

Ann D. Navaro

Partner

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Ann Navaro advises on and litigates under the federal laws and policies governing natural resources and the environment. After more than 25 years as a top litigator and policy adviser to the federal government, Ann brings exceptional insight and acumen to clients seeking to build infrastructure, produce valuable natural resources, or improve government policies and programs affecting their businesses. She has held senior legal and policy positions at the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Department of the Interior. Ann spent more than 10 years as a trial lawyer in the Environment and Natural Resources Division at the US Department of Justice, as well as 10 years litigating and managing civil works litigation for the Army Corps.

Ann has advised on some of the most challenging and high-profile policy issues in natural resources and environmental law, including NEPA reform, federal permit streamlining, wetlands protection, and protected species policy. She has litigated or overseen the litigation of scores of disputes involving a wide range of issues, such as upstream energy permitting, wetlands permitting, offshore royalties, federal takings and constitutional challenges.

Ann supports clients—including infrastructure developers and companies active in the upstream, pipeline, renewables, power transmission, and LNG sectors—on project siting and operation; permitting and enforcement under federal wetland, habitat and resource statutes; and related regulatory issues, policy advocacy, and litigation.

Industries

[Energy](#)

Practices

[Environment, Lands and](#)

[Resources](#)

[Oil & Gas](#)

[Public Lands & Resources](#)

[Wind](#)

Credentials

Education

- University of Cincinnati College of Law, J.D., 1991
- Wellesley College, B.A., 1988, *cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- District of Columbia

Affiliations

- *Law360*, Environmental Editorial Advisory Board, 2021 – 2022

Chambers USA

- District of Columbia Environment, 2022 – 2024

The Legal 500 United States

- Environment: Litigation, 2022 – 2024
- Environment: Regulatory, 2023 – 2024

Portfolio Media, Inc.

- *Law360*, Environmental MVP, 2020

BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Environmental Law, 2023 – 2025

Lawdragon Inc.

- *Lawdragon 500 Leading US Energy Lawyers*, Energy Regulation and Litigation, 2023 – 2024
- *Lawdragon Green 500: Leaders in Environmental Law*, Environmental Law, Especially Litigation, 2024

Resources

WOTUS, the ESA, and Permitting Through Changing Regulations With Ann Navaro and Brittany Pemberton

Podcast

EPA and Army Say they are Staying in the Comfort Zone with the Proposed Revision to the Definition of “Waters of the United States”

Update

Trump Administration Publishes Final Revisions to NEPA Regulations

Blog Post

Changes to Expect in Environmental Litigation Under Biden

Blog Post

Will Congress Rollback Trump Regulatory Actions to Advance the Biden Policy Agenda?

Blog Post

FOIA’s Deliberative-Process Privilege and the ESA

Blog Post

Public Interest? Federal Court Questions USACE Review of Need for Hospital

Blog Post

Department of Interior Revokes Migratory Bird Treaty Act Rule

Blog Post

2022 Preview – Politics and Policymaking

Podcast

Federal Natural Resource Management, Permitting, and Species Protection – Expectations for 2022

Video

The Future of NEPA

Podcast

Sackett II Me: Breaking Down the Arguments in <i>Sackett v. EPA</i>

Podcast

Happy Holidays: Looking Back, Looking Ahead

Podcast

Environmental Essentials Webinar Series – Updates on Waters of the United States

Video

Environmental Essentials Webinar Series – Sackett II/WOTUS IX: Implementation of the Supreme Court’s Interpretation of “Waters of the US” Under the Clean Water Act

Video

Climate Change on Every Menu

Video

The First 100 Days and the Second 100 Days of the Biden Administration

Video

Change at the Interior Department: A Look Ahead

Video

Climate Change: A Policy Driver in Agency Decision Making

Video

The Biden Executive Orders: Implementation at the Agencies

Video

Infrastructure Under the Biden Administration

Video

Clean Water Act: The Good, The Bad, and The Muddy

Video

Key Developments in Environmental Law and Policy in 2023, and What’s Ahead in 2024

Podcast

Edwards Aquifer Blindcats: A Potentially Endangered Species With Amanda Glen and Ann Navaro

Podcast

Clean Energy Transition, Part 7: Executive Order Implementation at the Agencies

Podcast

Unpacking the Impact of NEPA Phase Two Regulations on Environmental Policy and Infrastructure Development

Podcast

Navigable Waters Protection Rule Vacated—EPA & Corps to Treat Vacatur as Nationwide

Update

Déjà Vu: CEQ to Reset NEPA Regulations, and Then Some

Update

Under the Sea: Congress Amends OCSLA to Provide for Offshore CCS

Update

USACE Changes Course on CWA Approved Jurisdictional Determinations

Update

Council on Environmental Quality Seeks Input on Path Forward for Carbon Capture

Update

Army Corps Issues Notice of Nationwide Permit 12 Review and Seeks Stakeholder Input

Update

Biden Administration Finalizes Redefinition of “Waters of the United States”

Update

New Climate Guidance Issued to Federal Agencies Conducting Environmental Impact Analyses

Update

Congress Amends NEPA in Effort to Reform Federal Permitting

Update

Endangered Species Act Developments: Court Finds Species Do Not Get The “Benefit Of The Doubt” & Agencies Propose Compensatory Mitigation Under ESA Section 7

Blog Post

US Army Corps Permitting: Proposed Revocation of Historic Properties Regulation

Update

Chevron Overturned: No Judicial Deference to Agencies in Interpreting Statutes

Update

Unpacking the NEPA Ruling: Marin Audubon Society v. the FAA

Podcast

The Reasonably Foreseeable Effects of Seven County Infrastructure Coalition

Update

Environmental Essentials Webinar Series – Ready, Set, Go: A Review of Early Trump Administration Actions on Energy and the Environment

Video

EPA and the Army Make More Waves on WOTUS

Update

Publications & Speeches

- "Navigating Change: Law and Policy Implications of the Trump Administration on Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment," The Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law Webinar, December 4, 2024.
- Instructor for Energy Bar Association Environmental Law Course, September 22-23.
- "Working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: the Regulatory Program in the Southwestern Division," Association Of Oil Pipelines Annual Business Conference, September 2021.
- "Non-Federal Infrastructure Projects and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Federal Courts: The Dakota Access and Keystone XL Pipelines," *ABA Infrastructure Magazine*, Vol. 60, No. 2, Winter 2021.
- "The Corps of Engineers' Nationwide 12 Permit: Pipeline Litigation and the Litigation Pipeline," *ABA Trends Newsletter*, Vol. 52, No. 4, March/April 2021.
- "The Nationwide Permits – Their Promise and Peril," *ABA SEER Fall Conference*, 2020.

- "The Wonderful World of WOTUS: The Ever Changing Meaning of Waters of the United States," Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, July 2020 (co-presenter).
- "Permitting Issues Related to the US Army Corps of Engineers," Association of Oil Pipe Lines Annual Business Conference, September 2019.
- "Taming NEPA Tigers in the Trump Administration: How Two Agencies Handle Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Under the National Environmental Policy Act And Why It Matters," Texas Environmental Super Conference, August 2019.
- "Environment and Natural Resource Laws Applicable to Infrastructure Projects: Changes Affecting Projects Planning & Execution," ABA Webinar, July 24, 2019.
- "NEPA 101," Environmental Law Institute, June 11, 2019.