

2026 Awardees of the ENRLS Scholarship for 2L/3L Law Student Pursuing a Career in Environmental and Natural Resources Law



Marisabel Jimenez is a rising third-year law student at St. Mary's University School of Law. At St. Mary's, Marisabel serves as a Comment Editor for *The Scholar: St. Mary's Law Review on Race and Social Justice*, where she provides substantive and stylistic feedback on various legal topics. Further, Marisabel has focused her legal education on public service, gaining extensive experience as a student attorney and through her pro bono work with the San Antonio Legal Service Association. In the future, Marisabel aspires to use her legal education and training to aid underserved populations across the state of Texas, ensuring that marginalized communities have a voice in property preservation and environmental safety.



Maryann Heffley is a rising 3L at Baylor Law School in Waco, Texas. She is the current President of the Baylor Environmental and Natural Resource Law Society and Charitable Director for Baylor Law HEAL. After graduation, Maryann hopes to pursue a career in environmental and natural resource law and policy. This summer she is focusing on gaining exposure to water law at both the state agency and private sector levels. Maryann is passionate about conserving natural resources for the next generation and is grateful to be awarded the scholarship which will assist her in gaining more experience in these respective fields!



Karolyn Raj is a rising 3L at the University of Texas School of Law. She earned her bachelor's degree in environmental science from University of Houston–Clear Lake. She has gained experience by interning with Harris County Attorney's Office - Environmental Division and Bayou City Waterkeeper. Karolyn has served as a teaching assistant for Torts, treasurer of the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association, associate editor for Texas Law Review, and student attorney in the Environmental and Capital Punishment clinics. This summer, she is a Law Clerk for Environmental Integrity Project in Washington, DC. Her science background and passion for environmental justice shapes her commitment to public interest work. After graduation, Karolyn hopes to be an environmental litigator working on behalf of under-resourced community members in the Houston area.



Amina Sohail recently graduated from Thurgood Marshall School of Law and has always been drawn to the law that sits at the intersection of people, land, and natural resources. That is what pulled her toward environmental and natural resources law. Energy development, particularly oil and gas, isn't going anywhere and neither is the need to manage land, water, and mineral rights responsibly. She thinks attorneys working in that space have a real opportunity to shape how the two coexist. Moving forward, Amina hopes to build a career in that space, and she is keeping an eye out for opportunities that let her work at that intersection. Amina wants to be someone who takes both sides of the equation seriously and she is excited to see exactly how that shapes up as she starts her career.



Cat Dorries recently graduated from South Texas College of Law Houston and is preparing to sit for the July bar examination. This Fall, she will begin her legal career as an associate at Toepfich & Associates, where she will focus on oil and gas transactions at the intersection of natural resources and energy law. Her academic and professional interests center on environmental, water, and energy-related legal issues, and she is excited to contribute to transactional work that supports the evolving energy sector while continuing to build a practice in areas that align with her longstanding passion for natural resource conservation and sustainable development.



Gunner Purcell is a rising third-year student at the Texas Tech School of Law. At Texas Tech, Gunner is on the editorial board of the Journal of the Energy Law Practitioner and an officer of the Energy Law Interest Group. He holds a B.S. in Agricultural Leadership & Development and History from Texas A&M University. After law school, he plans to practice Energy and Agricultural law in West Texas.



Uchenna Nwankwo recently graduated from SMU Dedman School of Law. At SMU, he was the President of the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Law Society, and a Notes Editor for the Science and Technology Law Review Journal. He devoted his time as a student to public interest work in many legal contexts, including environmental. He interned with both the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Vistra Corp., where he performed various environmental and energy-related projects in both the public and private sector. He hopes to carry this passion for environmental law into his legal career in the form of litigation work. He plans on working at Chamblee Ryan, P.C. in Dallas, Texas this Fall upon the passage of the July 2026 Bar Exam.



Hannah Mohr recently graduated from the University of Houston Law Center with a strong interest in environmental and natural resources law, particularly in the areas of litigation and regulatory compliance. Her experiences with Bayou City Waterkeeper and the Harris County Attorney's Office Environmental Division have shaped her interest in how environmental issues are addressed through holistic problem-solving. She is excited to continue developing as a litigator at Brown Sims, where the firm's maritime and civil litigation work will allow her to build practical skills in advocacy, case strategy, and client representation that will serve her throughout my legal career, including in matters involving environmental and natural resources issues.