



MICHELLE BUSHMAN

EXPERIENCE

Western States Water Council

Deputy Director and General Counsel | July 2023 - Present

Assistant Director and General Counsel | May 2020 – June 2023

Legal Counsel | May 2015 – May 2020

- Western water policy analysis, editor of the Western States Water weekly newsletter, surveys of western states on water issues, advocacy of WSWC policy positions passed by bipartisan governor-appointed members across 18 western states
- Facilitating meetings, webinars, workshops, and forums for states, federal agencies and tribes to exchange perspectives, constraints, and opportunities to work together to better resolve concerns over water issues:
 - Biennial Symposium on the Settlement of Indian Reserved Water Rights Claims with the Native American Rights Fund
 - Workshops on Groundwater and Meeting Federal Water Needs; State Infrastructure Funding Mechanisms; Water Quality-Quantity Nexus; Improving Seasonal to Subseasonal Precipitation Forecasting to Support Water Management; State and Federal Agencies' Approaches to Water Rights for Grazing on Federal Lands; Obtaining Water Rights for Wild and Scenic Rivers; State Technical and Policy Considerations to a Regional Approach to WOTUS; Abandoned Hardrock Mine Water Quality Remediation; New Mexico Integrated Water Financing Plan
 - Webinars on the McCarran Amendment and State Adjudication and Implementation of Federal Water Rights; Wildfires and Water Resources; Pumped Storage Hydropower and State and Federal Permitting Processes; Stream Restoration and Water Rights; States PFAS Roundtable
 - Western Water Cooperative Committee (Western States and Army Corps of Engineers)
- Collaborative preparation of reports on surveys and meetings
 - Stock Water Rights for Grazing Livestock on Federal Lands | [link](#)
 - Water Reuse in the West: Western State Water Reuse Governance and Programs | [link](#)
 - Applicability of regional classification schemes and analytical tools to regional definitions of Waters of the United States (WOTUS) | [link](#)
 - New Mexico Integrated Water Financing Plan: A Partnership between WSWC, WestFAST, and the State of New Mexico | [link](#)
- In house attorney

Bushman Research & Drafting LLC

Owner | May 2014 – August 2016

- Legal research and drafting of legal documents as an independent contractor for law firms and solo attorneys.

Orange Legal Technologies

Attorney | May 2014 – April 2015

- Attorney review of electronic discovery for large-scale litigation

Ford & Huff LC

Associate | August 2008 – May 2014

- Civil litigation, drafting pleadings and motions, hearings; researching; teaching interns

Western States Water Council

Legal Extern | May – June 2007

- Externship for BYU Law School credit. Researched groundwater laws in the 18 western states, including conjunctive use of surface and groundwater, and domestic well exceptions.

Brigham Young University

Teaching Assistant | January – April 2007

- Jewish, Roman, and Greek Law: Preparation for lectures; graded exams and homework; assembled an extensive database of students' research; office hours for students with questions

Moyes Storey

Legal Extern | May - June 2006

- Externship for BYU Law School credit. Researched Arizona water adjudication issues, reserved water rights for state trust lands, priority water rights for Arizona ranch; attended Department of Water Resources meetings and a water rights settlement meeting; prepared documents and evidence for civil trial; drafted a template CC&R for small developers.

Brigham Young University

Stable Isotope Laboratory Manager | September 2003 – October 2005

- Scheduled student and professor use of mass spectrometer and extraction line; ordered lab supplies; taught students to prepare and analyze water samples; used mass spectrometer and extraction line to prepare and analyze isotopic values of rock and water samples

Teaching Assistant, Geology | January – April 2003

- Preparation for lectures; office hours for student questions; graded homework and exams; taught undergraduate geology lab to students preparing to become primary or secondary school teachers.

Research Assistant, Geology | August – December 2002

- Preparing Kazakstan limestone samples for carbon-13 analysis.

Custodian | October 2001 – April 2002

- Early morning cleaning of the BYU Bookstore and offices.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Office Assistant | August 1998 – August 2001

- Assisted Faculty Senate with clerical duties, intake of student petitions, preparing Faculty Senate Handbook for UNLV accreditation.

Employer's Insurance Company of Nevada

File Clerk | February – August 1998

- Assisted the Permanent Partial Disability Unit with clerical duties, entering case notes, and authorizing repeat prescriptions for pharmacies.

Sapura Telecom, Inc.

Administrative Assistant | February 1997 – January 1998

- Made travel arrangements, trained customer service representatives, wrote memoranda, scheduled meetings, summarized site reports from CSRs on the east coast.

Pembroke Children's Center

Pre-School Teacher | October 1996 – February 1997

- Planned and taught lessons involving pre-literacy skills and social interaction.

Nu-Home TV & Furniture

File Associate | October 1995 – September 1996

- Assisted office personnel with clerical work. Created a new filing system to organize disheveled boxes and stacks of sensitive credit applications, with color-coded index cards in neatly filed drawers so that the location of any application could be immediately identified.

Savon Drug

Cashier | June 1994 – May 1995

- Rang up sales, stocked shelves with merchandise, assisted in Customer Service and Pharmacy.

Walmart

Jewelry Engraver | November – December 1993

- Engraved lettering on pens, bracelets, etc., and assisted the Jewelry Department.

EDUCATION

Brigham Young University

Juris Doctor | 2005 - 2008

- J. Reuben Clark Law School
- Natural Resources Law Society

Master of Science, Geology | 2003 - 2008

- Emphases in geochemistry, hydrology, geophysics.
- Master's Thesis: Contribution of Recharge Along Regional Flow Paths to Discharge at Ash Meadows, Nevada (<https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/etd/1380/>)
- Publication: Michelle Bushman, Stephen T. Nelson, David Tingey and Dennis Eggett, Regional groundwater flow in structurally-complex extended terranes: An evaluation of the sources of discharge at Ash Meadows, Nevada, Journal of Hydrology, 10.1016/j.jhydrol.2010.03.013, 386, 1-4, (118-129), (2010).

Bachelor of Science, Geology | 2001 – 2002

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Undergraduate Student, Geology | 1998 - 2001