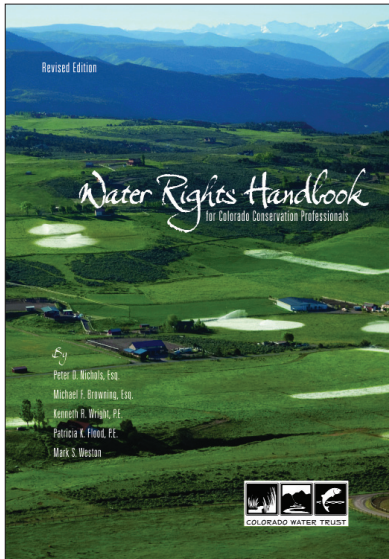




BRADFORD PUBLISHING COMPANY

Water Rights Handbook

for Colorado Conservation Professionals, Revised Edition



This book explains:

- Ⓢ The relationship between water and land conservation values.
- Ⓢ The use of water rights for conservation purposes.
- Ⓢ Basic principles of water law for conservation easements.
- Ⓢ Types of surface and underground water rights.
- Ⓢ Due diligence investigations for water rights.
- Ⓢ When water rights require a separate appraisal.
- Ⓢ The valuation methods used by water rights appraisers.
- Ⓢ How to encumber water rights in a conservation easement.
- Ⓢ Model water rights language for a conservation easement.
- Ⓢ How to close a conservation easement with water rights.
- Ⓢ Ongoing water rights stewardship responsibilities of land trusts.
- Ⓢ Instream flow protection.

The *Water Rights Handbook for Colorado Conservation Professionals* presents expert information on water rights with regard to conservation transactions. From the most fundamental principles of water law, to conducting due diligence investigations on water rights, appraising water rights for conservation easements, drafting conservation easement deeds to include water rights, carrying out water rights stewardship, and protecting instream flows, the *Water Rights Handbook* explains how to deal with water rights critical to the conservation values targeted in conservation transactions.

Written and reviewed by experienced water and conservation attorneys, engineers, and appraisers, the *Water Rights Handbook* provides essential information for land conservation professionals to sensibly evaluate, encumber, and protect the water resources necessary to preserve conservation values and to meet federal and state legal requirements for conservation easements.

Published by the Colorado Water Trust. The Colorado Water Trust published this *Revised Edition* to assist conservation professionals with recognizing the importance of water rights in their conservation work and becoming proficient in dealing with complex conservation issues involving water rights.

Funded by Great Outdoors Colorado

About the Authors

Peter D. Nichols is a leading expert on water law and conservation easements, water and growth, and water quality.

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Kenneth R. Wright, P.E. is a registered Professional Engineer in 13 states and a Licensed Appraiser in the State of Colorado.

Expert guidance on water rights due diligence investigations, appraisals, stewardship, and more!

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