Special Water Districts: Challenge for the Future: Proceedings of the Workshop on Special Water Districts Held at the University of Colorado, September 12-13, 1983

James N. Corbridge Jr.
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Special Water Districts: Challenge for the Future


This book summarizes the Workshop on Legal, Political, and Economic Problems of Special Water Districts held on September 12-13, 1983, hosted by the Natural Resources Law Center in conjunction with the John Muir Institute.

Because of the relatively arid climate conditions prevailing in the western United States, water has historically been a matter of great concern in the region. One type of institution arrangement that has arisen in response to the formidable challenge of capturing and delivering water is the special water district. These special water districts take many forms and have diverse histories and origins, but are united in being largely overlooked in water studies, and by the degree to which they possess many similar challenges. Several common themes emerge when reviewing the challenges facing special water districts: water supply adequacy, public perception of the districts, jurisdictional conflicts with other districts and agencies, financial and planning problems (including the decline of federal funding), dispute resolution problems, and district organization and voter participation issues. The purpose of the workshop and book is to identify current problems surrounding the operation of special water districts and to establish an agenda for future research.
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Boulder, Colorado
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