

TUWaterWays

Water News and More from the Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law & Policy
June 29, 2018

The Florida-Georgia Water Fight: the Supreme Court Rules in Favor of More Fighting

The battle over use of the waters in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint system has been going on for three decades. That's when water use in the basin began to affect the ecology of Apalachicola Bay and ruin the region's oyster industry. Ever since, Florida has been trying to claw back control of the system and more freshwater for its estuary. Florida brought the most recent action four years ago asking for equitable apportionment, meaning for the justices to determine the amounts of water that would be allocated out of the system to the states. The Court appointed a special master who encouraged negotiations. Those failed, and the case went to trial two years ago. Now, the Supreme Court has finally made a [ruling](#) in the matter, so that's that, right? Nope. It's only a narrow, procedural ruling because Georgia was trying to get the whole case [outta this place](#). However, the ruling found that Florida has met necessary threshold requirements and that the [trial can continue](#) with the Special Master gathering evidence to determine if equitable apportionment would actually help Florida.

The Gulf of Mexico Faces Uncertainties in Coming Decades? [Get Out!](#)

The National Academies have published a [report](#) on the impending future of humans' interactions with nature along the Gulf Coast. Findings identify three areas of research needed to fill gaps in about the Gulf Coast's natural-human system. The report is sponsored by the Academies' Gulf Research Program – a program created by funds from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill settlement. According to Tulane professor Tor Tornqvist, the program “[would make this region the most intensely studied coastal zone in the world](#).” Good thing, too, because the Trump administration just published an [executive order](#) to [roll back](#) the protections the previous administration put in place to prevent another Deepwater Horizon from happening. So, with Big Oil [ramping up deep-water drilling](#) in the Gulf and a new [study](#) in *Nature Climate Change* showing that carbon emissions need to take a dive well before 2030 to limit global warming to just 1.5 degrees, good luck to the Academies' Gulf Research Program! Fill those knowledge gaps and provide a good example so more research like this will be funded after the next oil spill disaster happens. At least [new magnetic Janus particles](#) might help make oil and water separation easier. [Gotta get away](#) from that Corexit!

Yeesh! How Much Water Waste Was There in 1970 America?

We must have been letting those taps [run, run, run!](#) A new [report](#) by the [USGS](#) tells us that the country is using less water per day than it

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:

[World Water Week](#)

August 26-31, 2018

Stockholm, Sweden

Water jobs:

[Associate Justice, US Supreme Court White House](#)

Washington, DC

[Research Associate](#)

Public Policy Institute of California
San Francisco, CA

[Analyst in Environmental Policy](#)

Library of Congress
Washington, DC

[Director/Staff Attorney](#)

UC Irvine Center for Land, Environment,
and Natural Resources
Irvine, CA

[Director, Water and Wetlands](#)

WWF
Hong Kong, China

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has in 45 years. It turns out that all those efforts to make both power plants [more efficient](#) and public consumption less wasteful have paid off. So has the fading popularity of [Firehose](#). The last time Americans used this little water, there were 120 million fewer of us. Considering all the water waste we see – from inefficient center pivot irrigation to ~~my~~ someone's kids not turning off the danged tap when brushing their teeth – we still have a long way to go in making our water use conservation something that's going to stand in the face of coming changes like drought in the Southwest and saltwater intrusion in Florida.

We're Taking a Week Off To Work on Some New Dad Joke Material

We'll be out of the office next week, so you'll have to make do without reading a new TUWaterWays and we'll have to make do without writing one. [You're gonna miss](#) us, but we're not [gonna leave you](#) with nothing, so enjoy this [playlist](#) one of our summer research assistants put together after her ever so inspirational time here at Chateau d'Eau.