

TUWaterWays

Water News and More from the Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy
January 11, 2017

Happy New Year from [Your Favorite Water Law & Policy Institute!](#)

2017 is finally here! May it prove to be a productive and enjoyable year for you all.

Calling All Innovators

Do you [love water](#)? (We hope so!) Do you live in the United States? Have you stayed up many a night thinking of a brilliant, water-related idea, but can't make your dreams a reality because you don't have the cash? Well, then do we have news for you! Things are heating up in the water world, and we're not just talking about [climate change](#). [Silicon Valley is looking to fund water startups](#) and the University of Saskatchewan is [hiring](#) 750 new water researchers. And, more importantly, New Orleans' own [Propeller](#) is offering [funding for focused solutions](#) to urban water, coastal environments, and water-based industry challenges. It's a [competition](#), and likely to be a fierce one. You have until February 22 to submit your concept. We look forward to sharing in your ideas, and seeing who comes out on top!

Water – It's [Risky Business](#)

In its recently released [Global Risks Report](#), the World Economic Forum ranked water crises as the number one long term concern for global economic risk. For those of you unfamiliar with WEF, it is an international non-profit with members including heads of state, CEOs, and civic leaders. This is a big deal because the Global Risks Report has time and again proved itself correct in predicting coming challenges. [Last year](#), the Report ranked water crises as the number one concern in the short term, measured as the upcoming 18 months.

So, how right were the 750+ world leaders who vote to determine the riskiest risks? They pretty much [nailed it](#). In late 2015, through 2016, and (for good measure) thus far into 2017, there have been conflicts between [India and Pakistan](#), devastating [water shortages in Syria](#), the battle over the [Dakota Access Pipeline](#) and its effect on tribal water resources, international arbitration between [Chile and Bolivia](#), floods in [California, Louisiana, Texas \(and neighbors\)](#) and [South Carolina](#), water contamination in [Flint](#) and [beyond](#), and [landmark litigation between Georgia and Florida](#).

But, determining that water is going to continue at the forefront of social and economic concern doesn't equate to a

The Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy is a program of the Tulane University Law School.

The Institute is dedicated to fostering a greater appreciation and understanding of the vital role that water plays in our society and of the importance of the legal and policy framework that shapes the uses and stewardship of water.

Coming up:

[CRCL Coastal Restoration Road Show](#)

Abbeville, Lafitte, Cameron & Lacombe, LA
February & March, 2017

[Tulane Environmental Law & Policy Summit](#) New Orleans, LA

March 10-11, 2017

Water jobs:

[U of Florida Water Institute Graduate Fellows Program](#)

University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

[Research Associate](#)

Environmental Law Institute
Washington, DC

[Senior Analyst/Water Resources](#)

Abt Associates

Cambridge, MA

[Executive Director](#)

The Data Center
New Orleans, LA

[AgCenter Assistant/Associate/Extension Agent \(Fisheries/Coastal Issues\)](#)

Louisiana State University
Terrebonne Parish, LA

[AgCenter Assistant/Associate Professor \(Natural Resource Economics\)](#)

Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

[Special Projects Coordinator](#)

Restore or Retreat
Thibodaux, LA

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future full of scenes from the [Day After Tomorrow](#). We are innovators! With smart planning, financing, and governance, we can mitigate the impacts of climate change and turn the tides ([literally](#), [maybe](#)) in favor of less risk and more reward.

Speaking of Planning...

The [2017 \(Draft\) Coastal Master Plan](#) is here! The plan paints a picture where, in the *best* case scenario, we could lose 1,200 square miles of coast over the next fifty years (1,750 square miles lost was the *worst* case scenario from the 2012 plan) and address the opportunities and steps the state is taking to help combat the loss.

A big thanks to the folks at the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) who have worked tirelessly listening to ideas and concerns, and putting pen to paper in an effort to protect the coast. It may not be easy, but it's certainly worth it. Over here, we've cozied up with our [tea](#) and are taking it all in. Y'all take a look as well, and stay tuned for more from this shop next week.

Two Farmers & A Bucket

This week, Tulane University's Taylor Center for Social Innovation and Design Thinking is hosting the top five competitors from across the country (and Australia) in the [Nitrogen Reduction Challenge](#). The goal of the Challenge was to inspire organizations across the world to develop unique solutions to nutrient run off problem, ultimately reducing hypoxia in the Gulf and elsewhere. The winner will receive a cool million bucks to take their concept from dream to reality. After presenting their ideas to a group of interested stakeholders at the Taylor Center yesterday, the [top five](#) competitors are venturing to a farm in Tensas Parish today to for the final faceoff.