

# JULIA J. NORDLUND

(406) 450-4075 | julia.nordlund@mt.gov  
Senior Water Master, Montana Water Court

## EXPERIENCE

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### Senior Water Master

*Montana Water Court, Bozeman, MT | November 2016 – Present*

- Ruled on hundreds of cases involving thousands of claims delivering rulings in consonance with Montana water law to date.
- Presided over evidentiary hearings, assessing the credibility of evidence presented by Objectors and Claimants.
- Authored detailed judicial opinions and orders, contributing to the fair adjudication of state water rights.
- Revamped "Red Book" tabulation processes, streamlining coordination between district courts, the DNRC, and water commissioners.
- Mediated water disputes between stakeholders, successfully resolving complex legal conflicts with tact and impartiality.
- Testified in front of the Montana Legislature regarding proposed changes to Montana water law to provide expert insight.
- Supervised and mentored several legal interns, many of which actively practice water law today.

### Associate Attorney

*Lund Law, PLLC, Bozeman, MT | July 2015 – October 2016*

- Conducted in-depth legal research on water rights and delivered actionable advice for clients navigating complex adjudication processes.
- Drafted persuasive motions and legal briefs for general water adjudication and dissatisfied user complaint actions, contributing to favorable outcomes.
- Developed case strategies using precedent-setting arguments, ensuring compliance with state and federal water laws.
- Oversaw discovery processes, efficiently managing compliance with all procedural requirements to safeguard clients' interests.

### Judicial Clerk

*Judicial District, Judge Gregory Todd, Billings, MT | August 2014 – July 2015*

- Prepared detailed orders and legal opinions on evidentiary motions and procedural issues, supporting judicial decision-making.
- Managed chamber and courtroom schedules, ensuring efficient case management.
- Led omnibus hearings and facilitated pretrial conferences, contributing to efficient case progress.

### Legal Intern

*DNRC Forestry & Fire, Missoula, MT | September 2013 – May 2014*

- Reviewed and revised contracts and easements for forestry projects, ensuring legal compliance and resource conservation.
- Collaborated on drafting federal court briefs, addressing environmental litigation involving grizzly bear and bull trout habitats.

### Legal Intern

*Lund Law, PLLC, Bozeman, MT | June 2013 – August 2013*

- Assisted attorneys in case preparation by organizing and analyzing evidence to develop effective litigation strategies.
- Participated in negotiations and internal strategy meetings, gaining exposure to water rights litigation and dispute resolution.

## EDUCATION

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### *Juris Doctor*

*University of Montana School of Law, Missoula, MT | May 2013*

- Leadership: Student Bar Association Vice President (2L), President (3L)

### **Bachelor of Arts in Political Science**

*Montana State University, Bozeman, MT | December 2010*

- Senior Capstone: Correlation of pork or subsidies when state has representation in agriculture committees
- Activities: MSU Volleyball (Freshman Year), Political Theory Consortium, Teaching Assistant in International Law

## SIGNIFICANT CASES

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### Master's Reports

- *Deal v. Brewster*, 2023 Mont. Water LEXIS 2
- *In re Belgrade*, 2021 Mont. Water LEXIS 582
- *In re Schaff*, 2020 Mont. Water LEXIS 184
- *In re Dry Creek Canal Co.*, 2023 Mont. Water LEXIS 847
- *In re Gregory*, 2020 Mont. Water LEXIS 4
- *In re United States (DOI BLM)*, 2023 Mont. Water LEXIS 451
- *In re Pluhar Ranch Co.*, 2024 Mont. Water LEXIS 493

### Private Practice

- *Neumann v. Hopseker*, 2016 MT 225N, 385 Mont. 541 Appeal to MT Supreme Court (Representing Benson and Neuman)
- *Water Court Case 40J-373*, Order Amending and Adopting filed September 1, 2016, Resolved issue remarks through communication with DNRC (Representing Ross 8 Bar 7 Ranch, Inc. and Grabofsky)
- *Water Court Case 40J-371*, Order Amending and Adopting filed September 6, 2016, Negotiated settlement (Representing Davies Ranch Co. and Davies)

## SERVICE

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### **Court Appointed Special Advocate (Guardian ad Litem)**

*Cascade County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) | 2024 – Present*

- Advocate for the best interests of children in dependency and neglect cases, providing detailed court reports and recommendations to the judiciary.
- Conduct interviews and gather evidence to present balanced, child-centered perspectives in judicial proceedings.

### **Youth Mentor**

*Gallatin County Big Brothers Big Sisters | 2019 – 2020*

- Provided mentorship and support to at-risk youth, fostering personal growth and resilience.
- Organized activities and maintained regular engagement, contributing to a stable and nurturing environment.

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

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- *Gallatin County District Court Spring Water Meetings | 2017, 2018*
- *Montana Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting | November 2017*
- *Shields Valley Watershed Group Meeting | Summer 2018*
- *Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators | June 2019*
- *Montana Clerks of District Court Conferences | 2019, 2022, 2023*
- *Annual Water Commissioner Trainings | 2017 – 2024*