Environment & Society Portal

Multimedia Library Collection: Periodicals

"Multilevel Environmental Governance in the United States"

Ryan, Erin

Ryan, Erin. "Multilevel Environmental Governance in the United States." *Environmental Scientist* 25.3 (2016). 51-57. https://www.the-ies.org/resources/quadrophilia-how

The intensity of multilevel environmental governance disputes reflects inexorable pressure on all levels of government to meet the increasingly complicated challenges of regulation in an ever more interconnected world. In the United States (US), debate over the responsibilities of different levels of government are framed within our system of constitutional federalism, which divides sovereign power between the central federal administration and regional states. Dilemmas about devolution have been erupting in all regulatory contexts, but environmental governance remains uniquely prone to federalism discord because it inevitably confronts the core question with which federalism grapples—"who gets to decide?"— in contexts where state and federal claims to power are simultaneously at their strongest.

...

Ongoing jurisdictional controversies in energy policy, pollution law, and natural resource management reveal environmental law as the canary in federalism's coal mine, showcasing the underlying reasons for jurisdictional conflict in all areas of law.

© Erin Ryan. Used with permission.

Download:
PDF:
https://www.environmentandsociety.org/sites/default/files/key_docs/multilevel_governance_in_the_us_ryan_es_2016.pdf

Related links:

- IES website, accessed 18 Juli 2019
  https://www.the-ies.org

Periodicals Collection, Multimedia Library, Environment & Society Portal
"Multilevel Environmental Governance in the United States"
Source URL: http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/8830
Print date: 23 November 2026 05:10:27

- Quadrophilia: How decentralisation has helped the environment. https://www.the-ies.org/resources/quadrophilia-how
- Ryan, Erin, “Breathing Air with Heft: An Experiential Report on Environmental Law and Public Health in China.” (2018) https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/breathing-air-heft-experiential-report-environmental-law-and-public-health-china
- Ryan, Erin. “Environmental Federalism’s Tug of War Within.” Edward Elgar Publishing Limited (2015) https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/environmental-federalisms-tug-war-within
- Ryan, Erin. “Negotiating Environmental Federalism: Dynamic Federalism as a Strategy for Good Governance.” (2017) https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/negotiating-environmental-deferalism-dynamic-federalism-strategy-good-governance
- Ryan, Erin. “The Public Trust Doctrine, Private Water Allocation, and Mono Lake.” (2015) https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/public-trust-doctrine-private-water-allocation-and-mono-lake-historic-saga-national-audubon

Websites linked in this text:

- https://www.the-ies.org/resources/quadrophilia-how

Periodicals Collection, Multimedia Library, Environment & Society Portal
"Multilevel Environmental Governance in the United States"
Source URL: http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/8830
Print date: 23 November 2026 05:10:27