



Sandra Snodgrass

Partner

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Sandi Snodgrass helps natural-resource developers, traditional and renewable energy companies, utilities, pipeline companies, and other clients throughout the country successfully navigate the complex federal environmental review and permitting processes for a variety of proposed projects.

She practices in the areas of environmental law, public lands, and energy law, with an emphasis on protected wildlife.

Sandi understands the complex regulatory environment under federal and state wildlife protection laws—including the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act—and guides clients through the review and compliance process, ensuring projects and business objectives can advance.

PRACTICES

Environmental and Natural Resources
Endangered Species and Wildlife Regulation
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
NEPA, Public Lands, and Cultural Resources
Compliance Services

EDUCATION

Northwestern University School of Law,
J.D., 1999
cum laude
Dean's List
Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, Note and Comment Editor
Julius H. Miner Moot Court Champion

Oklahoma State University, B.S., 1996
Microbiology
With Honors
Outstanding Senior in Microbiology
Phi Kappa Phi

BAR ADMISSIONS

Colorado

EXPERIENCE

Endangered Species and Wildlife Regulation Experience

- Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation
- Section 10 habitat conservation plans and incidental take permits
- Candidate conservation agreements and candidate conservation agreements with assurances
- Species listing issues and litigation
- Development of avian and bat protection plans and bird and bat conservation strategies under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Bald and Golden Eagle Act permitting and enforcement issues
- CITES and Lacey Act compliance issues

Environmental Review and Compliance Experience

- National Environmental Policy Act compliance and litigation
- Clean Water Act Section 404 permits
- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultation
- Right-of-way grants under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and Mineral Leasing Act
- Cutting-edge voluntary conservation agreements

CLIENT RESULTS

Representative Matters

Advised numerous clients regarding issues arising under NEPA and other

statutory review processes for a variety of projects on both public and private lands, including four high-voltage transmission lines, numerous intra-state and interstate natural gas pipelines, a water pipeline, a hydropower project, numerous oil and gas development projects, and mining projects.

Advised various resource developers, utilities, and energy companies on habitat conservation plans and ESA Section 7 consultation issues, including an interstate natural gas pipeline company's large-scale habitat conservation plan that covered multiple states, species, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regions.

Provided strategic and legal advice to utilities, renewable energy companies, and natural resource developers on Migratory Bird Treaty Act compliance, including preparation of development of bat and bird conservation strategies and avian protection plans; and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act compliance, including eagle take permits.

Advised clients on the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultation processes and Clean Water Act Section 404 permits for a variety of projects, including transmission lines, oil and gas seismic projects, pipelines, transportation projects, and a hydropower project.

Negotiated a precedent-setting species conservation agreement on behalf of a natural resource developer.

Obtained favorable rulings from the Interior Board of Land Appeals and federal courts upholding BLM oil and gas and mining decisions.

PUBLICATIONS

"Proposed ESA Revisions—Implications for Energy and Natural Resource Interests," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 07/27/2018

"The Council on Environmental Quality Solicits Comments to Update NEPA Regulations," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 06/20/2018

"Wildlife and Vegetation Protection," *Environmental Regulation*, excerpted from the *Second Edition of the American Law of Mining*, Chapter 175, Co-Author, 2018

"Bureau of Land Management Initiates NEPA Scoping Process for Potential Changes to the Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendments and Issues Notice of Cancellation of Withdrawal Application/Proposal," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 10/13/2017

"Federal Mitigation Policies Revoked: What Will It Mean to Developers?," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 4/06/2017

"The Administration's End-of-Summer Push on Compensatory Mitigation Policy," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 9/07/2016

"Atlantic Sturgeon Critical Habitat Proposed for East Coast Rivers,"

Holland & Hart News Update, Co-Author, 6/07/2016

"Key Provisions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Draft Revisions to the Eagle Permit Rule," *Holland & Hart News Update*, 5/10/2016

"Ten Things to Know About the Proposed Revisions to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mitigation Policy," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 3/21/2016

"Is the Endangered Species Act an endangered statute? Drought stressors on species protection," *Trends, ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources Newsletter*, Co-Author, March/April 2016

"Federal Wildlife Agencies Finalize Revisions to Critical Habitat Rules," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 2/11/2016

"The Presidential Memorandum and Interior Department Policy on Mitigation: Their Content and Implications," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 11/09/2015

"Four Questions You May Have About the Sage-Grouse 'Not Warranted' Decision," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 9/24/2015

"U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Consider Migratory Bird Incidental Take Program," *Holland & Hart News Update*, May 2015

"Council on Environmental Quality Releases Two NEPA Guidance Documents," *Holland & Hart News Update*, Co-Author, 1/5/2015

"Special-Status Wildlife on Public Lands," *Presented at the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Special Institute on Public Land Law, Regulation, and Management, (served as chair of the Institute)*, Co-Author, May 2014

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Pipelines to Prosperity II: Challenges, Opportunities and Lessons Learned," *SHALE INSIGHT™ Conference 2018*, Pittsburgh, PA, October 24, 2018

"Traversing the Terrain of Public Land Law," *American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources 26th Annual Fall Conference*, San Diego, California, October 18, 2018

"NEPA Streamlining: Advantages and Pitfalls for the Project Proponent," *The Holland & Hart 2018 Environmental & Natural Resources Summit*, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 11, 2018

"Eagle Permitting Issues for Wind Projects," *EUCI Wind Project Repowering Due Diligence Summit*, August 13-14, 2018

"Program Chair," *Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 63rd Annual Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Institute*, July 2017

"Hot Topics in Wildlife Protection Laws: What You Need to Know to Avoid Liability Under Their Expanding Reach," *Panelist, American Bar*

Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources, Fall Conference, October 2015

"It's for the Birds (and Other Critters): Recent Legal Developments in Wildlife Protection," Panel Moderator, American Wind Energy Association Wind Project Siting Seminar, March 2015

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Denver Bar Association, Member
- American Bar Association, Member
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Member
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 63rd Annual Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Institute, Program Chair
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Special Institutes Committee, 2009-present
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Long-Range Planning Committee, Chair, 2015-present
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Budget Committee, 2013-present
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Board of Directors, 2012-2014, and Trustee at Large, 2010-2012