

2013 NINTH CIRCUIT
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

836

[Vol. 44:835

2014]

837

2013 NINTH CIRCUIT ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Editor
ANDREW KING

JACOB DUGINSKI

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. Chico Scrap Metal, Inc.,
728 F.3d 868 (9th Cir. 2013)
Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. County of Los Angeles,
725 F.3d 1194 (9th Cir. 2013)
Anderson Brothers, Inc. v. St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Corp.,
729 F.3d 923 (9th Cir. 2013)
Conservation Congress v. U.S. Forest Service,
720 F.3d 1048 (9th Cir. 2013)
Rocky Mountain Farmers Union v. Corey, Part I
730 F.3d 1070 (9th Cir. 2013)
Shell Offshore, Inc. v. Greenpeace, Inc.,
709 F.3d 1281 (9th Cir. 2013)

KEVIN HAYES

Alaska Wilderness League v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
727 F.3d 934 (9th Cir. 2013)
Natural Resources Defense Council v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
735 F.3d 873 (9th Cir. 2013)
State of Alaska v. Lubchenco,
723 F.3d 1043 (9th Cir. 2013)
Western Watershed Project v. Abbey,
719 F.3d 1035 (9th Cir. 2013)
Rocky Mountain Farmers Union v. Corey, Part II
730 F.3d 1070 (9th Cir. 2013)
Firebaugh Canal Water District v. United States,
712 F.3d 1296 (9th Cir. 2013)

WHITNEY MAGNUSON

Washington Environmental Council v. Bellon,
732 F.3d 1131 (9th Cir. 2013)
Chubb Custom Insurance Co. v. Space Systems/Loral Inc.,
710 F.3d 946 (9th Cir. 2013)

John v. United States,
720 F.3d 1214 (9th Cir. 2013)
Honolulutraffic.com v. Federal Transit Administration,
742 F.3d 1222 (9th Cir. 2014)
*Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Indians v. Nevada Department
of Wildlife*,
724 F.3d 1181 (9th Cir. 2013)
Wildlife Fish Conservancy v. Jewell,
730 F.3d 791 (9th Cir. 2013)

COREY MOFFAT

Ecological Rights Foundation v. Pacific Gas & Electric Co.,
713 F.3d 502 (9th Cir. 2013)
*Institute of Cetacean Research v. Sea Shepherd Conservation
Society*,
725 F.3d 940 (9th Cir. 2013)
Montana Wilderness Ass'n v. Connell,
725 F.3d 988 (9th Cir. 2013)
Drakes Bay Oyster Co. v. Jewell,
747 F.3d 1073 (9th Cir. 2014)
*Northwest Resource Information Center, Inc. v. Northwest
Power and Conservation Council*,
730 F.3d 1008 (9th Cir. 2013)
*United States v. Board of Directors of Truckee-Carson
Irrigation District*,
723 F.3d 1029 (9th Cir. 2013)

JESSE NEILSON

Voggenthaler v. Maryland Square LLC,
724 F.3d 1050 (9th Cir. 2013)
Center for Food Safety v. Vilsack,
718 F.3d 829 (9th Cir. 2013)
Conservation Northwest v. Sherman,
715 F.3d 1181 (9th Cir. 2013)
Great Old Broads for Wilderness v. Kimbell,
709 F.3d 836 (9th Cir. 2013)
Native Village of Point Hope v. Jewell,
740 F.3d 489 (9th Cir. 2014)
Jones v. National Marine Fisheries Service,
741 F.3d 989 (9th Cir. 2013)

2014] 839

2013 NINTH CIRCUIT ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

NINTH CIRCUIT REVIEW EDITOR'S NOTE.....	841
CASE SUMMARIES	843
I Environmental Quality	843
A. Federal Water Pollution Control Act.....	843
B. Clean Air Act	850
C. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	854
D. Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.....	863
E. Plant Protection Act.....	866
II. Natural Resources	869
A. Endangered Species Act.....	869
B. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.....	873
C. Federal Land Policy and Management Act	876
D. National Forest Management Act.....	881
E. National Historic Preservation Act.....	884
F. Department of Interior Appropriations Act.....	888
G. Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act.....	892
H. Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.....	894
I. California Global Warming Solutions Act.....	899
III. Miscellaneous	904
A. National Environmental Policy Act.....	904
B. Department of Transportation Act.....	909
C. Water Rights and Water Management	911
D. Standing and Justiciability	917
CHAPTERS	923
<i>Marine Conservation Campaigners as Pirates:</i> <i>The Consequences of Sea Shepherd</i>	923
Whitney Magnuson	
<i>Establishing Causation in Private Party Climate</i> <i>Change Suits: Correcting the Mistakes of</i> Washington Environmental Council v. Bellon	959
Corey Moffat	
2013 NINTH CIRCUIT INDEX OF CASES AND STATUTES	983

840

[Vol. 44:835

2014]

841

NINTH CIRCUIT REVIEW EDITOR'S NOTE

It is my privilege to present the 2013 Ninth Circuit Environmental Review. This review contains twenty-nine summaries of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals's decisions on environmental and natural resources topics, issued between March 2013 and March 2014. The review also includes two chapters authored by Ninth Circuit Review members. Both chapters closely examine issues raised by two summarized opinions.

In the first chapter, Whitney Magnuson analyzes the nexus between piracy law and marine conservation efforts. She examines the Ninth Circuit's decision in *Institute of Cetacean Research v. Sea Shepherd Conservation Society* and questions whether environmental goals should be construed as "private ends" for purposes of convicting a defendant as a pirate. She ultimately concludes that they should not.

In the second chapter, Corey Moffat explores the jurisdictional doctrine of standing in the context of climate change. He addresses the Ninth Circuit's recent decision in *Washington Environmental Council v. Bellon* and argues that the court misconstrued the Supreme Court's preeminent climate change decision, *Massachusetts v. EPA*. As a result, he concludes that the Ninth Circuit incorrectly held that the plaintiffs were unable to establish the causation element of traditional standing analysis.

The Ninth Circuit Environmental Review consists of five *Environmental Law* members. Each member is responsible for writing and editing complex summaries in addition to regular source-checking duties. This year's members displayed outstanding attention to detail and zeal for writing and editing. Moving forward, the format and scope of these summaries may change. However, this journal remains fervently committed to chronicling how the Ninth Circuit addresses the dynamic and ever-important environmental and natural resource issues.

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2013–2014 NINTH CIRCUIT REVIEW EDITOR

842

[Vol. 44:835
