

Contact

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Top Skills

Nonprofits
Public Policy
Legislative Relations

Certifications

Licensed to practice law in Colorado and California

Publications

The unlawful reduction of Bears Ears National Monument: An executive overreach

Charles F. Wilkinson & Daniel Cordalis, Heeding the Clarion Call for Sustainable, Spiritual Landscapes: Will the People Be Granted a New Forest Service?, 33 PUB. LAND AND RES. L. REV. 1 (2012).

Daniel Cordalis & Dean B. Suagee, American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes and Climate Change, 22 NAT. RES. & ENV'T 45 (2008).

Civilizing Public Land Management in the Colorado River Basin

Amy Cordalis & Daniel Cordalis, Indian Water Rights: A "Cloud" over the Colorado River Basin, 5 ARIZ. J. ENVTL. L. & POL'Y 333 (2015).

Daniel Cordalis

Advocate for Tribal Natural Resource Priorities
United States

Summary

Experienced Attorney with a demonstrated history of working on natural resource, water, and tribal issues in tribal, state, and federal governments. Skilled in Litigation, Water Resource Management, Land Management, Legislative Relations, Public Speaking, and Collaborative Problem-Solving.

Experience

Colorado River Sustainability Campaign
Tribal Partnerships Manager
July 2022 - Present (1 year 4 months)

Ridges to Riffles Indigenous Conservation Group
Co-Principal
August 2022 - Present (1 year 3 months)

Ridges to Riffles (R2R) is a new, native-led and directed natural resource conservation and advocacy non-profit organization dedicated to protecting tribal cultural and natural resources. We provide natural resource legal and policy services to protect, restore, and conserve tribal natural and cultural resources using law and policy. Our experience shows that Indian Country needs more professional natural resources expertise to tackle climate change resilience efforts and engage in needed conservation and restoration work to protect tribal resources; R2R aims to support those efforts.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Deputy Solicitor for Water Resources
February 2021 - May 2022 (1 year 4 months)
Washington DC-Baltimore Area

Cordalis Law, P.C.
Attorney
July 2016 - February 2021 (4 years 8 months)
Arcata, California

I represent Indian tribes on water rights, natural resources, environmental, and Indian law issues, including litigation, transactions, carbon markets, ICWA, and governmental negotiations. My work includes close communication and coordination with tribal clients, including tribal leadership, and a thorough understanding of the legal and scientific issues. My work is focused primarily on water and natural resource issues within the Klamath and Colorado River basins that require multi-party collaborative efforts.

I also work with national conservation groups to broaden their work to be inclusive of Native communities and tribal governments, particularly in natural resource management and collaboration.

I am licensed in Colorado and in California.

Humboldt State University

Lecturer

August 2017 - May 2019 (1 year 10 months)

Arcata, California

Lectured ESM 325, Environmental Law & Policy

Earthjustice

Associate Attorney

April 2015 - June 2016 (1 year 3 months)

Denver

Litigation practice focused on public interest environmental and public lands issues. My work include motions practice, brief drafting, record review, client development and outreach, and assisting litigation strategy for public-interest and tribal governments.

At Earthjustice, we fought for healthy communities, clean energy, biodiversity, and protecting natural places from short-sighted, harmful development.

Yurok Tribe

Attorney

October 2014 - March 2015 (6 months)

Klamath, California

Colorado State Supreme Court

Law Clerk, Justice Greg Hobbs

September 2012 - August 2013 (1 year)

Reviewing cert petitions, drafting bench memos, drafting opinions, editing the same, discussing cases with Justice and clerks.

University of Colorado Law School

Legal Research Assistant to Charles Wilkinson

February 2009 - August 2011 (2 years 7 months)

Worked closely with renowned Indian and public lands law expert Prof. Wilkinson to research Indian law issues and provide him memoranda; helped with research, citations, endnotes, text drafting, and other work on Wilkinson's book on the history of the Siletz Tribe, *The People Are Dancing Again*.

National Congress of American Indians

Legislative Associate

November 2005 - July 2008 (2 years 9 months)

Legislative and administrative advocacy, issue tracking, coalition building, public speaking, and working closely with tribal leaders to get natural resource, agricultural, and environmental priorities accomplished.

Education

University of Colorado Boulder

Doctor of Law (JD), Public Lands and Indian Law · (2008 - 2011)

University of Colorado Boulder

MA, Geography (Hydrology) · (2002 - 2007)

Rice University

Bachelor's degree, Geology, Environmental Engineering · (1996 - 2000)