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### Searching Out the Headwaters: Change and Rediscovery in Western Water Policy

Sarah F. Bates

David H. Getches

Lawrence J. MacDonnell

Charles F. Wilkinson

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SARAH F. BATES, DAVID H. GETCHES, LAWRENCE J. MACDONNELL & CHARLES F. WILKINSON, *SEARCHING OUT THE HEADWATERS: CHANGE AND REDISCOVERY IN WESTERN WATER POLICY* (Island Press 1993) [abstract and table of contents only].

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## Searching Out the Headwaters: Change and Rediscovery in Western Water

**Policy** Bates, Sarah. Searching Out the Headwaters: Change and Rediscovery in Western Water Policy. Washington, D.C.: Island Press, 1993

Water is critically important in the West, yet it is governed by a collection of rules that many analysts regard as among the most outdated in all areas of American public policy. This is a book aimed at the growing number of people concerned about the way water resources are used in the West. Ultimately, the focus is on water policy, but much of the text addresses a broad consideration of the water resource itself and the changing western landscape of which water is such a critical part. This book reviews how we think about western water issues and challenges the reader to think about the kind of water policy the West should pursue. While some obvious reforms are identified, the primary objective is to articulate the reasons for pursuing a reform agenda reflective of a water ethic rooted in core societal values.

*Searching Out the Headwaters* provides an important framework for understanding the waters of the West and the people whose lives and livelihoods depend on them. Only by understanding the context and history of western water issues can concerned citizens comprehend the current situation and help move toward reform.

# *Searching Out the Headwaters*

**CHANGE AND REDISCOVERY**

**IN WESTERN WATER POLICY**



**SARAH F. BATES**

**DAVID H. GETCHES**

**LAWRENCE J. MACDONNELL**

**CHARLES F. WILKINSON**

Searching  
Out  
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HEADWATERS

*Change and Rediscovery in Western Water Policy*

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*Natural Resources Law Center*

*University of Colorado School of Law*

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