

JENNIFER PITT



EXPERIENCE

Colorado River Program Director • National Audubon Society 2015 - present

- Senior staff developing and implementing strategies to protect and restore freshwater-dependent habitats throughout the Colorado River Basin
- Advise policy and program staff located in six state offices and Washington DC
- Co-chair of Environmental Work Group for the U.S.-MX Colorado River process (Minute 323)
- Co-chair of Raise the River, the binational coalition of NGOs working to reconnect the Colorado River in its delta

Colorado River Project Director • Environmental Defense Fund • CO 2005 - 2015

- Senior staff protecting rivers and advocating water management reforms throughout the Colorado River Basin

Senior Resource Analyst • Environmental Defense Fund • CO 1999 - 2005

- Led ecosystem restoration activities for the Lower Colorado River
- Manage research program including proposals and contracts

Program Manager • National Park Service • DC 1994 – 1998

- Created and implemented White House American Heritage Rivers program, including initiative design, constituency-building, stakeholder input, training for agency staff, and serving as Hudson River Navigator.
- Coordinated and marketed community-based river conservation for national program (20 offices).

Legislative Assistant • Office of U.S. Representative Mike Kopetski • DC 1993 – 1994

- Advised Member of Congress on natural resource policy.

Ranger Jobs • Sequoia and Mesa Verde National Parks Summers 1990-1992

Operations Coordinator • City of New York Parks and Recreation 1989 – 1990

EDUCATION

Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

Master of Environmental Studies, 1993. Thesis: "Nutrient and sediment yield in the Saw Kill watershed: Partitioning the impact of multiple land uses." Courses in water resources science and policy, economics, and land use law.

Harvard University

A.B., 1988. Cum Laude in History and Literature of America.

AWARDS

Water Education Colorado Dianne Hoppe Leadership Award, 2019

River Network River Hero Award, 2015

Department of Interior Partners in Conservation Awards 2009 and 2014

National Park Service Outstanding Achievement Award 1998

National Park Service Special Achievement Award 1997

Presidential Management Internship 1994-6

PUBLICATIONS

“How the Colorado River Delta Might Survive the Compact” in Cornerstone at the Confluence: Navigating the Colorado River Compact's Next Century (Robison, ed., forthcoming)

“Rewatering the Colorado River Delta” in Renewing Our Rivers: Stream Corridor Restoration in Dryland Regions (Briggs and Osterkamp, eds., 2020)

Restoration potential of the aquatic ecosystems of the Colorado River Delta, Mexico: Introduction to special issue on “Wetlands of the Colorado River Delta” (Glenn et al., Ecological Engineering, 2013)

Modeling Water Management Scenarios for the Cienega de Santa Clara, an anthropogenic coastal desert wetland system, based on inflow volumes and salinities (Gomez-Sapiens et al., Ecological Engineering, 2013)

The Legal Framework for Water Transfers in the Colorado River Basin Will Be Important (Denver Water Law Review, 2011)

Getting Ahead of a Water Crisis: Binational Collaboration in the Colorado River Basin (Proceedings of the Second International Colloquium on Sustainable Watersheds, Comisión Nacional del Agua, México, 2010)

Living with Ourselves: What trade offs will get made to supply growing Western communities with water, and who decides? (Graff and Pitt, Environmental Law Reporter, 2008)

Alternatives for Restoring the Colorado River Delta (Wheeler et al., Natural Resources Journal, 2007)

Reconciling Environmental and Flood Control Goals on an Arid-Zone River: Case Study of the Limitrophe Region of the Lower Colorado River in the United States and Mexico (Glenn et al., Environmental Management, 2007)

Dredging for Diplomacy? Colorado River Management at the United States-Mexico Border (Pitt, Global Business and Development Law Journal, 2006)

Conservation Priorities in the Colorado River Delta, United States and Mexico (Zamora et al., Sonoran Institute publication)

New Water for the Colorado River: Economic and Environmental Considerations for Replacing the Bypass Flow (Pitt et al., Water Law Review, 2002)

Can we save the Colorado River Delta? (Journal of Arid Environments, 2001)

Application of the Endangered Species Act across international borders: the case of the Colorado River Delta (Nagler et al., Environmental Science and Policy, 2000)

Two Nations, One River: Managing Ecosystem Conservation in the Colorado River Delta (Pitt et al., Natural Resource Journal, 2000)

A Delta Once More: Restoring Wetland and Riparian Habitat in the Colorado River Delta (Environmental Defense Fund, 1999)