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## The Clean Water Action Plan

Sylvia V. Baca

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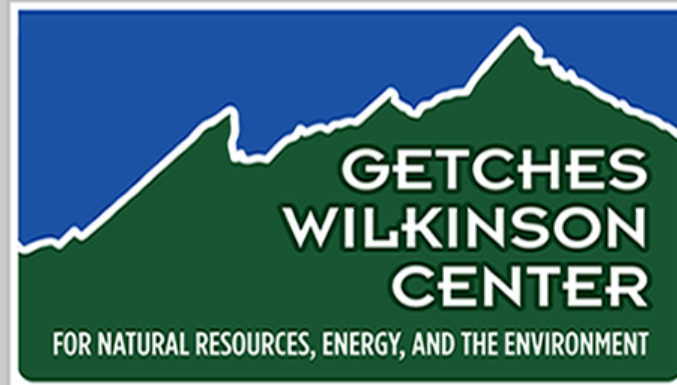
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Sylvia V. Baca, *The Clean Water Action Plan*, in STRATEGIES IN WESTERN WATER LAW AND POLICY (Natural Res. Law Ctr., Univ. of Colo. Sch. of Law, 1999).

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# **THE CLEAN WATER ACTION PLAN**

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Strategies in Western Water Law and Policy:  
Courts, Coercion and Collaboration  
June 8–11, 1999

NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CENTER  
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# **OUTLINE OF STATEMENT OF SYLVIA V. BACA ON THE CLEAN WATER ACTION PLAN**

June 10, 1999

- I. Introduction
  - A. Brief background on Clean Water Act
  - B. The good news
  - C. The bad news
- II. The Vice President's Call to Action
  - A. The major goals of Clean Water Action Plan
    - 1. enhanced protection from public health threats posed by water pollution
    - 2. more effective control of polluted runoff
    - 3. promotion of water quality protection on a watershed basis
  - B. The guiding principles the Vice President provided
    - 1. promoting coordination and reduce duplication among federal, state, and local agencies and tribal governments wherever possible
    - 2. maximizing the participation of community groups and the public, placing particular emphasis on ensuring community and public access to information about water quality issues
    - 3. emphasizing innovative approaches to pollution control, including incentives, market-based mechanisms, and cooperative partnerships with landowners and other private parties
- III. The Clean Water Action Plan
  - A. The development process used to prepare the Clean Water Action Plan
  - B. The outreach activities used in preparing the Action Plan
- IV. The Need for Consensus
  - A. Establishing the consensus
  - B. Examples

- V. Has the Action Plan Made a Difference?
  - A. Action Plan is a guide, not a decision
  - B. Action Plan has brought many interests together
  - C. Examples
  - D. The need for patience with collaborative approaches
- VI. Key Thoughts in Closing
  - A. Public participation and collaboration are essential in every step of the Action Plan
  - B. The Action Plan is not a decision but the beginning of a process
  - C. The Action Plan is making a difference