



## Sandra Snodgrass

Partner

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**Sandi helps 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 NEPA, protected wildlife, and cultural resources. Sandi advises natural resource developers, traditional and renewable energy companies, utilities, pipeline companies, and other clients.

Sandi understands the complex regulatory environment under federal 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  
Wildlife and Protected Species  
Federal Lands Permitting  
Environmental Health and Safety  
Environmental Transactions

### INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources  
Mining  
Renewable Energy and Storage  
Oil and Gas  
Conventional Power

### 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**

"Key Takeaways from Final Revisions to Endangered Species Act Regulations ," *Wildlife and Protected Species Update*, April 15, 2024

"Restraining ESA Critical Habitat: Ninth Circuit Overturns FWS's Jaguar Critical Habitat Designation," *Holland & Hart Client Alert*, May 25, 2023

"U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Proposes Revisions to Eagle Take Permit Regulations," 10/03/2022

"Wildlife Roundup," *Holland & Hart News Update*, 04/14/2021

"Answers to Key Questions about the Revised CEQ NEPA Regulations ," *Holland & Hart News Update*, 08/19/2020

"Council on Environmental Quality Issues Final NEPA Rule," *Holland & Hart News Update*, 07/17/2020

"What You Need to Know About Developments Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act," *POWER Engineers Currents Newsletter*, Winter 2020

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

"BGEPA Permits Beyond the Wind Industry," *CLE International's 4th*

*Annual Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) Conference, Denver, Colorado, January 2022*

*"Permitting in Other Industries," CLE International's 3rd Annual Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) Conference, Denver, Colorado, December 2019*

## **RECOGNITION**

- Thomson Reuters Stand-out Lawyers, 2022
- Acritas Star Lawyer, 2019-2020
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Environmental Law, 2021-2025
- *Chambers USA*, Environment, 2021-2024

## **PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS**

- Denver Bar Association, Member, 1999-present
- American Bar Association, Member, 1999-present
- The Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law
  - Member, 1999-present
  - Treasurer, 2020-2021
  - Program Committee, Member, 2009-present; Chair, 2019-2020
  - Budget Committee, Member, 2013-2021
  - 63rd Annual Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law Institute, Program Chair, 2017
  - Board of Directors, 2012-2014; Trustee at Large, 2010-2012