

DERF L. JOHNSON

EXPERIENCE

DECEMBER 2010 – PRESENT (VARIOUS ROLES WITHIN ORGANIZATION)

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION CENTER
HELENA, MONTANA

- Work with team and broad array of coalitions and stakeholder organizations to develop and execute policy and legal advocacy goals of organization.
- Manage MEIC's litigation portfolio, assist in representing MEIC in litigation and administrative processes, and serve as a full-time lobbyist in the Montana Legislature.
- Directly manage or assist in managing various campaigns focusing on coal mining and burning, water quality protection, hardrock mining, oil and gas development, good government, civic participation, and land use planning. Manage MEIC staff responsible for executing MEIC's Land Use program.
- Serve as a staff member of MEIC's board sub-committee on diversity, equity, and inclusion, manage the litigation sub-committee.
- Represent MEIC in a multitude of different capacities, including with the media, donors, members, the board of directors, and various other stakeholders.
- Assist in the development and implementation of campaign plans and long-range organizational strategic planning.
- Assist in several organization-sustaining matters, including fundraising, member communications, and events.

EDUCATION

MAY 2010

JURIS DOCTOR, UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA SCHOOL OF LAW

- Certificate in Natural Resources and Environmental Law
- Staff Member, Public Land & Resources Law Review
- Clinical Experience - Land Use Planning Clinic
- Certification in Natural Resources Conflict Resolution

DECEMBER 2005

B.S., ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES & ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

- Graduated Summa Cum Laude, worked / volunteered with the Montana Public Interest Research Group, served on the Student Senate & sustainability Advisory Council.

SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

- Coalition & Campaign Management
- Effective Public Speaker

- Legal and Policy Expertise in complex Environmental Matters
- Strong, Proven Writing Skills for Various Audiences
- Prioritization of Clear & Concise Communication
- Strong Interpersonal Skills

CREDENTIALS & ACTIVITIES

- Member in Good Standing – Montana Bar Association
- Member of the Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law MBA Section
- Montana Conservation Voters, Board Member, 2014-2018.
- Young Southeast Asian Leadership Initiative – 2017 Host for Fellowship participants involved in conservation in Myanmar and Cambodia

SELECT RECENT PUBLIC APPEARANCES

- May 5th, 2022, 1st Judicial District Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education, Hardrock Mining in Montana and Litigation Surrounding the Black Butte Copper Project, online.
- April 2022, Earth Law Week, Panel discussion on Bad Actor, GMA reform, and injustices around hardrock mining for Montana tribes, University of Montana / online.
- July 2019, Energy Finance, Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, “Coal Bailouts,” Columbia Law School, New York, NY.

SELECT LEGAL MATTERS

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SELECT RECENT MEDIA APPEARANCES

- [*Mining Companies Strike Gold by Destroying Public Lands*](#), *In These Times*, June 2, 2022.
- [*Why Big Sky is Luxurious, Pricey, and Maybe the Future of Skiing*](#), *The New York Times*, March 15, 2022.
- [*The Battle for the Soul of Montana*](#), *Rolling Stone Magazine*, April 15, 2021.
- [*Under Trump, the lines are drawn for a battle over resources in the West*](#), *The Los Angeles Times*, October 27, 2017