

## FROM THE EDITORS

A human being is a part of the whole called by us universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feeling as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to enhance all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty.

*Albert Einstein (1879-1955)*

For the past twenty-one years, King Hall students and faculty have helped to “widen our circle of compassion” for the environment through *ENVIRONS*. Since its inception, its articles have examined questions of effectiveness and efficiency of environmental law in California, the United States and abroad. Commentaries on constitutionality principles and accountability issues have enlightened the environmental legal community. By providing this forum for the discussion of environmental policy, *ENVIRONS* frees us from Einstein’s suggested “prison” and allows us to consider and appreciate the world around us, not just from our own perspective but from a variety of legal and academic standpoints.

This issue of *ENVIRONS* continues the tradition. The first two articles focus on important local California issues. **Nathan R. Goedde** examines the poisoning of Lake Davis to eradicate an illegally introduced exotic species of pike and assesses whether this action was justified. The next article by **Keith G. Wagner** asks whether developers owe a duty to home-buyers to disclose information that their houses were built on closed landfills. We then switch to the international arena where **Angela D. Da Silva** reviews the dispute resolution process established under the Environmental Side Agreement of NAFTA as it pertains to the Cozumel Port Terminal controversy.

We are happy to present three pieces from those currently working in the environmental circle. First, **Antonio Rossman** commemorates the legacy of the landmark CEQA case, Friends of Mammoth, in an impassioned speech given at the 1997 Environmental Law Institute at Yosemite. Second, **Assemblymember Virginia Strom-Martin** develops a proposed state role in California’s recycling agenda in her Assembly bill. Finally, **Kim Levy** gives a legislative wrap-up of the major environmental legislation from 1997.

We hope you enjoy *ENVIRONS* in its exciting new format. Also, look us up on Westlaw this year.



*Jennifer Harder and Jeffrey Marks*  
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