



## REFERENCES AND SUGGESTED READINGS

### LOCAL LAWS & RESOLUTIONS

- Crestone, CO [Recognition of Nature's Rights](#) by Board of Trustees (2018)
- Santa Monica [Sustainability Bill of Rights Ordinance](#) (2013) (ELC co-drafted)
- Video, "[Sustainability Bill of Rights for Santa Monica](#)," Santa Monica City College, CA (2011)
- Ho-Chunk Nation in Wisconsin adopts Rights of Nature into constitution, [Resolution](#) Pg. 9 and 10.
- City of Pittsburgh, Code of Ordinances, Title 6, Art. 1, Ch. 618, "[Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Drilling Ordinance](#)" (Nov. 2010) (includes model rights of nature language)

### LAWS – INTERNATIONAL

- [Ecuador Constitution](#), Rights of Nature Provisions (especially Articles 71-73)
- Bolivia, [Law of the Rights of Mother Earth, Law 071](#) (2010)
- Bolivia, [Law of Mother Earth and Integral Development for Living Well \(Law 300\)](#) (2012)
- [Bolivia Constitution](#), Articles 33-34
- [Whanganui River Agreement](#), New Zealand: Tutohu Whakatupua (Aug. 31, 2012), recognizing the independent legal standing of the river (Treaty Agreement)
- Other laws and policies emerging in over 20 countries can be found on the [Harmony with Nature website](#)

### AMICUS BRIEFS

- ELC, [Amicus Curiae Letter in Anchicayá River Rights Project, Colombia, Spanish](#) (2018)
- ELC, [Amicus Curiae Letter in Mirador Mining Project, Ecuador, English](#) (2013)
- ELC, [Amicus Curiae Letter in Mirador Mining Project, Ecuador, Spanish](#) (2013)

### SPEECHES AND TESTIMONY



- Darlene Lee, United Nations, [Rights of the Ocean Initiative](#)
- Linda Sheehan, [Closing Remarks of Prosecutor at the Bay Area Rights of Nature Tribunal](#), Antioch, CA (April 2016)
- Video, Yale University, "[A Communion of Subjects: Law, Environment and Religion](#)," (March 2015)
- Linda Sheehan, [Closing Remarks of Co-Prosecutor at the International Rights of Nature Tribunal](#), Paris (Dec. 2015) (with [video](#))
- [TEDxMarin](#), "'Earth Jujitsu' - Escaping the Climate Chokehold by Adapting to Nature's Rights," Presentation by Linda Sheehan (Nov. 2013)
- Webinar, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, Water Sustainability Project, with Vernon Tava, "[Giving Nature a Voice: Legal Rights of Waterways](#)" (June 2013)
- Video, Univ. of Victoria, Centre for Global Studies, "[Reclaiming Prosperity through Nature's Rights](#)" (April 2013)
- Linda Sheehan, "[Caring for Home through Nature's Rights](#)," Remarks before the Interactive Dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature (April 2013) (with [video](#))
- [Testimony by Earth Law Center to the California Legislature](#), Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (April 2013)
- Podcast, "[Sustainable People](#)," Interview with Linda Sheehan (Dec. 2012)
- [Testimony by Earth Law Center to the California Legislature](#), Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (Feb. 2012)
- Podcast, "[Calls to recognise the rights of nature](#)," with Cormac Cullinan (Sept. 2011)
- Video, Southern Cross University, "[Introduction to Earth Laws Network](#)" (Sept. 2011)

## BOOK CHAPTERS AND JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Sustainability And The Rights Of Nature In Practice, Crc Press, Ocean Rights: The Baltic Sea And World Ocean Health By Michelle Bender
- [If MPAs had a legal right to be managed well, would that end the problem of paper parks? This campaign suggests it would](#), MPA News
- "[Earth Law Center Law Review Article Writing: A Guide for Rising 2Ls](#)" by Timothy W. Collines, Esq. (2018)
- "[Implementing Rights of Nature through Sustainability Bills of Rights](#)," in *New Zealand Journal of Public and International Law*, Vol. 13, pp. 89-106 (2015)



- "Water as the Way: Achieving Well-Being through 'Right Relationship' with Water," in *Wild Law in Practice*, Michelle Maloney and Peter Burdon, eds. (Routledge, NY, NY, 2014)
- "Realizing Nature's Rule of Law through Rights of Waterways," in *Rule of Law for Nature*, Christina Voigt, ed. (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 2013)
- "Earth Day Revisited: Building a Body of Earth Law for the Next Forty Years," in *Exploring Wild Law: The Philosophy of Earth Jurisprudence*, Peter Burdon, ed. (Wakefield Press, Kent Town, South Australia, 2011)
- Upcoming: "Implementing Rights of Nature through Sustainability Bills of Rights," from *New Thinking on Sustainability*, by Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, Faculty of Law
- "Sustainability Bills of Rights: A New Paradigm to Protect Environment and People," *HuffPost Los Angeles* (2013)
- "Perspectives on the Clean Water Act," in Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, *Forty Years after the Clean Water Act* (2012)
- "Clean Water Act 2.0: Rights of Waterways," *HuffPost Green* (2012)
- "Rights of the Waterway," *Waterkeeper Magazine*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (2011)

## REPORTS, BLOGS AND FACT SHEETS

- ELC, "Health People Healthy Planet," UN Global Environment Outlook (2019)
- ELC, "Commentary on 'Against Ecocide: Legal Protection for Earth'," Great Transition Initiative (2016)
- ELC, "Economics for Earth's Rights," New Economy Law Center (2016)
- ELC, "Fighting for Our Shared Future: Protecting Both Human Rights and Nature's Rights (2015)
- ELC, "Rights of the Waterway" (2013) (comparing Great Lakes management strategies)

## COMMENT LETTERS – INTERNATIONAL

- ELC, [Rights for the High Seas](#)
- ELC, [Adoption of Holistic Rights-based Ocean Governance](#)
- ELC, [Submission to the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service et al. on the Report of the Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda](#) (2015)



- ELC, [Submission to the UN Development Programme on Rule of Law and the Post-2015 Development Agenda](#) (2013)
- ELC, [Submission to the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development on Rio +20](#) (2011)

## COMMENT LETTERS – STATE

- ELC, [Comment letter to Orca Task Force in Washington State](#)
- Comment letter by ELC to the Florida State Legislature on the [proposed Shark Fin Bill](#), to ban the sell and trade of shark fins and ray parts in Florida.
- Comments by ELC to the [California State Water Resources Control Board](#) to include list of hydrologically impaired waterways to their 2014 and 2016 Integrated Reports (2017)
- Comments by ELC et al. to the Secretary of the Interior et al., [Compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act to Protect the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary](#) (2015)
- Comments by ELC to the Ocean Protection Council, "[Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines](#)" (2015)
- ELC, Comments to California Dep't of Fish and Wildlife on [Draft Proposition 1 Bond Fund Project Solicitation Notice](#) (2015)
- ELC et al., Comments to the California State Water Resources Control Board on [Identifying Flow-Impaired Waterways in California](#) (2015)
- Comments by Earth Law Center to National Marine Fisheries Service on the Proposed [Bay-Delta Conservation Plan](#) (2014)
- Comments by Earth Law Center to the Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team, "[Exploring Ocean Health](#)" (2014)
- Comments by Earth Law Center to California State Water Resources Control Board on the [Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan](#) (2013)

## VIDEOS

- Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, "[Who Owns Water?](#)" (2015)
- Yale Law School, "[A Communion of Subjects: Law, Environment and Religion](#)" (2015)
- Bay Area Rights of Nature Ethics Tribunal (2014): [Summary Video](#) (co-organizer and Prosecutor)



- Bay Area Rights of Nature Ethics Tribunal (2014): [Full Day's Video and Summaries](#)
- Audio, "Codifying Nature's Rights in Human Law," [Techno-Utopianism and the Fate of the Earth](#) (2014)
- ELC Webinar with Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy, "[Nature's Rights in Practice: The Rights of Rivers to Flow](#)" (2013)
- Video, Univ. of Victoria, Centre for Global Studies, "[Reclaiming Prosperity through Nature's Rights](#)" (2013)
- Webinar, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, Water Sustainability Project, with Vernon Tava, "[Giving Nature a Voice: Legal Rights of Waterways](#)" (2013)
- Podcast, "[Sustainable People](#)," Interview with Linda Sheehan (2012)
- Podcast, "[Calls to recognise the rights of nature](#)," with Cormac Cullinan (2011)
- Video, Southern Cross University, "[Introduction to Earth Laws Network](#)" (2011)

## SPANISH LANGUAGE VIDEOS

From: [United Nations' Harmony with Nature Resources](#).

- Alberto Acosta, economist and former President of the Ecuador 2007-2008 Constitutional Assembly [presents his judges ruling on the Yasuni ITT case](#), an offer by Ecuador to fight climate change by forgoing oil exploration and production in a large tract of untouched rainforest. Acosta is responsible for drawing up the now famous Montecristi Constitution, which took effect in 2008 and established protection for the rights of nature, Feb 7, 2014.
- [Ley Ambiental de Protección a la Tierra en el Distrito Federal](#). Discussion of the environmental law to protect the rights of nature in MXDF congress, Apr 25, 2013.
- [Ramiro Avila - Prosecutor on behalf of the Earth](#), Rights of Nature Tribunal, Quito, Ecuador, Jan 17, 2014.
- Serge Latouche, gran ideólogo del decrecimiento - [part 1 of 2](#).
- Serge Latouche, gran ideólogo del decrecimiento - [part 2 of 2](#).
- [Enrique Viale presents judge's ruling on Mirador mining case](#), Rights of Nature Tribunal, Quito, Ecuador, Jan 17, 2014.

## FEATURED LITERATURE



- Guidance for writers sharing Earth Law through blogging and social media - [Similarities between good teaching and good public education writing](#) by Helen Louise George.
- Learn how to better express your ideas about Earth Law and connect with audiences - [A Guide for Earth Law Communication](#) by Helen Louise George.
- Engaging and informative compilation of the latest thinking around Earth Law and rights of nature - thanks to the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, [Can Nature Have Rights? Legal and Political Insights, RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society 2017](#), no. 6. Edited by Anna Leah Tabios Hillebrecht and María Valeria Berros.

## CASE LAW

- [Wheeler et al. v. Director de la Procuraduría General del Estado en Loja](#) (Corte Provincial de Justicia de Loja, March 31, 2011), recognizing the rights of the Vilcabamba River to flow
- [Vilcabamba River Decision](#) (Wheeler et al.), original in Spanish
- [T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad v. Union of India & Others](#) (In the Supreme Court of India) (February 13, 2012)

## INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

- [Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth](#) (Cochabamba, Bolivia, April 2010)
- [IUCN, Incorporation of the Rights of Nature](#) as the Organizational Focal Point in IUCN's Decisionmaking, Resolution WCC-2012-Res-100 (Sept. 2012, Jeju, Korea)
- [The Earth Charter](#)
- United Nations, [The Future We Want](#) (Rio de Janeiro, June 2012), citing nature's rights in para. 39
- [Final Declaration of the People's Summit](#) (Rio de Janeiro, June 2012), calling for U.N. adoption of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth
- [United Nations, Resolution](#) adopted by the General Assembly on 22 December 2015: [Harmony with Nature \(A/RES/70/208, 17 Feb. 2016\)](#) (calling for an expert report on Earth Jurisprudence)



- [World Charter for Nature and the International Convention on Biodiversity](#), United Nations 1992 (UN resolution [here](#))

## JOURNAL ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

- [As nature evolves, so too does MPA management need to evolve](#), Michelle Bender, Earth Law Center, Taylor & Francis, July 20, 2018 (free with university affiliation).
- [Rights of Nature: Rivers That Can Stand in Court](#), Lidia Cano Pecharroman, Earth Institute, Columbia University, Feb 14, 2018.
- [Can Nature Have Rights? Legal and Political Insights](#), Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, *RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society* 2017, no. 6. Edited by Anna Leah Tabios Hillebrecht and María Valeria Berros.
- Craig Kauffman and Pamela Martin, "[Testing Ecuador's Rights of Nature: Why Some Lawsuits Succeed and Others Fail](#)" (Paper Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA, March 18, 2016)
- Michelle Maloney, "[Finally Being Heard: The Great Barrier Reef and the International Rights of Nature Tribunal](#)," *Griffith J. of Law and Human Dignity* (2015)
- Adam Sowards, "[Should Nature Have Standing to Sue?](#)" *High Country News* (Jan. 19, 2015)
- Michael M'Gonigle and Louise Takeda, "[The Liberal Limits of Environmental Law: A Green Legal Critique](#)," *Pace Environmental Law Review* (July 2013)
- Judith Koons, "[At the Tipping Point: Defining an Earth Jurisprudence for Social and Ecological Justice](#)," 58 *Loyola. L. Rev.* 349 (2012)
- Gus Speth, "Towards a New Economy and a New Politics," *Solutions* (May 2010)
- Donella Meadows, "[Leverage Points: Places to Intervene in a System](#)" (1999)
- Thomas Berry, "[The Meadow across the Creek](#)" (Dec. 1993)
- Cormac Cullinan, "[If Nature Had Rights](#)," *Orion Magazine* (Jan./Feb. 2008)
- Laurence Tribe, "Ways Not to Think about Plastic Trees: New Foundations for Environmental Law," 83 *Yale Law Journal* 1315 (June 1974)
- Christopher Stone, "[Should Trees Have Standing? Towards Legal Rights for Natural Objects](#)," 45 *So. Cal. L. Rev.* 450 (1972)

## REPORTS

- United Nations, [Harmony with Nature Website](#); includes [U.N. reports](#) discussing the rights of nature
- [Rights of Nature Tribunals](#), complete website collection of information and videos of past rights of nature tribunals
- California Initiative to Define "Ocean Health", [Workshop Report](#) (2015)
- Cormac Cullinan, "[A Tribunal for the Earth: Why It Matters](#)" (2015)
- John Helliwell et al., eds, "[World Happiness Report](#)" (April 2013)
- Switzerland Federal Ethics Committee on Non-Human Biotechnology, "[The Dignity of Living Beings with Regard to Plants](#)" (April 2008)

## BOOKS

- Two ebooks on the Rights of Nature and Ocean Rights respectively. 'Three Solutions to Save Planet A' provides a concise exploration into the concept of Earth Law. The ebook 'Ocean Rights: A Roadmap to a Liveable Future' details the importance of Oceans and outlines the threats facing it, with a focus on the need for a new approach to ocean conservation. Both are available on Amazon and iTunes.
- Christopher Stone, [Should Trees Have Standing](#) (1972)
- Brian Thomas Swimme and Mary Evelyn Tucker, [Journey of the Universe](#) (Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, CT) (2011)
- Cormac Cullinan, *Wild Law: A Manifesto for Earth Justice* (Chelsea Green Publishing, White River Junction, VT) (2011)
- Peter Burdon (ed.), *Exploring Wild Law: The Philosophy of Earth Jurisprudence* (Wakefield Press, Kent Town, South Australia) (2011)
- Leslie Paul Thiele, *Indra's Net and the Midas Touch* (The MIT Press, Cambridge, MA) (2011)
- Thomas Berry, *The Great Work* (Bell Tower, New York City, NY) (1999)
- Jack Turner, *The Abstract Wild* (Univ. of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ) (1996)
- Joanna Macy, *World as Lover, World as Self* (Parallax Press, Berkeley, CA) (1991)
- Gary Snyder, *The Practice of the Wild* (Shoemaker & Hoard, Emeryville, CA) (1990)





- Roderick Frazier Nash, *The Rights of Nature: A History of Environmental Ethics* (The University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, WI) (1989)
- E.F. Schumacher, *Small is Beautiful: Economics as if People Mattered* (Harper & Row Publishers, New York City) (1973)
- Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, *The Phenomenon of Man* (1959)
- Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac* (Oxford University Press, Oxford) (1949)

## TOOLKITS

- ELC, [Community Toolkit for Rights of Nature](#), to become aware of how your local government can balance its environmental programs with the needs of Nature.
- ELC, [Western Waterways Toolkit](#), how to use the Clean Water Act to ensure that western waterways will be protected.
- ELC, [Coral Reef Toolkit](#), how to evolve conservation to include a rights-based approach
- ELC, [Earth Law Framework for Marine Protected Areas](#), provides more clarity into adopting a holistic, systems and rights-based approach to ocean governance. The Earth Law Framework for Marine Protected Areas is available in English and in Spanish.
- GARN, [Rights of Nature and the Economics of the Biosphere](#)
- GARN, [Rights of Nature: Planting Seeds of Change](#)
- GARN, [Rights of Nature and Mother Earth: Rights-based law for systemic change](#)

## OTHER

- Green Party UK: [Green Party Position in Support of Rights of Nature](#)
- [European Citizens Initiative for the Rights of Nature](#)
- Pope Francis, [Speech before the United Nations](#) (Sept. 25, 2015), recognizing nature's rights
- Learn more about the [Earth Jurisprudence](#) and its [principles](#). It establishes that nature is also considered when it comes to its inherent rights. It's a philosophy that unites human beings with other members of a community, in which the Earth is shared amongst those that occupy it as a whole a balanced community.
- The following link contains [Rights of Nature Articles](#) where you could gain more information in regards to International Rights of Nature Tribunal, Sample of



Existing Legal Structures, Global Exchange Articles, Navdanya Publications on Seed Freedoms GMOS and Farmers Rights and much more!

- Check out related books concerning the Rights of Nature [here](#).
- Check out this book, [Grassroots Global Governance: Local Watershed Management Experiments and the Evolution of Sustainable Development](#) written by Craig Koffman that discusses how international agreements fail to solve global problems such as climate change, transnational networks strive to address them by enacting global ideas.
- Check out this article, [Pursuing Costly Reform, The case of Ecuadorian Natural Resource Management](#) written by Craig Kauffman and Will Terry.
- Check out this article, [Assessing the impact of international conservation aid on deforestation in sub-Saharan Africa](#) written by Matthew Bare, Craig Kauffman and Daniel C. Miller.
- Check out this article, [Scaling up Buen Vivir: Globalizing Local Environment Governance from Ecuador](#) written by Craig M. Kauffman and Pamela L. Martin.
- Check out this article, [Financing watershed conservation: Lessons from Ecuador's evolving water trust funds](#) written by Craig M. Kauffman.
- Check out this article, [The evolution of water trust funds in Ecuador](#) edited by Henning Bjorlund, Carlos A. Brebbia and Sarah Wheeler.
- Check out this piece from the Encyclopedia of Political Theory, [Democratization](#), edited by Mark Bevir.