



Janet Howe

Partner

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Janet is a formidable environmental advocate, representing clients in complex litigation with multilayered legal and regulatory issues.

PRACTICES

Environmental
Environmental Litigation
Water Resources
Site Remediation
Federal Lands Permitting

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources
Mining
Conventional Power

EDUCATION

University of Arizona, James E. Rogers
College of Law, J.D., 2017
summa cum laude
Order of the Coif
Arizona Law Review, Managing Editor
Hawaii Pacific University, M.A., 2010
Juniata College, B.A., 2006

BAR ADMISSIONS

Arizona

Janet has extensive experience advising clients in complex environmental litigation, regulatory compliance, permitting challenges, and resource disputes. She guides client at all stages of litigation and challenges and has experience advocating for clients before administrative agencies and state and federal tribunals.

Janet's practice includes assisting clients of all types including mining companies, renewable energy developers, irrigation districts, and municipalities, navigate sophisticated environmental regulatory frameworks. She adeptly handles environmental litigation involving Clean Water Act permits, CERCLA/Superfund matters, National Environmental Policy Act challenges, federal and state mining permit disputes, water rights adjudications, and environmental compliance matters.

Janet also draws from her general background in commercial litigation, including experience advising clients on insurance recovery matters, to help secure policy proceeds for claims and losses under various commercial insurance lines, including property, business interruption, general liability, and professional liability policies.

Before joining Holland & Hart, Janet served as Counsel at Perkins Coie. She served as a law clerk for now Chief Justice Ann A. Scott Timmer of the Arizona Supreme Court and Judge David G. Campbell of the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona. She also brings valuable policy expertise from her graduate studies in sustainable development.

EXPERIENCE

- Represents clients in Clean Water Act, CERCLA/Superfund, and NEPA litigation
- Defends mining permits and water quality authorizations against third-party challenges
- Handles environmental enforcement actions and citizen suit defense
- Advises on federal and state regulatory compliance strategies
- Secures environmental approvals for mining and renewable energy projects
- Navigates complex water rights disputes and adjudications

CLIENT RESULTS

- Represented Resolution Copper Mining, LLC in an Arizona Supreme Court case challenging renewal of its Clean Water Act National Discharge Elimination System permit by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. *San Carlos Apache Tribe v. State*, 550 P.3d 1096 (Ariz. 2024) (new, integrated mine shaft did not constitute or create a “new source” under Clean Water Act).
- Co-counsel for the City of Flagstaff in The General Adjudication of All Rights to Use Water in the Little Colorado River System and Source, In Re: Navajo Nation, Case No. CV6417-300 (Ariz. Sup. Ct., Apache Cty.).
- Defending intervenor Resolution Copper Mining, LLC in three cases in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona challenging a statutorily mandated land exchange with the U.S. Forest Service, intended to facilitate copper mine development in rural Arizona, under NEPA and other theories. *Apache Stronghold v. United States*, No. CV-21-0050; *San Carlos Apache Tribe v. United States*, No. CV-21-0068; *Arizona Mining Reform Coalition v. United States*, cv-21-0122. Previously prevailed in a challenge to the Forest Service’s approval of data collection activities on public land. *Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners Coalition v. United States Forest Service, et al.*, 279 F. Supp. 3d 898 (2017) (D. Ariz. 2017).
- Representing Resolution Copper Mining, LLC in a case by a tribal affiliate group asserting that the United States’ proposed conveyance of federal lands to Resolution would violate the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the first amendment’s free exercise clause. *Apache Stronghold v. United States*, 101 F. 4th 1036 (9th 1036) (en banc).
- Representing of Resolution Copper Mining, LLC, developer of one of North America’s largest copper mines, in administrative litigation brought by tribal and conservation group interests to challenge the wastewater discharge permit issued to Resolution by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. 254 Ariz. 179 (Ct. App. 2022).
- Advising Resolution Copper Mining, LLC, a joint venture between Rio Tinto and BHP, on environmental regulatory issues pertaining to its project near Superior, Arizona.
- Court-appointed counsel in a six-day jury trial over prison inmate’s civil rights claims against state prison officials. *Crago v. Pitz*, CV19-04532 (D. Ariz. 2022).

PUBLICATIONS

"What Nevada ‘Superbasin’ Ruling Means for Water Users," *Law360*, April 2, 2025

"High Court Tribal Water Rights Ruling Steadies the Boat," *Law360*, July 28, 2023

"Law of Environmental Protection Treatise - Oil & Gas Chapter,"

Environmental Law Institute, 2022

RECOGNITION

- Southwest Super Lawyers® Rising Stars, Environmental Litigation, 2024, 2025
- AZ Big Media, Top 50 Emerging Leaders in Arizona Law, 2025

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Foundation, Fellow, 2025-present
- ABA Forest Resources Committee, Vice Chair, 2021-present
- ABA Mining Committee
 - Vice Chair, 2023-2024
 - Co-Chair, 2024-present
- Arizona Bar Disability Law Council, Member, 2023-present