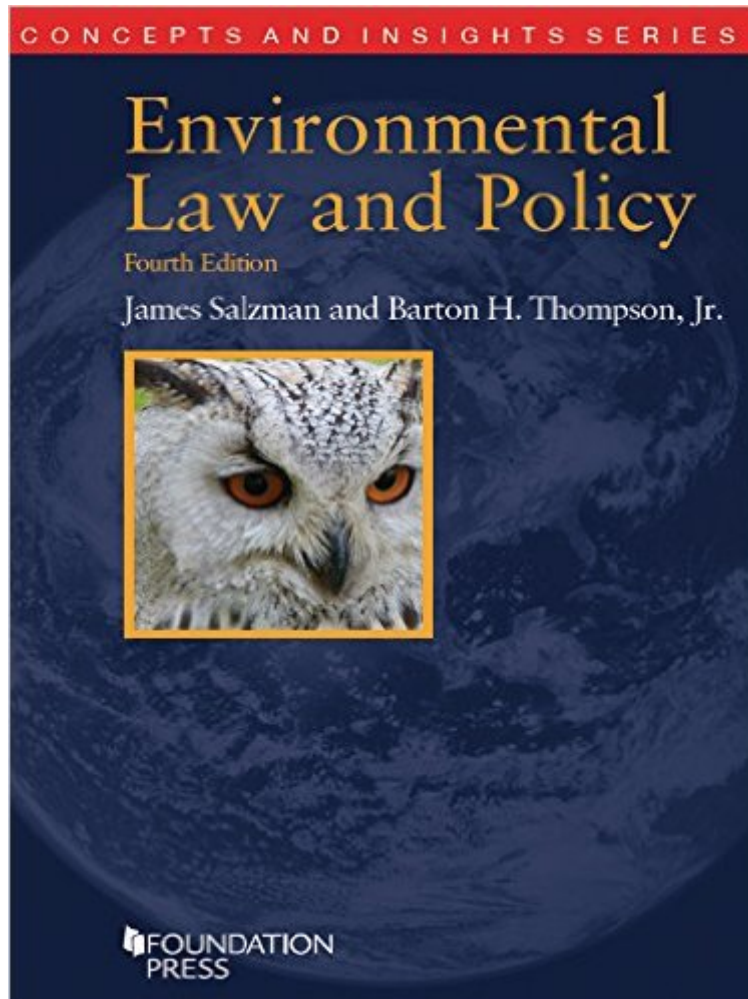


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Environmental Law And Policy, 4th (Concepts And Insights Series)



Synopsis

Environmental Law and Policy is a user-friendly, concise, inexpensive treatment of environmental law. Written to be read pleurably rather than used as a dry reference source, the authors provide a broad conceptual overview of environmental law while also explaining the major statutes and cases. The book is intended for three audiences - students (both graduate and undergraduate) seeking a readable study guide for their environmental law and policy courses; professors who do not use casebooks (relying on their own materials or case studies) but want an integrating text for their courses or want to include conceptual materials on the major legal issues; and practicing lawyers and environmental professionals who want a concise, readable overview of the field. For the fourth edition, to provide students a deeper understanding of how environmental law works in practice, a new Chapter has been written on Enforcement. A series of problem exercises have been added throughout the book, describing a legal or policy conflict in detail and asking students to identify and assess solutions. The first part of the book provides an engaging discussion of the major themes and issues that cross-cut environmental law. Starting with the first chapter's brief history of environmentalism in America, the second chapter goes on to explore the importance and implications of basic themes that occur in virtually all environmental conflicts, including scientific uncertainty, market failures, problems of scale, public choice theory, etc. It then presents three dominant perspectives in the field that drive policy development - environmental rights, utilitarianism, and environmental justice. Chapter Three fills in the remaining legal background for understanding environmental protection, reviewing the theory of instrument choice, the basics of administrative law, core concepts in constitutional law (e.g., takings, the commerce clause), and the doctrines associated with how citizen groups shape environmental law (such as standing). Chapter Four examines the practice and policy of monitoring compliance and enforcing the law. The second part of the book examines the substance of environmental law, with separate sections on each of the major statutes. International issues such as ozone depletion and climate change are also addressed. These chapters build on the themes and conceptual framework laid down in the first part of the text in order to integrate the discussion of individual statutes into a broad portrait of the law. The third part of the book describes natural resources law, discussing endangered species conservation, wetlands protection, water and energy issues. Part four addresses environmental impact statements and the National Environmental Policy Act.

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Customer Reviews

I have used this book in all four of its editions so far. It is adaptable to be part of an undergraduate business law/legal environment class, or upper level course in Environmental Law and Ethics, or an MBA or law school course where the goal is to show the foundations of environmental law and policy, the basic structure of the main laws and regulations built on them, and the evolving case law and policy questions. A useful teacher's manual and end of chapter questions make it work well in a variety of settings. I have most recently used it as a reference tool and foundation for a senior college course largely participated in by retirees involved in local environmental groups and land trusts here in Maine. If you have an interest, I would also recommend "Environmental Law Stories" which devotes chapters to specific historical classic cases, and the parties and interests involved in each. Also recommend <http://yalebooks.com/book.asp?isbn=9780300173246> The Snail Darter and the Dam, which is the subject of one chapter in "Environmental Law Stories" and a classic case discussed in this book. I expect with the current Congressional efforts to defund the EPA and undermine the new Clean Water Rule, and pending litigation on that rule and EPA efforts to address climate change under the Clean Air Act, in the face of Congressional inability to face reality on this subject, that a fifth edition of this book will be forthcoming soon, and need to be updated almost immediately.

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