassroots/Organizing, Individual Litigation, Impact Litigation, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Public Education
Number of Fellows: Approximately 140-150
Term: 2 years
Stipend: $41,000+ /year

Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment Research Fellowship
University of Colorado Law School
Brad Udall
Director
Campus Box 401
Boulder, CO 80309-0401
(303) 492-1286
Description: The Fellow will spend one or two semesters in residence at the University of Colorado School of Law working on one or more research projects on oil and gas, minerals, energy, public lands, water resources or other areas of natural resource law and policy. The emphasis is on legal research, but applicants from law-related disciplines, such as economics, engineering and the natural and social sciences, as well as lawyers, are invited to apply.

Areas of Specialization: Environment

Types of Advocacy: Administrative, Policy, Research

Number of Fellows: 1

Term: Contact organization

Stipend: Contact organization

Graduate Fellowship Program, Property and Environment Research Center (PERC)
Professor Daniel K. Benjamin
Fellowship Director
2048 Analysis Dr, Ste A
Bozeman, MT 59718-6827
(406) 587-9591
Fax: (406) 586-7555
perc@perc.org
www.perc.org/education/fellowships.php

Description: Research Fellows possess an interest in natural resources and environmental issues. Fellows spend three months researching and writing papers under the supervision of the PERC Associates.

Areas of Specialization: Environment

Types of Advocacy: Policy, Research

Special Qualifications: Graduate and law students invited to apply. Applicants must show potential for research and writing on natural resources or the environment and preferably working on a research paper, thesis, or dissertation. Fellows are required to complete a paper of publishable quality.

Number of Fellows: 4

Stipend: $1,800/month plus travel

Institute for Public Representation (IPR) Teaching Fellowship
Georgetown University Law Center
Hope Babcock
Environmental Law Project Director
600 New Jersey Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 662-9535
Fax: (202) 662-9634
gulcipr@law.georgetown.edu
http://www.law.georgetown.edu/academics/academic-programs/clinical-programs/our-clinics/IPR/ipr-fellowships.cfm
Description: Fellows assist in the day-to-day supervision of J.D. students and spend much of their time guiding students in conducting legal and factual research, providing critiques of student drafts and preparing students for oral presentations. The Fellows also engage in oral and written advocacy, take an active role in project development and help teach weekly seminars. Fellows generally work in one of three practice areas: communication law and policy, environmental and natural resources law and civil rights law. Fellows are enrolled in LL.M. program.

Areas of Specialization: Environment

Types of Advocacy: Administrative, Impact Litigation, Individual Litigation, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Teaching

Special Qualifications: Must be a member of the D.C. Bar or take steps to apply for it.

Number of Fellows: 1 leads Environmental Project

Term: 2 years

Stipend: $44,275/year

Charles Koob Environmental Litigation Fellowship, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Washington, D.C. or San Francisco, CA office

Brad Wells
Fellowship Coordinator
40 West 20th St
New York, NY 10011
(212) 727-4406
Fax: (212) 727-1773
nyfellows@nrdc.org

www.nrdc.org

Description: The Fellow will work on all phases of litigation as a member of the 12-person NRDC litigation team, from case development through trial and appeals. The Fellow may also engage in some administrative advocacy and policy and legislative analysis. He or she will work on primarily federal court litigation to address a variety of significant environmental problems, which may range from air and water pollution, to threats to fisheries, forests, and other natural resources, to global warming, to environmental injustices.

Areas of Specialization: Environment

Types of Advocacy: Impact Litigation, Individual Litigation, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy

Special Qualifications: The successful candidate will have graduated from law school within the past three years. Exceptional legal writing and analytical skills are required. Relevant litigation experience, such as a federal court clerkship, is a plus, as is a demonstrated commitment to public service or public-interest lawyering.

Number of Fellows: 1

Term: 2 years

Stipend: Contact organization

Joe Melpione Waterkeeper Law Fellowship, Los Angeles Waterkeeper

Liz Crossen
Hiring Contact
120 Broadway, Ste 105
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Description: Law fellows have the opportunity to assist with oversight of past settlement agreements and judgments to ensure full compliance with the law, help develop and pursue new cases, and to advocate in the regulatory and legislative arenas for policies that will enhance protection of our waters.
Areas of Specialization: Water law
Types of Advocacy: Impact Litigation, Individual Litigation, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Advocacy
Special Qualifications: Law degree from an accredited law school, familiarity with federal and state environmental laws including the Federal Clean Water Act, State of California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the California Public Records Act, Member of the California State Bar preferred.
Number of Fellows: 1
Term: Contact organization
Stipend: Contact organization

**Ralph Menapace Fellowship in Urban Land Use Law**
The Municipal Art Society of New York
Vanessa Gruen
Director of Special Projects
457 Madison Ave
New York, NY 10022
(212) 935-3960
Fax: (212) 753-1816
vgruen@mas.org
www.mas.org
Description: The Municipal Art Society is devoted to improving the physical environment of New York City. Fellows will acquire first hand experience in legislation, litigation and practice before New York’s regulatory bodies. Practice areas include urban land use and zoning law, historic preservation law and environmental law.
Areas of Specialization: Environment, Government, Land Use, Preservation
Types of Advocacy: Impact Litigation, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy
Number of Fellows: 1
Term: 2 years, beginning in September 2008
Stipend: $60,000/year

**Natural Resource Governance Law Fellowship**
Rachel E. Macauley
JSI Research & Training Institute and the Government of the Republic of Liberia
Monrovia, Republic of Liberia
Rachel_macauley@jsi.com
http://www.emansion.gov.lr/
Description: Working under the direct supervision of the Legal Advisor to the President of Liberia, the fellow will take a leading role analyzing issues, contracts, and laws that pertain to
the governance of natural resources in Liberia. The fellow will assist in the negotiating and monitoring of foreign investment agreements and help craft policies to manage Liberia's resource rents. One of your roles will be to help draft and review legislation.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Natural Resources, Energy

**Types of Advocacy:** Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Administration

**Special Qualifications:** A law degree, admitted to the bar in a common law jurisdiction, and ideally four years’ experience in natural resource laws. Experience in petroleum or mining law is an advantage. Prior experience in working in developing countries is highly desirable. Familiarity with the history, culture and political-economic environment of Liberia. Complete confidence with, or at least comprehensive fluency in, quantitative methods and statistical analysis. Expertise in economics, agriculture, trade policy and commercial law are especially desirable.

**Number of Fellows:** 1

**Term:** 1 year

**Stipend:** $35,000 with a $500 monthly housing allowance and $500 monthly transportation allowance

**Oceana Volunteer Law Fellowship**
1350 Connecticut Ave NW, 5th Fl
Washington, DC, 20036
(202) 833-3900
resumes@oceana.org
http://www.oceana.org

**Description:** The legal fellow will be part of a legal team that brings strategic federal litigation to advance marine conservation goals (mainly under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act) and supports Oceana’s policy and legislative initiatives. Oceana’s current campaigns focus on encouraging responsible fisheries, including conservation of sharks and sea turtles; combating seafood fraud; and advocating clean offshore energy while fighting the expansion of offshore oil and gas drilling.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment

**Types of Advocacy:** Administrative, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Impact Litigation, Public Education

**Number of Fellows:** 1

**Term:** 1 year, beginning fall

**Stipend:** None

**Policy Fellowship in Environmental Implications of Nanotechnology**
University of California Center for Environmental Implications of Nanotechnology
David Avery
Chief Administrative Officer
3424 Bren Hall
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
(805)893-1822
avery@ucla.edu
http://www.cein.ucsb.edu/
**Description**: The fellowship is an opportunity to undertake high-caliber research that advances policy frameworks for nano-materials. Working initially as a junior researcher with leading scholars at UCLA, the goal is for the fellow to become a nationally renowned scholar in this emerging field. The fellow would be expected to co-author publications, and help to shape the intellectual content of convenings with regulators, industry and the non-profit community and pursue research funding opportunities. Intellectually, the fellow would be expected to be able to creatively assist in reformulating policies in light of emerging science and industry practices. Such policy reforms may involve policy adaptations (incremental changes to existing statutes and procedures) as well as more transformational visions of regulations and treaties.

**Areas of Specialization**: Environment, Technology

**Types of Advocacy**: Research, Policy

**Special Qualifications**: Candidate must hold a doctoral degree in policy, political science or related fields, or a law degree.

**Number of Fellows**: 1

**Term**: 1 year

**Stipend**: $55,000 to $70,000/year

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**Postdoctoral Fellowship in Sustainable Development, Earth Institute, Columbia University**

John C. Mutter
Director
405 Low Library, MC 4335
535 West 116th St
New York, NY, 10027
fellows@ei.columbia.edu
http://earth.columbia.edu

**Description**: The Earth Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship program provides scholars with the opportunity to acquire the cross-disciplinary expertise and breadth needed to address critical issues in the field of sustainable development such as food security, energy systems, climate change impacts, poverty reduction, disease, and environmental degradation.

**Areas of Specialization**: Environment

**Types of Advocacy**: Policy, Research

**Special Qualifications**: Postdoctoral candidate or recent Ph.D., M.D. and J.D. recipients interested in a broad range of issues in sustainable development. All doctoral requirements must be fulfilled and the degree awarded before the start of the fellowship.

**Number of Fellows**: 2

**Term**: 2 years

**Stipend**: $48,000/year, plus a $12,000 research stipend

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**Public Interest Environmental Attorney Fellowship, Environmental Law and Policy Center**

Howard A. Learner
Executive Director
35 East Wacker Dr, Ste 1300
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 673-6500
Fax: (312) 795-3730
hlearner@elpc.org

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www.elpc.org
**Description:** The fellow will work with ELPC's Executive Director and Senior Attorneys on litigation and policy initiatives for ELPC's Clean Energy and Global Warming Solutions Projects, Transportation and Land Use Reform Project, and Wild and Natural Places Preservation Project activities. He/she will also assist on special projects and participate as a member of multidisciplinary project teams of policy advocates, communications specialists and organizers.

**Areas of Specialization:** Civil Rights, Environment, Consumer
**Types of Advocacy:** Administrative, Impact Litigation, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy.

**Number of Fellows:** 1
**Term:** 1-2 years
**Stipend:** $50,000/year

**Public Interest Environmental Law Fellowship, Environmental Law Institute**
Bruce Meyers
Senior Attorney
2000 L St, NW, Ste 620
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 939-3800
Fax: (202) 939-3868
lawfellowship@eli.org
[http://www.eli.org/about/employment/law_fellowship.cfm](http://www.eli.org/about/employment/law_fellowship.cfm)

**Description:** The Fellow will join the Environmental Law Institute's Research and Policy staff. ELI programs focus on environmental laws and policies at the local, state, federal and international levels. In addition, programs address other areas of law and policy that affect the environment, including tax, energy and land use. Staff works with partner organizations both domestically and abroad to develop and implement innovative, effective approaches to a broad array of environmental problems facing society today.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment
**Types of Advocacy:** Policy, Public Education
**Special Qualifications:** Applicants should be recent law school graduates with superior research and writing skills and a top academic record. Law review experience is desirable.

**Number of Fellows:** 1-2
**Term:** 1 year
**Stipend:** Approximately $35,000/year

**Public Service Venture Fund Fellowship, Harvard Law School**
Alexa Shabecoff,
Associate Dean for Public Service
Bernard Koteen Office of Public Interest Advising
Wasserstein Hall, Ste 4039
1585 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-3108
opia@law.harvard.edu
**Description:** The Public Service Venture Fund awards $1 million in grants every year to Harvard Law graduates pursuing careers in public service. The fund offers "seed money" for startup nonprofit ventures to students and alumni and salary support to graduating J.D. students and judicial law clerks for postgraduate work at nonprofit or government agencies in the United States and abroad.

**Areas of Specialization:** Public Interest

**Types of Advocacy:** Administrative, Grassroots/Organizing, Individual Litigation, Impact Litigation, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Public Education

**Number of Fellows:** Approximately 15

**Term:** 1 year

**Stipend:** $45,000/year

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**Resnick Program for Food Law and Policy Teaching Fellowship, UCLA School of Law**

Edna Sasis
Office of the Dean
405 Hilgard Ave, Box 951476
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1476
sasis@law.ucla.edu

[http://www.law.ucla.edu/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.law.ucla.edu/Pages/default.aspx)

**Description:** The fellowship involves law teaching, legal and policy research and writing, preparing to go on the law teaching market, and assisting with organizing projects such as conferences and workshops.

**Areas of Specialization:** Food law

**Types of Advocacy:** Teaching, Research, Policy, Administrative

**Special Qualifications:** Fellowship candidates must hold a J.D. degree from an ABA-accredited law school and be committed to a career of law teaching and scholarship in the field of food law and policy. Applicants should have demonstrated an outstanding aptitude for independent legal research, preferably through research and/or writing as a law student or through exceptional legal experience after law school. Law Teaching Fellowship candidates must have strong academic records that will make them highly competitive for law teaching jobs.

**Number of Fellows:** 1

**Term:** 1 year

**Stipend:** $59,000/year

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**Frederick A.O. Schwarz Public Policy Fellowship, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)**

Michelle Wu
Fellowship Coordinator
40 West 20th St
New York, NY 10011
(212) 727-4406
Fax: (212) 727-1773
mwu@nrdc.org

[www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org)
**Description:** Fellows work in an office of the NRDC and will focus on one of NRDC’s eight program areas, depending on the need of the organization, with extensive opportunities to learn about other program areas.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Consumer, Health

**Types of Advocacy:** Administrative, Grassroots/Organizing, Impact Litigation, Policy, Public Education

**Special Qualifications:** Successful candidate will be a lawyer with up to two years of legal experience. Exceptional legal writing and analytical skills are required. Relevant experience in litigation, such as a federal court clerkship preferred.

**Number of Fellows:** 1

**Term:** 2 years, beginning September of every other year

**Stipend:** Based on a nonprofit scale and commensurate with experience

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**Shaw Graduate Fellowship, George Washington University Law School**

Graduate Programs Coordinator
The George Washington University Law School
Stuart Hall, 2nd Floor
2000 H St NW
Washington, DC 20052
Phone: (202) 994-0715
grad@law.gwu.edu
www.law.gwu.edu

**Description:** While pursuing an LL.M. degree in environmental law, the Fellow will serve as research assistant to the director of the Environmental Law Program.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment

**Types of Advocacy:** Policy, Public Education, Research, Teaching

**Special Qualifications:** Applicant must be admitted into the Environmental Law LL.M. program at George Washington University.

**Number of Fellows:** 1

**Term:** 1 academic year

**Stipend:** None

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**Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger Fellowship**
Jeanne Freed
Human Resources Director
396 Hayes St
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 552-7272 ext. 222
Fax: (415) 552-5816
freed@smwlaw.com
www.smwlaw.com

**Description:** This firm specializes in environmental and land use law and represents environmental and community groups and governmental agencies. Fellows function as junior associates. Responsibilities include conducting research, writing briefs and appearing in court.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Housing, Land Use
Types of Advocacy: Administrative, Grassroots/Organizing, Individual Litigation, Policy, Public Education

Special Qualifications: Excellent writing skills required. Environmental land use experience and interest preferred.

Number of Fellows: 3

Term: 1-2 years

Stipend: $5,100/month

Skadden Fellowship
Susan Butler Plum
Director of the Skadden Foundation
(212)-735-2956
susan.plum@skadden.com
www.skaddenfellowships.org

Description: The Skadden Foundation allows Fellows to create their own projects at public interest organizations with at least two lawyers on staff. The aim of the foundation is to give Fellows the freedom to pursue public interest work; providing legal services to the poor, the elderly, the homeless and the disabled, as well as those deprived of their civil or human rights.

Areas of Specialization: Public Interest

Types of Advocacy: Administrative, Grassroots/Organizing, Individual Litigation, Policy, Public Education

Special Qualifications: 3L or recent graduate, must have a full-time position with host organization before applying for fellowship

Number of Fellows: Approximately 29

Term: 2 years

Louis B. Sohn Fellowship in Human Rights and Environment, Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
Intern Coordinator
1367 Connecticut Ave, NW, Ste 300
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 785-8700
Fax: (202) 785-8701
info@ciel.org
http://www.ciel.org/Education_Training/Fellowships_Sohn_INFORMATION.html

Description: Fellow will work at CIEL in their Human Rights and Environment Program. The Fellow will seek to identify and develop connections between human rights and environmental protection, integrate the theoretical and advocacy approaches of the two movements and provide a more just, equitable and sustainable approach to natural resource management.

Areas of Specialization: Environment, Human Rights, International

Types of Advocacy: Impact Litigation, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Public Education

Number of Fellows: 1

Term: 1 year

Stipend: Contact organization

Southern Environmental Law Center Associate Attorney Program
Charlottesville, VA; Chapel Hill, NC; and Atlanta, GA offices
For Charlottesville, contact:
Amy Day
Administrative Assistant
201 W Main St, Ste #14
Charlottesville, VA 22902
VAjobs@selcva.org
(434) 977-4090
For Chapel Hill, contact:
Brenda Kenion
Assistant to Office Director
601 W Rosemary St, Ste 220
Chapel Hill, NC 27516-2356
NCjobs@selcnc.org
(919) 967-1450
For Atlanta, contact:
Katherine Perry
Regional Administrator
The Candler Building
127 Peachtree St, Ste 605
Atlanta, GA 30303-1840
GAjobs@selcga.org
(404) 521-9900

http://www.ncconservationnetwork.org/jobs/associate-attorneys

Description: The Associate Attorney will work in Congress and state legislatures to inform environmental law; in regulatory agencies to implement environmental laws and policies; and in the courts to ensure the protection of resources in the south.

Areas of Specialization: Environment, Natural Resources, Southeastern states

Types of Advocacy: Policy, Individual Litigation, Impact Litigation, Grassroots/Organizing, Administrative, Legislative/Lobbying

Special Qualifications: A strong academic background and commitment to SELC’s mission are required. Litigation experience or background in environmental law preferred.

Number of Fellows: 3

Term: 2 years

Stipend: $56,000-$60,000/year depending on experience

Switzer New England/California Fellowship Program
Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation in Boston, MA and San Francisco CA
Erin Lloyd
Program Coordinator
P.O. Box 293
Belfast, ME 4915
(207) 338-5654
Fax: (207) 338-5655
erin@switzernetwork.org
www.switzernetwork.org
**Description:** Fellowships are available for highly talented graduate students in New England and California whose studies are directed toward improving the quality of our natural environment. In the past, awards have been made to students pursuing policy studies, economics, engineering and law as well as those pursuing the more traditional sciences: biology, chemistry and physics.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Research, New England/CA

**Types of Advocacy:** Policy, Research, Teaching

**Special Qualifications:** Candidate must be nominated by institution.

**Number of Fellows:** 10 in New England and 10 in California

**Term:** 1 year

**Stipend:** $15,000

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**GOVERNMENT HONORS PROGRAMS**

**CALIFORNIA**

**California Attorney General’s Honors Program**
Jonathan Bertran-Harris  
Associate Governmental Program Analyst  
300 S Spring St  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
(415) 703-5851  
aghonorsapps@doj.ca.gov  
[http://oag.ca.gov/careers/honors/introduction](http://oag.ca.gov/careers/honors/introduction)

**Description:** The Attorney General’s Office employs attorneys in a wide variety of legal subject areas including but not limited to consumer, antitrust, environment, business and tax, criminal and civil rights. Honors attorneys will have the opportunity to work with these experts, including working on matters of public interest and importance.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment

**Types of Advocacy:** Litigation

**Special Qualifications:** 3L or judicial clerk with an excellent academic record at an accredited law school. Journal, moot court or mock trial experience is also required. Applicants must be California Bar members, or plan to take the July 2013 bar exam.

**Number of Fellows:** 6

**Term:** 2 years

**Stipend:** $4,674/month

**Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 Honors Attorney Fellowship**
Office of Regional Counsel, Region 9  
John Lyons  
Fellowship Coordinator (ORC-3)  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415)-972-3889  
lyons.john@epa.gov  
[http://www.epa.gov/region09/orc/positions.html](http://www.epa.gov/region09/orc/positions.html)
**Description:** Attorneys are responsible for preparing administrative, judicial and criminal cases against violators of environmental laws. These cases involve developing and using technical and legal strategies for negotiation and litigation purposes. The primary statutes enforced by the EPA are the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Toxic Substances Control Act, Resource Conservation and RecOvery Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (Superfund) and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act. For cases brought in federal court, attorneys work with the Department of Justice, but solely represent the Agency in administrative proceedings.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment

**Types of Advocacy:** Administrative, Policy, Litigation

**Special Qualifications:** Fellows must be bar members, or have membership pending or awaiting bar exam results prior to starting work in the position.

**Number of Fellows:** 2

**Term:** 2 years

**Stipend:** Starting at $62,758 (GS-11)

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**COLORADO**

**Colorado Attorney General Suthers’ Fellowship Program**

Ralph L. Carr Colorado Judicial Center
1300 Broadway, 10th Fl
Denver CO 80203
(702)508-6000
fellowship.program@state.co.us

**Description:** New attorneys will be assigned to work in seven sections, including the Natural Resources and Environment section. In addition to exposure to state agencies, Fellows may become integral members of trial teams. They also receive training and supervision in each practice area.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Natural Resources

**Types of Advocacy:** Litigation

**Special Qualifications:** Current law school student or judicial clerk with excellent academic credentials.

**Term:** 1 year

**Stipend:** $40,000/year

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**ILLINOIS**

**Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 Honors Attorney Fellowship**

Office of Regional Counsel, Region 5
Ignacio Arrazola
Fellowship Coordinator
77 W Jackson Bvd
Chicago, IL 60604
Description: The fellowship provides an opportunity for entry-level attorneys to practice law in a leading government environmental organization, and to receive extensive training in and exposure to environmental law and policy work in the public sector. Region 5 offers Honors Attorneys significant responsibility, the opportunity to handle a varied caseload that includes enforcement and counseling work, and extensive training and mentoring from dedicated colleagues with recognized expertise.

Areas of Specialization: Environment
Types of Advocacy: Administrative, Policy, Litigation
Special Qualifications: Current law school student or judicial clerk with excellent academic credentials.
Number of Fellows: 1
Term: 2 years
Stipend: Starting at $62,758 (GS-11)

MARYLAND

Maryland Attorney General's Honors Program
Lisa White
Hiring Coordinator
200 St Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 576-6312
lwhite@oag.state.md.us
http://www.oag.state.md.us/honors.htm

Description: As a general rule, the Maryland Attorney General's Office hires experienced attorneys who have practiced law for at least five years. The Honors Program offers younger lawyers an opportunity to begin their legal careers in our office, in positions of substantial responsibility.

Areas of Specialization: Environment
Types of Advocacy: Litigation, Administrative
Special Qualifications: Current law school student or judicial clerk with excellent academic credentials.
Number of Fellows: 1 or 2
Term: 2 years
Stipend: Contact organization

Career Development Fellowship Program
Chesapeake Research Consortium
Melissa Fagan
Program Coordinator
645 Contees Wharf Rd
Edgewater, MD 21037
(410) 798-1283
faganm@si.edu

Environmental Trail Guide 2013
http://www.chesapeake.org/fellowship.php

**Description:** Fellows provide administrative support for EPA Chesapeake Bay Program subcommittees, workgroups, task forces and other entities to assist CDP progress in open discussion and policy formulation across a suite of constituents, from federal agency staff through to state and local government officials, academic scientists, non-governmental organizations and citizens' groups. The Fellowship offers the opportunity to observe the evolution of policy decisions on managing the Bay as well as providing professional growth opportunities.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment  
**Types of Advocacy:** Policy, Public Education

**Special Qualifications:** CRC Fellowships are open to individuals with a variety of educational and professional experience. Priority is given to candidates with degrees in natural sciences or environmental policy and planning. Strong writing, communication and general computer skills are desirable. Some assignments may require more specialized education and experience, such as computer and statistical skills or agricultural education experience.

**Number of Fellows:** 11  
**Term:** Up to 3 years  
**Stipend:** $30,000 over term of Fellowship plus benefits.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 Honors Attorney Fellowship**
Office of Regional Counsel Region 1  
Sally Burt (ORA18-1)  
Hiring Contact  
US EPA, Region 1  
5 Post Office Sq, Ste 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
(617) 918-1090  
region1.fellowship@epa.gov  
[http://www.epa.gov/region1/attorney/](http://www.epa.gov/region1/attorney/)

**Description:** The Fellowship provides the recipient with the opportunity to work with EPA attorneys on policy, regulatory and enforcement matters arising under the major federal environmental statutes (such as the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, Superfund) and other federal statutes relevant to EPA-New England operations (such as Ethics in Government Act, the Civil Rights Act and the Freedom of Information Act), while rotating through various representative practice areas.

**Areas of Specialization:** Civil Rights, Consumer, Environment  
**Types of Advocacy:** Administrative, Policy

**Special Qualifications:** Seeking outstanding graduates of accredited law schools who have demonstrated interest in environmental legal work in the public sector.

**Number of Fellows:** 1  
**Term:** 2 years  
**Stipend:** Starting at $62,758 (GS-11)

**Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office Fellowship**
The Attorney General’s Office serves the public through its five bureaus: Executive, Business and Labor, Criminal, Government, and Public Protection and Advocacy. Selected fellows will complete three bureau rotations over the course of the fellowship and will be assigned to a particular division within each bureau.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment

**Types of Advocacy:** Litigation

**Special Qualifications:** 3L or graduating judicial clerk with no experience as a practicing attorney. Must take Massachusetts bar exam by July before the beginning of the fellowship.

**Term:** 2 years

**Stipend:** $50,000/year

**OREGON**

**Oregon Attorney General’s Honors Program**

1162 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301
(503) 378-4400
recruitment@doj.state.or.us
http://www.doj.state.or.us/career/pages/index.aspx

**Description:** Honors Attorneys typically rotate from one division to another, including environmental law, enabling them to obtain a breadth of experience in diverse areas of the law and with colleagues from different divisions in the office.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment

**Types of Advocacy:** Litigation, Administrative

**Special Qualifications:** Applicants must be admitted to the Bar of the State of Oregon and be eligible to practice law before the courts of the State of Oregon at the time of appointment. Applicants should possess a superior record of academic and/or other achievement and an interest in public service.

**Number of Fellows:** Contact organization

**Term:** 2 years

**Stipend:** $5,288/month

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**Michael F. Vaccaro Honors Attorney Fellowship, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3**

Donzetta Workman Thomas
Senior Assistant Regional Counsel
1650 Arch St
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Description: This two-year Fellowship provides extensive training in and exposure to environmental law and policy work in the public sector. The Fellow will work in the Office of Regional Counsel on particular matters arising under the major federal environmental statutes and other federal statutes relevant to EPA Region III operations.

Areas of Specialization: Environment

Types of Advocacy: Impact Litigation, Policy, Research

Special Qualifications: Applicants should be 3Ls or judicial clerks.

Number of Fellows: 1

Term: 2 years

Stipend: GS-11 (at least $48,000)

WASHINGTON

Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 Honors Attorney Fellowship
Office of Regional Counsel Region 10
Meg Silver
Acting Regional Counsel
1200 6th Ave, Ste 900
Seattle, WA 98101
R10fellowships@epa.gov
http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/omp.nsf/webpage/job+opportunities

Description: The Office of Regional Counsel is responsible for preparing administrative, judicial, and criminal cases against violators of environmental laws. These cases require the development and use of technical and legal strategies for negotiation and litigation. The primary statutes enforced by EPA are the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Toxic Substances Control Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund), and Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

Areas of Specialization: Environment

Types of Advocacy: Litigation, Administrative

Special Qualifications: Applicants should be 3Ls or judicial clerks.

Number of Fellows: 1

Term: 2 years

Stipend: GS-11 ($62,467)

Washington Attorney General’s Office Preferred Pool Status
Linda Nakamura
Attorney and Law Clerk Recruitment Administrator
800 5th Ave, Ste 2000
Seattle, WA 98104
(202) 464-6446
Fax: (206)-389-2058
Description: Since the Washington AG is not able to extend firm offers in the fall; it invites third-year law students and judicial clerks of appellate courts to apply for “preferred pool status” within the attorney hiring pool. This means that between August and November, divisions with approval to fill vacancies consistent with the interests and experience of those who have preferred status, must consider these particular candidates before they will be allowed to consider candidates from the larger pool. The files of preferred pool candidates not placed by November 1 will revert to the larger hiring pool.

Areas of Specialization: Environment
Types of Advocacy: Individual Litigation
Number of Candidates: 8-10
Term: Permanent hiring, if preferred pool status candidate is chosen for a position

WASHINGTON, DC METRO AREA

Eisenhower Legal Intern Fellowship
U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration
Henry C. Murdaugh
Program Manager
National Highway Institute, HNHI-20
Federal Highway Administration
4600 N Fairfax Dr, Ste 800
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 235-0538
Fax: (703) 235-0593
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpp/ddetfp.htm

Description: Fellows receive assignments on an array of legal issues that will provide candidates with an understanding of the relationship between the federal, state and local governments and between FHWA and other federal agencies. Assignments may include work on matters such as: environmental policy and legal challenges; development of critical highway and construction policies; development of legislative proposals and federal regulations, support of the DOT Intelligent Transportation System; internal agency issues such as personnel matters, FOIA requests and ethics matters; and FHWA program issues relating to the distribution and reimbursement of Federal-aid highway funds, torts, litigation and contracts.

Areas of Specialization: Environment, Transportation
Types of Advocacy: Legislative/Lobbying, Policy
Special Qualifications: Applicants must be pursuing a law degree in an accredited U.S. college or university, must be a 2L or 3L or enrolled in a program leading to a LL.M., S.J.D. or equivalent degree and should be planning to enter the transportation profession after completing their education.
Number of Fellows: 1
Term: 1 year
Stipend: J.D.: $1,700/month, LL.M.: $2,000/month
Environmental Protection Agency Office of the General Counsel Honors Fellowship
Manuel Gonzalez
Recruitment Coordinator
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C., 20460
(202)364-3222
http://www.epa.gov/
Description: The Fellowship offers an opportunity for entry-level law students or clerks to join an office that provides legal counsel to EPA policymakers, thus providing critical input to rules, regulations, and guidance documents that are promulgated and issued to implement the Agency’s statutory obligations.
Areas of Specialization: Environment
Types of Advocacy: Litigation, Administrative
Special Qualifications: Law student at accredited law school graduating by May 2013 or current judicial clerks recently graduated from accredited law school
Number of Fellows: 2
Term: 2 years
Stipend: GS-11 ($62,467) or GS-12 ($74,872), depending on level of experience

Food and Drug Administration Entry-Level Attorney
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Food and Drug Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel
White Oak 32, Rm 4532
Silver Spring, MD 20993
ococca@app@fda.hhs.gov
http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/WorkingatFDA/CareerDescriptions/ucm112708.htm
Description: Attorneys in the Office of Chief Counsel advise the FDA on legal matters and represent the agency in court proceedings and in administrative hearings. They participate in both civil and criminal cases; draft pleadings, motions and briefs; and participate in discovery and trials. Lawyers also serve as counselors to the major programs of the agency: drugs, foods, biologics, devices, veterinary products, tobacco products, and enforcement.
Areas of Specialization: Environment, Food, Drugs
Types of Advocacy: Litigation, Administrative
Special Qualifications: Law student at accredited law school graduating by May 2013 or current judicial clerks recently graduated from accredited law school
Stipend: GS-12 ($74,872) to GS-14 ($136, 771), depending on level of experience

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Honors Law Graduate Program
1 White Flint N
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738
HonorLaw@NRC.gov
http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/employment/honor-law.html
Description: The fellow will participate in administrative litigation involving nuclear power plants, reviewing environmental impact statements with technical staff, draft proposed
regulations for new or revised safety standards, assist in the review and litigation of personnel actions, equal employment opportunity cases, and Government contract matters, and work with the Solicitor in researching and preparing briefs for submission to the Federal courts of appeals.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Energy

**Types of Advocacy:** Litigation, Administrative

**Special Qualifications:** Applicants must be in the upper third (33%) of your law school class and have a demonstrated interest in public service.

**Number of Fellows:** Contact organization

**Term:** 2 years

**Stipend:** GS-11 ($62,467) or GS-12 ($74,872), depending on level of experience

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**US Department of Energy Honors Program**

Office of the General Counsel

1000 Independence Ave

Washington, D.C. SW 20585

(301) 903-2500

http://energy.gov/gc/honors-attorney-program

**Description:** DOE Honors Attorneys are assigned to individual Assistant General Counsel (AGC) offices for rotations of 4-6 months. AGC offices offer a wide variety of legal practice areas including environmental law, legislation and regulation, litigation and enforcement, international law, procurement, intellectual property and others.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Energy

**Types of Advocacy:** Administrative, Litigation

**Number of Fellows:** Contact organization

**Term:** 2 years

**Stipend:** GS-11 ($62,467) or GS-12 ($74,872), depending on level of experience

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**US Department of the Interior Office of the Solicitor Honors Program**

Leslie Broom and Lori Jarman

Human Resources Associates

1849 C St, NW, Rm 6352

Washington, D.C. 20240

(202) 208-0273

honors@sol.gov

http://www.doi.gov/solicitor/honors_attorney.html

**Description:** The Nation’s principal natural resources conservation and management agency, the Office of the Solicitor includes 100 attorneys in Washington, D.C. and 150 in twenty field and regional offices across the country. During their first year Honors Program Attorneys spend several weeks working in each of the major subject matter areas in Washington: the Division of Conservation and Wildlife Energy and Resources, General Law, Indian Affairs and Surface Mining. At the end of that year, each attorney is permanently assigned to one of these divisions or to one of the regional or field offices.

**Areas of Specialization:** Environment, Consumer, Government

**Types of Advocacy:** Administrative, Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Impact Litigation, Public Education
Number of Fellows: 5-8
Term: 1 year, followed by a permanent position
Stipend: GS-11 ($62,467) or GS-12 ($74,872), depending on level of experience

US Department of Justice Attorney General Honor’s Program
Louis DeFalaise
Director of the Office of Attorney Recruitment and Management
950 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, D.C. 20530
(202) 616-0646
Description: Entry-level attorneys at DOJ are hired through the Attorney General’s Honors Program. Attorneys are hired by specific DOJ Components, including the Environment and Natural Resources Division.
Areas of Specialization: Environment, Natural Resources
Types of Advocacy: Individual Litigation, Impact Litigation
Number of Fellows: 8 hired by the Environment and Natural Resources Division
Term: 2 years
Stipend: GS-11 ($62,467) or GS-12 ($74,872), depending on level of experience

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Presidential Management Fellows Program
Office of Personnel Management
1900 E St NW
Washington, DC 20415-1000
pmf@opm.gov
https://www.pmf.opm.gov
Description: The PMF Program attracts outstanding graduate, law, and doctoral-level students to the Federal service. The program places students in public policy and management positions. Typical placements for law students include policy analyst, budget analyst, tax law specialist, and other non-attorney positions. Emphasis is placed on challenging career opportunities and development, and employers offer seminars, briefings, conferences, and on-the-job training.
Areas of Specialization: Environment, Energy
Types of Advocacy: Legislative/Lobbying, Policy, Administrative
Special Qualifications: Applicants must by nominated by their school. Candidates must complete their graduate degree before the beginning of program. Program criteria include breadth and quality of accomplishments, capacity for leadership, and commitment to excellence in leadership and management of public policies and programs.
Number of Fellows: 700+
Term: 2 years
Stipend: GS-9 ($51, 630), GS-11 ($62,467) or GS-12 ($74,872), depending on level of experience
Description: Attorneys in the Honors Program can choose to specialize in Environmental Law or General Litigation. Environmental Honors Attorneys support USACE’s regulatory program, the environmental restoration program, and the water resources development program. Environmental attorneys deal with environmental and resource statutes to ensure full compliance with all applicable federal and state environmental requirements during the construction, operation, and maintenance of USACE’s network of civil and military public works. In General Litigation, Honors Attorneys enforce the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, wetlands preservation and Fifth Amendment takings, among other statutes.

Areas of Specialization: Environment, Energy

Types of Advocacy: Administrative, Individual Litigation, Policy

Special Qualifications: Applicants must be 3Ls in the top one-third of their law class. Demonstration of academic excellence such as law review, Order of the Coif, or competition in moot court is highly desirable. Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply. Each candidate must undergo a complete security investigation to receive a security clearance.

Number of Fellows: 12-15

Term: 2 years

Stipend: GS-11 ($62,467) or GS-12 ($74,872), depending on level of experience
To find job openings in environmental law, visit the following websites:

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES**

- **The HLS Environmental Law Program (ELP)** website’s job page lists internships, fellowships, and positions in environmental law.

- **EcoEmploy.com** lists environmental job openings at government agencies and nonprofits. You can search for positions by location, practice settings, and other criteria.

- **EnvironmentalCareer.com** lists environmental job openings in private and public interest settings. Search by location, field, area of substantive expertise, and other criteria. You can also post your resume for employers to view online.

- The **Environmental Career Opportunities** website allows you to search environmental job openings by type and location.

- **EnviroLink** offers a directory of environmental organizations by issue area.

- **Green Dream Jobs** lists employment opportunities at renewable and clean energy organizations. You can search by location, skill level, and job type.

- The **Land Trust Alliance** provides job listings at Land Trust and Conservancy organizations.

- **Cyber Sierra’s Natural Resources Job Search** lists jobs in conservation fields. It also provides a page with links to other environmental job search websites.

**GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST RESOURCES**

- The **Public Service Jobs Database (PSJD)**, hosted by the National Association for Law Placement (NALP), is the leading database for public interest job listings. Narrow your search to “Environmental” or “Real Estate/Land Use” practice area under “Advanced Search.”

- **OPIA’s Jobs Database** allows you to filter public interest jobs by position type, issue area, practice setting, and other criteria. Although our database is smaller than PSJD, we receive postings directly from employers and may post openings that are otherwise difficult to find.
• **The University of Arizona College of Law’s Government Law Program and Internship Handbook** (“Arizona Guide”) is a valuable resource for summer and postgraduate entry-level positions in federal, local, and state government. The Arizona Guide is frequently updated with the most recent application deadlines. Contact OPIA for a username and password to log on.

• **The University of Arizona College of Law’s Public Policy Handbook** lists policy internships in government and nonprofit settings. Contact OPIA for a username and password to log on.

• **USAjobs.gov** is the official job site for the U.S. government. It provides a database for federal job listings that is searchable by location, agency, job title, and other criteria. Keep in mind that Department of Justice positions are not usually listed here; visit the [DOJ Office of Attorney Recruitment and Management homepage](https://www.usdoj.gov/otr/) for information about Honors and lateral hiring.

• The **NALP Federal Legal Employment Guide** provides information about finding and landing a federal public service job, and includes an overview of Honors Programs, the security clearance process, and federal salaries. NALP also offers [State and Local Government Career Resources](https://www.nalp.org/careerresources), which includes links to many job sites for state and local agencies.

• The **Federal Yellow Book** and the **Federal Regional Yellow Book**, available through the Harvard Law School library’s website, contain invaluable contact information for staff at Federal departments and agencies.