

## **Robert G. Dreher**

### **Professional Employment**

#### **Consultant and legal counsel, 2021-present.**

Provision of strategic counsel and legal representation to conservation organizations and businesses regarding complex environmental and natural resources matters.

#### **Potomac Riverkeeper Network, 2022-2024. *Legal Director.***

Led the legal program of the Potomac Riverkeeper Network, including supervision of citizen suit litigation to enforce the Clean Water Act and other laws protecting the public's right to clean and healthful water.

**Defenders of Wildlife**, Washington, D.C. *Senior Vice President for Conservation Programs and General Counsel*, 2016-2021. Responsible for management and policy direction of national wildlife conservation organization's programs, including programs promoting responsible renewable energy development, proper management of federal public lands, effective implementation of the Endangered Species Act and other conservation laws, scientific innovation, and international wildlife conservation.

**United States Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**, Washington, D.C. *Associate Director*, 2014-2016. Second-ranking official in federal agency charged with protecting endangered species, administering the National Wildlife Refuge system, and conserving fish and wildlife resources of the United States. Served as primary adviser to the Director and represented the Service's interests in decision-making on policy matters involving endangered species, wildlife trafficking and conservation within the Department of the Interior, within the administration, and in international forums.

**United States Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division**. Washington, D.C. *Acting Assistant Attorney General*, 2013-2014. Led 700-employee Division charged with representation of the United States in court on environmental and natural resources matters. Advised the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, and Associate Attorney General on civil and criminal matters involving environmental, natural resources, and tribal claims. Served as co-Chair of the President's Task Force for Combatting Wildlife Trafficking.

*Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General*, 2010-2013. As first assistant to the Assistant Attorney General, held primary responsibility for management of Environment and Natural Resources Division, including supervision of ENRD's Executive Office, with responsibility for the Division's budget and administration, and supervision of Natural Resources Section in litigation involving federal public lands, takings, tribal trust claims, National Environmental Policy Act, and other natural resource issues.

**Defenders of Wildlife**. Washington, D.C. *Senior Vice President for Climate Change and Conservation Law and General Counsel*, 2009-2010. As Senior Vice President of national conservation organization, responsible for supervision of two Vice Presidents and their departments charged with development and implementation of organization's



programs to address climate change impacts on wildlife and habitat throughout the United States and supervision of seven-lawyer in-house legal staff handling precedent-setting litigation involving wildlife and federal lands.

*Vice President for Conservation Law and General Counsel*, 2007-2009. Responsible for management of Defenders' legal department and litigation program.

*Vice President for Land Conservation*, 2006-2007. Responsible for management of Defender's programs focused on conservation and habitat protection on private lands and federal public lands.

**Solo Private Practice.** Washington, D.C. 2005-2006.

Provided strategic counsel to conservation organizations, government agencies, and businesses on complex environmental matters.

**Georgetown University Law Center, Georgetown Environmental Law & Policy Institute.** Washington, D.C. *Deputy Executive Director*, 2003-2005. Responsible for legal research, public education, and advocacy regarding environmental policy issues, including proper implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act and regulatory takings. Authored *NEPA Under Siege*, a monograph describing legislative and administrative attacks on the integrity of NEPA under the Bush administration, and other reports and Congressional testimony.

**Troutman Sanders, LLC.** Washington, D.C. *Of Counsel*, 2000-2003. Provided legal counsel to government agencies, conservation organizations, Indian tribes, and businesses in complex environmental and energy matters.

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.** Washington, D.C. *Deputy General Counsel*, 1996-2000. Responsible for counseling agency leaders on legal policy matters and for supervision of agency litigation. Represented agency in international treaty negotiations involving regulation of persistent organic pollutants and international trade, and in interagency dispute resolution processes involving major federal projects. Represented EPA before the U.S. Court of Appeals in challenges to agency's newly promulgated national ambient air quality standards for ozone and particulate matter. Led development of legal policy for recognition of Native American tribal authority to manage water quality under the Clean Water Act and policy framework for resolving interagency disputes under the Endangered Species Act.

**Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (now Earthjustice).** Washington, D.C. *Managing Attorney and Staff Attorney*, 1985-1996. Representation and advocacy on behalf of conservation organizations and Indian tribes in litigation seeking to ensure proper management of federal public lands, protection of endangered species and other wildlife, and the rights of the public to participate in federal agency decision-making involving natural resources.

**Hill & Barlow.** Boston, MA. *Associate*, 1981-1985. Provided legal counsel and representation to businesses, government agencies and conservation groups on matters involving environmental issues, intellectual property, and tort litigation.

## **Teaching**

**George Washington University Law School.** Washington, D.C.  
*Professorial Lecturer in Law*, 1990-2007. Taught Federal natural resources law.

**Georgetown University Law Center.** Washington, D.C.  
*Adjunct Professor*, 2004-2005. Taught Federal natural resources law.

## **Education**

**Yale Law School.** New Haven, CT.  
J.D., 1981. President, Yale Environmental Law Society.

**Brown University.** Providence, RI.  
M.A., *American Civilization*, 1979.

**Harvard College.** Cambridge, MA.  
B.A. *cum laude*, 1973.