

2010 Environmental and Natural Resources Section Report

In 2010 the Environmental and Natural Resources Section continued its focus on educational services to its members. The Section produced a number of publications and educational seminars on a variety of environmental topics and switched to publishing all of its materials electronically. The Section also promoted collegiality through three social events held in the Portland metro area.

The Section hosted two major one day seminars. Its Annual Environmental and Natural Resources CLE: Environmental Law Year in Review was held in October at the McMenamins Edgefield in Troutdale. The section also hosted a seminar in November at Portland International Airport on Civil and Criminal Environmental Enforcement: From the Perspective of the US EPA and its Partners.

The Section also held five free educational Brownbag sessions on subjects as diverse as incorporating sustainability into cleanups, the State's sustainability efforts, invasive species control in Oregon, developments in geothermal energy and ethical compliance for environmental lawyers. We qualify our Brownbags for continuing legal education credit from the Bar.

In January, the Section published an edition of Outlook on The Public Trust Doctrine, Climate Change and Future Generations. The Section also produced eight issues of E-Outlook, an electronically delivered summary of a significant legal development, covering significant published cases in water resources law, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, and cleanup cost recovery insurance law. We also tracked environmental bills of interest in the 2010 Legislative Session and published summaries on the Section's internet page.

The Section also published four editions of Case Notes, a quarterly summary of significant legislation, regulations and case law developments.

We maintained an active internet site where we uploaded all available materials for the educational events and publications the Section promoted. Section publications and presentations are all available for viewing and downloading at <http://osbenviro.homestead.com>.

In 2011, the Section intends to continue to implement its mission of provide section members an opportunity to develop and improve skills in environmental and natural resource law, provide a forum for communication and action in matters of common interest, and foster professionalism through a broad variety of activities.