

## Navigating After Sackett: How States Are Responding

### Carrie Sandstedt

The Pew Charitable Trusts

Home Office

Durango CO 81301

775-342-7367

Email: [csandstedt@pewtrusts.org](mailto:csandstedt@pewtrusts.org)

### Session Information

Panel discussion (45 or 60 minute session with 2-4 speakers)

### Abstract:

The 2023 U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency* significantly narrowed the scope of federal Clean Water Act's (CWA) jurisdiction, eliminating protections for more than half of the nation's wetlands and countless miles of intermittent and ephemeral waters across the U.S. by redefining "Waters of the US" or WOTUS. States have responded in various ways: some, like Indiana and North Carolina, passed legislation to weaken protections for wetlands and streams, while others, including Colorado, Minnesota, New Mexico, and Washington, are taking action to increase protection for state waters and fill the gaps left by the *Sackett* decision. Panelists from Colorado, New Mexico, and Washington will highlight how these states are responding to *Sackett*, including legislative action, rulemaking, and agency measures to provide better guidance and clarity for permitting, defining public participation, and restoring or enhancing protections for sensitive wetlands and streams.

### Potential Panelists:

- Ashley Giles, Restoration Ecologist, President & Conservation Lead, West Denver Trout Unlimited
- Potential Additional Colorado Panelist (TBC)
  - Invited: Annette Quill, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Rachel Conn, Amigos Bravos & Protect New Mexico Waters Coalition
- Washington State Department of Ecology (TBC)