

2025 Environmental & Natural Resources Law: Year in Review

Thursday, October 16, 2025, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
PDT

McMenamins Edgefield, 2126 SW Halsey St,
Troutdale, OR 97060

And via Live Zoom

6 total MCLE credits (5 general, 1 ethics) (to be applied for)

8:30-8:35 AM Introductory Remarks

- Laura Kerr, Stoel Rives LLP, ENR Section Chair
- Sara Ghafouri, American Forest Resource Council, ENR Section Chair-Elect, CLE Chair

8:35-8:40 AM Transition (5 Minutes)

8:40-9:40 AM 2025 Oregon Legislative Session Recap

The panel will highlight major bills passed by the Oregon legislature in 2025, as well as other significant efforts that did not quite get to the finish line.

- Presented by: Maureen McGee, Of Counsel, Tonkon Torp LLP
- Speakers:
 - Oregon State Representative, Ken Helm
 - Cheyenne Holliday, Advocacy Manager, Verde

9:40-9:50 AM Transition (10 Minutes)

9:50-10:50 AM The Future of Wildfire Management on Federal Lands

The panel will discuss the future of wildfire management on federal lands, including the integration of Traditional Indigenous Knowledge and potential new legislation that would expedite the pace and scale of forest projects to address wildfires.

- Presented by: Mary Stites, Staff Attorney, Northwest Environmental Defense Center
- Speakers
 - Michael Karnosh, Ceded Lands Manager for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
 - Heath Heikkila, Government Affairs Director, American Forest Resource Council
 - Erin Hogan-Freemole, Staff Attorney, WildEarth Guardians

10:50-11:00 AM Break (10 Minutes)

Registration

Law Students <i>Use code SENRC25LS at checkout</i>	\$0
ONLD & ENR Section Members	\$90 in-person \$70 online
ENR Section Member	\$140 in-person \$120 online
New Lawyer (admitted after 1/1/2019)	\$165 in-person \$145 online
Regular Registration	\$225 in-person \$205 online

* If you are unable to attend due to financial reasons, please contact [Olivier Jamin](#) to see if an accommodation can be made.



[Click here to register for the in-person event](#)



[Click here to register for the online event](#)

Participants must register for the online event by Noon on Wednesday, October 15. A link will be sent out to all registrants by email on the afternoon of October 15.

For questions regarding the meeting link, please contact [Sara Ghafouri](#).



Need help with registration, refunds, or accessibility accommodations?

Call or email the OSB CLE Service Center:
(503) 431-6413 or (800) 452-8260, ext. 413, or cle@osbar.org

Cancellations received by the CLE Service Center at least 48 hours prior to the event date will be refunded the registration fee minus a \$10 administrative fee; requests received after that time are granted at the discretion of the section.

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11:00-12:00 PM EPA Under the Second Trump Administration

The panel will reflect upon important shifts in the policy direction of the EPA under the second Trump Administration, led by Administrator Lee Zeldin, in both broader ways, like placing greater emphasis on economic growth, deregulation, and restructuring, and topically in the implementation of policy impacting water, climate, environmental justice, and more.

- Presented by: Maureen Bayer, Of Counsel, Tonkon Torp LLP
- Speakers:
 - Mary Lou Soccia, Retired US EPA
 - Victor Xu, Senior Associate, Marten Law
 - Stephen Odell, Partner, Marten Law

12:00-12:45 PM Lunch Break (45 minutes)

12:45-12:55 PM ENR Diversity Scholarship Recipient Recognition

- Presented by: Sara Ghafouri, American Forest Resource Council

12:55-1:00 PM Transition (5 Minutes)

1:00-2:00 PM U.S. Supreme Court Roundup

The panel will discuss the major environmental and administrative law decisions from the most recent Supreme Court term, as well as the fallout from other recent cases.

- Presented by: Melissa Powers, Professor of Law, Lewis & Clark Law School
- Speakers:
 - Adell Amos, Clayton R. Hess Professor of Law, University of Oregon School of Law
 - Craig Johnston, Professor of Law, Lewis & Clark Law School

2:00-2:10 PM Transition (10 Minutes)

2:10-3:10 PM Environmental Barriers to Oregon's Renewable Energy Transition

The panel will discuss the early implementation of HB 2021

and challenges utilities are facing to rapidly achieve these standards and the tension between achieving renewable goals and minimizing environmental impacts.

- Presented by: Jessica Bernardini, Associate, Miller Nash LLP
- Speakers:
 - Mike Goetz, Regulatory Affairs Director, Renewable Northwest
 - Sarah Esterson, Senior Policy Advisor, Energy Facility Siting Council
 - Caroline Moore, Acting Director Energy Program, Oregon Public Utility Commission

3:10-3:20 PM Break (10 Minutes)

3:20-4:20 PM Privilege, Generative AI in the Practice of Law, and the Intersection of the Two

The attorney-client privilege is a critical aspect of any attorney-client relationship. Questions of proper attachment of the privilege or waiver of the privilege can arise whenever players beyond the attorney and client are involved in privileged communications. The advent of generative AI in the practice of law is raising these old questions anew. This panel will include a deep dive on legal ethics issues surrounding the use of generative AI tools in the practice of law, attorney-client privilege, and how the use of generative AI impacts attorney-client privilege, if at all.

- Presented by: Sara Ghafouri, American Forest Resource Council
- Speaker:
 - Nellie Barnard, Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt

4:20-4:30 PM Closing Remarks

- Sara Ghafouri, American Forest Resource Council, ENR Section Chair-Elect, CLE Chair

4:30-6:30 PM Happy Hour

Thank you to our sponsors: Stoel Rives LLP, Marten Law, Tonkon Torp LLP, Perkins Coie and Miller Nash LLP