

JOHN (ALEX) ALEXANDER ERWIN, J.D., PH.D.

Spessard Holland Law Center, Gainesville, FL 32611 | (863) 327-6951 | ja.erwin@ufl.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Florida Levin College of Law, Gainesville, FL

Associate Professor of Law [2025 -]

Florida International University College of Law, Miami, FL

Assistant Professor [2022 - 2025]

- Program Director - Environmental and Natural Resources Law Certificate
- Affiliations:
 - Institute of the Environment
 - Environment, Law & Economics Initiative
- Teaching:
 - LAW 5700 - Torts [F22; F23; F24]
 - LAW 6470 - Natural Resources Law [Sp23; Sp24; Sp25]
 - LAW 6471 - Environmental Law [F23; F24]
- Committee Assignments:
 - Appointments [2024-2025]
 - Academic Culture [2022-2025]
 - Curriculum [2022-2025]
 - Diversity and Inclusion [2022-2023]

Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University, White Plains, NY

Visiting Assistant Professor in Environmental Law [2021-2022]

- Teaching:
 - LAW 856 - Environmental Law Survey [Sp21; Sp22]
 - LAW 775 - Conservation Law [F21]
 - LAW 802 - Science for Environmental Lawyers [F21]

University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law, Tucson, AZ

Teaching Fellow and Professor of Practice [2018-2020]

- Teaching:
 - HNRS 395H - From the Laboratory to Capitol Hill: Science and Policy [F19]
 - LAW 402A/502A - Common Law I [Sp19; F19; Sp20; F20]
 - LAW 402B/502B - Common Law II [F18; Sp19; F19; Sp20; F20]
 - LAW 454/554 - Environmental Law and Policy [F18; Sp19; Su19; F19; Sp20; Su20; F20]
 - GENE 570L - Conservation Genetics Laboratory [F16; F18]

EDUCATION

University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law, Tucson, AZ

Juris Doctor – magna cum laude, May 2018 [GPA: 3.871/4.0, Top 10% (#12/123)]

- Certificate: Environmental Law, Science, and Policy
- Journal: *Arizona Journal of Environmental Law and Policy* – Articles Editor
- Awards and Fellowships: Order of the Coif; Sol Resnick Water Resources Fellow; Agnese Nelms Haury Social Justice Law Fellow; Carson Scholars Institute of the Environment Fellow; CALI Awards for highest course grade in: Civil Procedure (F15), Property (Sp16),

Animal Law (F16), and Professional Responsibility (Sp18); Distinguished Scholar Scholarship (full tuition); Dean's List (each semester); 2nd Place - 2017 ABA SEER Endangered Species Law Student Writing Competition

- Clinic: International Environmental Law Clinic – Yaqui Human Rights Project
- Research Fellow: Sol Resnick Fellow for Professor Robert Glennon
- Activities: Environmental Law Society, Christian Legal Society, Volunteer Lawyer Program

University of Arizona, Graduate Interdisciplinary Department in Genetics, Tucson, AZ

Doctorate of Philosophy in Genetics, December 2020 [GPA: 4.0/4.0]

- Dissertation: *The Use of Conservation Genomics to Inform Law and Policy*
- Minor: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- Awards: 2019 Grad Slam Finalist; Presidential Award for the University of Arizona 27th Student Showcase; Graduate and Professional Student Council Travel Grant; Graduate and Professional Student Council Research Grant; GIDP Graduate College Fellowship, Graduate College Dean's Tuition Award (2013 – 2014), GIDP Tuition Scholarship
- Committee: Dr. Melanie Culver (advisor), Dr. John Koprowski, Dr. Michael Barker, and Dr. Ken Logan

Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA

Bachelor of Science, double major in Biology and Biochemistry, June 2013

- Honors: Dean's List, Albemarle Corporation Honor Scholarship
- Activities: W&L Rugby, Phi Gamma Delta, Outing Club

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Law Review Articles and Essays - [SSRN](#)

John A. Erwin, *Litigating Predator Management*, 2025 UTAH L. REV. 97 (2025).

John A. Erwin, *Building Better Species: Assisted Evolution, Genetic Engineering, and the Endangered Species Act*, 108 CORNELL L. REV. 1117 (2023). - [SSRN](#)

- Winner of SEALS 2023 Call for Papers Award
- Chosen for presentation at the 2023 Harvard | Stanford | Yale Junior Faculty Forum

John A. Erwin, *So You Want to Be an Environmental Law Professor ...: An Empirical Analysis of the Environmental Law Hiring Market from 2011 – 2022*, 49 ECOLOGY L. CURRENTS 37 (2022). - [LINK](#)

John A. Erwin & Robert Glennon, *Feeding the World: How Changes in Biotech Regulation Can Jump Start the Second Green Revolution and Diversify the Agricultural Industry* 44 WM. & MARY ENVTL. L. & POL'Y REV. 327 (2020). - [SSRN](#)

John A. Erwin, *Hybridizing Law: A Policy for Hybridization Under the Endangered Species Act*, 47 ENVTL. L. REP. NEWS & ANALYSIS 10615 (2017). - [SSRN](#)

- Designated an Honorable Mention and republished in the 2018 *Environmental Law and Policy Annual Review* (ELPAR) as one of the top environmental policy-relevant articles from 2016-2017 - **John A. Erwin**, *Hybridizing Law: A Policy for Hybridization Under the Endangered Species Act (Abstract)*, 48 ENVTL. L. REP. NEWS & ANALYSIS 10740 (2018).

Peer-Reviewed Scientific Publications – [Research Gate](#)

- Payne, N., Pawlicki, A.J., Wisely, E., Vargas, K.L., **Erwin, J.A.**, Culver, M., & Goode, M., *Early signals of fragmentation of flat-tailed horned lizards in the Yuma Desert*, CONSERVATION GENETICS (2025), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10592-025-01691-5>.
- Erwin, J.A.**, Logan, K.A., Trumbo, D., Funk, W.C., Culver, M., *Effects of hunting on mating, relatedness, and genetic diversity in a puma population*, 33 MOLECULAR ECOLOGY e17237 (2024), <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.17237>.
- Payne, N., **Erwin, J.A.**, Morrison, J., Dwyer, J., Culver, M., *Genomic insights into isolation of the threatened Florida crested caracara (Caracara planicus)*. 115 JOURNAL OF HEREDITY 45 (2024), <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esad057>.
- Teal, C.N., Coykendal, D.K., Campbell, M.R., Delomas, T.A., Eardley, D.L., **Erwin, J.A.**, Schill, D.J., Bauder, J.M., Bonar, S.A., Culver, M., *The development of genetic sex identification markers and evidence of a male heterogametic sex determination system in red shiner (Cyprinella lutrensis)* 85 NORTH AMERICAN JOURNAL OF AQUACULTURE 74 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.1002/naaq.10274>.
- Winner of 2023 Publication Award from the American Fisheries Society for the best publication in the North American Journal of Aquaculture (NAJA) in 2023
- Erwin, J.A.**, Fitak, R.R., Culver, M. 2021. *PumaPlex100: An Expanded Tool for Puma SNP Genotyping with Low-yield DNA*. 13 CONSERVATION GENETICS RESOURCES 341 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12686-021-01206-7>.
- Erwin, J.A.**, Vargas, K., Blais, B.R., Bennett, K., Muldoon, J., Findysz, S., Christie, C., Heffelfinger, J.R., Culver, M. *Genetic Assessment of a Bighorn Sheep Population Expansion in the Silver Bell Mountains, Arizona*. PEERJ 6:e5978 (2018), <https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.5978>.
- Erwin, J.A.**, Fitak, R.R., Dwyer, J.F., Morrison, J.L., Culver, M., *Molecular Detection of Bacteria in the Families Rickettsiaceae and Anaplasmataceae in Northern Crested Caracaras (Caracara cheriway)*, 7 TICKS AND TICK-BORNE DISEASES 470 (2016), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ttbdis.2016.01.015>.

Books

- BIODIVERSITY LAWS, POLICIES, AND SCIENCE IN EUROPE, THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA (2024) (Eds. Giovanni Antonelli, Tianbao Qin, Maria Vittoria Ferroni, and **John A. Erwin**), <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-56218-1>.

Book Chapters

- John A. Erwin**, *Changing Genes for a Changing Climate: Genetic Intervention as a Tool for Biodiversity Conservation in the Era of Climate Change*, in RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY LAW (Eds. Richard Caddell and Phillipa McCormack) (2024). - [SSRN](#)
- John A. Erwin**, *Predator Law in the United States*, in BIODIVERSITY LAWS, POLICIES, AND SCIENCE IN EUROPE, THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA (2024) (Eds. Giovanni Antonelli, Tianbao Qin, Maria Vittoria Ferroni, and **John A. Erwin**). - [SSRN](#)

Works-in-Progress

- John A. Erwin**, *Intraspecific Genetic Variation and the ESA* (work in progress)
- Erwin, J.A.**, Fitak, R.R., Culver, M., *Using Genomics to Delineate Subspecies and Inform Translocations of Black-Tailed Prairie Dogs* (In prep.).
- Vargas, K., **Erwin, J.A.**, Culver, M., *Argali Sheep Population Subdivision and Barriers to Dispersal in the Khangai and Altai regions of Mongolia* (In prep.).

Erwin, J.A., Vargas, K., Stoltze, L., Fitak, R.R., Culver, M., *The Molecular Detection of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Rickettsia rickettsia, and Other Rickettsial Bacteria in Dermacentor parumapertus* (In prep.).

Reports and Other Publications

John A. Erwin, *Canis rufus is Dead! Long Live the Red Wolf!* (2017)

- 2nd Place - 2017 ABA SEER Endangered Species Law Student Writing Competition

Erwin, J.A., *PumaPlex: A Tool for the Genetic Analysis of Pumas, Wild Felid Monitor* (2016), Vol. 9, Issue 1.

Erwin, J.A., Fitak, R.R., Myers, T., Culver, M., *Genetic Analysis of Anodonta californiensis from the Rio Bavispe: A Recommendation for Reintroduction into the San Bernardino River Subbasin.* Arizona Game and Fish Report (2016) (peer reviewed).

Erwin, J.A., Culver, M., *Historical Connectivity of Black-tailed Prairie Dog Populations in the Southwest.* Arizona Game and Fish Report (2016) (peer reviewed).

Blogs and Popular Press

Alex Erwin, Beyond de-extinction and dire wolves, gene editing can help today's endangered species, *The Conversation* (June 6, 2025), <https://theconversation.com/beyond-de-extinction-and-dire-wolves-gene-editing-can-help-todays-endangered-species-254670>

Alex Erwin, The EPA and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day(s), *PrawfsBlawg* (July 01, 2024), <https://prawfsblawg.blogs.com/prawfsblawg/2024/07/the-epa-and-the-terrible-horrible-no-good-very-bad-days.html>

Alex Erwin, Sackett v. EPA – AKA See Rapanos (plurality opinion), *PrawfsBlawg* (May 30, 2023), <https://prawfsblawg.blogs.com/prawfsblawg/2023/05/sackett-v-epa-aka-see-rapanos-plurality-opinion.html>

Alex Erwin, An Empirical Analysis of the Environmental Law Hiring Market – Erwin Guest Post, *PrawfsBlawg* (Sept. 16, 2022), <https://prawfsblawg.blogs.com/prawfsblawg/2022/09/an-empirical-analysis-of-the-environmental-law-hiring-market-erwin-guest-post.html>

AWARDS

- 2023 Publication Award from the American Fisheries Society for *The development of genetic sex identification markers and evidence of a male heterogametic sex determination system in red shiner* [2024]
- FIU SBA Megan A. Fairlie Professor of the Year Award [2024]
- Young Scholar of the Year at the Wallace Stegner Center at the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah [2023]
- SEALS Call for Paper Award for *Building Better Species: Assisted Evolution, Genetic Engineering, and the Endangered Species Act* [2023]
- Honorable Mention in the 2018 *Environmental Law and Policy Annual Review* (ELPAR) as one of the top environmental policy-relevant articles from 2016-2017 for *Hybridizing Law: A Policy for Hybridization Under the Endangered Species Act* [2018]

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Intraspecific Genetic Variation and the ESA

- SEALS New Scholars Workshop – Environmental and Agricultural Law [July 2025]

- 13th Annual Sabin Colloquium on Innovative Environmental Law Scholarship at Columbia University [June 2025]
- Burke Environmental Law Center's Junior Faculty Workshop at Case Western Reserve University School of Law [May 2025]
- 21st International Wildlife Law Conference at Stetson University College of Law [April 2025]
- Early Environmental Law Scholars (EELS) Conference at Pace University [September 2024]
- SEALS Your Next article (New Scholars Workshop) [July 2023]
- 2nd Starved Rock Environmental Law Workshop at Loyola Chicago Law School [October 2022]

Litigating Predator Management

- University of Miami Law Legal Theory Workshop [January 2025]
- Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship at Vermont Law School [September 2024]
- University of Richmond School of Law Junior Faculty Forum [May 2024]
- Willamette University College of Law Faculty Workshop [April 2024]
- Mike Pappas' Online Environmental Workshop [March 2024]
- Wallace Stegner Center Young Scholar Lecture at the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah (available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=az-p9hZ2Yr8>) [November 2023]
- FIU/UM Summer Brown Bag Workshop [August 2023]
- SEALS New Scholars Workshop – Environmental Law and Housing Justice Panel [July 2023]
- Works-in-Progress Session at the Natural Resources Law Teachers Institute [June 2022]

Integrating Science and Law Through the Lens of Conservation Genetics

- Florida International University Earth and Environment Department Seminar [November 2024]
- University of Central Florida Biology Department Seminar [November 2022]

The Law of Genetic Engineering for Conservation

- Towards a Global Summit on Environmental Gene Editing? An Interdisciplinary Debate on Risk, Uncertainty, and Precaution in the New Genetic Era at Berkeley Law School [October 2024]

Building Better Species: Assisted Evolution, Genetic Engineering, and the Endangered Species Act

- SEALS Call for Papers Award Presentation [July 2023]
- Harvard | Stanford | Yale Junior Faculty Forum [June 2023]
- University of Miami Law Legal Theory Workshop [April 2023]
- Northwestern, Penn, and Stanford 5th Junior Faculty Forum for Law and STEM [October 2022]
- University of Baltimore School of Law Faculty Research and Development Series [March 2022]
- Twelfth Annual Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship at Vermont Law School [September 2021]
- 2021 Future Environmental Law Professors Workshop at Pace University [September 2021]
- Works-in-Progress Session at the Natural Resources Law Teachers Institute [June 2021]

- 8th Sabin Colloquium on Innovative Environmental Law Scholarship at Columbia University [May 2021]

So You Want to Be an Environmental Law Professor ...: An Empirical Analysis of the Environmental Law Hiring Market from 2011 – 2022

- 2023 Future Environmental Law Professors Workshop at Pace University [September 2023]

Innovation for the Next 50 Years: ESA at 50

- Florida International University 2nd Annual Environment Forum [March 2023]

Wildlife and Infrastructure Conflict

- University of Florida Public Interest Environmental Law Conference [February 2023]

Feeding the World: How Changes in Biotech Regulation Can Jump-Start the Second Green Revolution and Diversify the Agricultural Industry

- 2020 Future Environmental Law Professors Workshop at Pace University [September 2020]

Shepherding Students from the Lab to Publication: Teaching Students Conservation Genetics in the Laboratory Setting with Actual Case Studies

- 2020 Joint Meeting – AZ and NM American Fisheries and Wildlife Society [February 2020]

Using Genomics to Delineate Subspecies and Inform Translocations of Black-Tailed Prairie Dogs

- University of Arizona Grad Slam Finals [April 2019]
- University of Arizona 27th Student Showcase [February 2019]
- University of Arizona Graduate Interdisciplinary Program Showcase [December 2018]
- University of Arizona Science Café Series at Borderlands Brewery [November 2017]
- The Wildlife Society's 24th Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM [September 2017]

PumaPlex100: An Expanded Tool for Puma SNP Genotyping with Low-yield DNA

- 2016 Joint Meeting – AZ and NM American Fisheries and Wildlife Society [February 2016]
- Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC) Grant Winner's Expo [October 2015]
- 11th Mountain Lion Workshop, [May 2014]

The Effects of Harvest on the Sexual Structure and Genetic Diversity of a Puma Population

- 2016 NSF EID Interdisciplinary Retreat [August 2016]

UCLA LaKretz Conservation Genomics Workshop

- Accepted and attended on invitation [March 2015]

PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE

EarthJustice, Anchorage, AK

Summer Law Clerk – Alaska Regional Office [June 2017 – August 2017]

Provided research on a wide variety of environmental and administrative legal issues, drafted comments and complaints, and specifically worked to utilize scientific data and the law to further advocate for our clients.

Albemarle Corporation, Baton Rouge, LA

Intern – Microbiology Research [May 2012 – August 2012]

Grew biofilms of multiple bacteria for biocide testing in the Food Safety Lab.

Intern - Chemical Process Engineering, [May 2011 – August 2011]

Designed and managed process for silicon encapsulation of an organophosphate pesticide.

STUDENT ADVISING

LL.M. Theses

- Craig Simmonds [Pace University] – The Sacrifice Zones of the Southeast: Siting Prisons on Remediated Mountaintop Removal Sites in Appalachia (2022)
- Erica Peralta [Pace University] – Save the Plants to Save the Planet: How Genetic Engineering Provided the Science but Current Regulations Inhibit the Process (2022)

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- Abigail Hasebroock, *Experts: Endangered Species Act could stop Florida from putting golf courses in state parks* (Aug 23, 2024), <https://www.sun-sentinel.com/2024/08/23/experts-endangered-species-act-could-stop-florida-from-putting-golf-courses-in-state-park/>
- Angela Nicoletti, *What the recent Supreme Court ruling could mean for U.S. wetlands*, FIU News (June 14, 2023), <https://news.fiu.edu/2023/supreme-court-ruling-sackett-v-epa-what-it-means-for-wetlands>
- Kylie Mohr, *Is the Recovering America's Wildlife Act ready for climate action?*, HIGH COUNTRY NEWS (Aug. 31, 2022), <https://www.hcn.org/articles/north-wildlife-is-the-recovering-americas-wildlife-act-ready-for-climate-action>
- Alejandra Cardenas Cuestas, *Endangered or Not? JD/PhD Student Gains Recognition for Work Hybridizing Law and Biology*, JAMES E. ROGERS COLLEGE OF LAW NEWS (Feb. 14, 2018), <https://law.arizona.edu/news/2018/02/endangered-or-not-jdphd-student-gains-recognition-work-hybridizing-law-and-biology>

PEER REVIEWER AND JOURNAL EDITOR

People and Nature – Associate Editor and Reviewer

Climate Risk Management section of Frontiers in Climate – Review Editor

PLOS One – Reviewer

BAR ADMISSIONS

Arizona

New York