

Anna M. Stradley
Senior Water Master
Montana Water Court
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Professional Memberships:

Montana State Bar, 2005 to Present
Gallatin County Bar Association, 2017 to Present
State Bar of Montana Water Law Section, 2017 to Present

Education:

Mediation Training

Mediation Fundamentals, The Center for Collaborative Solutions, 40 hours, October 2021
Basic Mediation Course, University of Oregon, School of Law, 32 hours, January 2003

Judicial Writing Course, March 18-21, 2019
National Judicial College, Reno, NV

J.D. (Ocean and Coastal Law Certificate) May 2004
University of Oregon, School of Law, Eugene, OR

Relevant/Distinctive Courses: Administrative Law, Environment and Pollution, Land Use Law, Water Resources, International Law of the Sea, Wildlife Law

B.S. Agricultural Business Management and Economics, May 2000
Montana State University, Bozeman, MT

University of Maryland, part-time October 1994 to May 1996
Vicenza, Italy and Grafenwoehr, Germany

Employment:

Montana Water Court, Bozeman, MT - Attorney
January 2006 to Present

Senior Water Master July 2013 to Present

Water Master May 2008 to July 2013

Law Clerk January 2006 to May 2008

Manage cases and a docket. Draft legal correspondence, orders, and legal decisions. Hold court proceedings, mediations, and public meetings. Conduct legal research. Apply the law and use the legal process to assist the public with determining the correct elements of their historical pre-July 1, 1973 water rights. Mentor new personnel. Give presentations to interested members of the public and continuing legal education presentations. Work with DNRC Regional Offices and Adjudication Bureau to issue decrees and provide post-decree assistance. Brainstorm new processes to improve efficiency. Use Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Adobe Acrobat, LexisNexis, FullCourt Enterprise, DNRC Water Rights Database, and DNRC Water Rights Query System.

**Montana State University, Bozeman, MT - Instructor University Studies 101
Fall Semester 2007**

Taught basic reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills to incoming Freshmen. Graded written assignments and oral presentations.

**Northern Plains Resources Council, Billings, MT - Legal Intern
June 2004 to October 2004**

Drafted legal correspondence and legal memorandums. Conducted legal research.

**Reichman Law Firm, Bozeman, MT - Legal Intern
June 2000 to August 2000 and June 2001 to October 2001**

Drafted court documents and basic correspondence. Conducted legal research.

**Montana State University, Bozeman, MT - Economics 101 Tutor
Advance by Choice Program
October 1999 to December 1999**

Met one-on-one with students, providing clarification and expanded answers to their problems in Economics 101.

**Montana State University, Bozeman, MT - Undergraduate Researcher
Trade Research Center/Department of Economics
September 1998 to January 1999**

Research project was a historical overview of the world wheat market and its current situation.

**Montana State University, Bozeman, MT - Economics 101 Teaching Assistant
Department of Economics
October 1997 to December 1998**

Graded and recorded homework for 200-500 students per semester, held office hours and tutored students one-on-one as needed.

Additional Employment:

Raised on a ranch in north central Montana. Ranch hand and lab technician. Raised 2,000 sheep in confinement, lambing 200 head every 30 days. Grew irrigated alfalfa, malting barley, and dryland wheat.

Volunteer Activities:

Bozeman Optimist Club – President 2008 and 2009; Chair Camp Braveheart 2025
Gallatin Legal Assistance Clinic – Fall 2017 to Summer 2020
Sourdough Creek Properties No. 14 Homeowner’s Association – Vice President 2019 to present

Hobbies and Interests:

Running, cooking, reading, my family, and the arts.

Example Decisions:

Schneider v. Montanore Minerals Corp., 2023 Mont. Water LEXIS 773 (Sep. 14, 2023). (implied claim analysis)

In re Byington, 2023 Mont. Water LEXIS 261 (Mar. 31, 2023). (amendments, exempt claim analysis)

In re Duke, 2021 Mont. Water LEXIS 1139 (Nov. 24, 2021). (groundwater)

In re Million, 2021 Mont. Water LEXIS 1273 (Aug. 26, 2021); *aff'd In re Million*, 2021 Mont. Water LEXIS 1272 (Oct. 28, 2021); *aff'd Million v. State*, 2022 MT 134N, 410 Mont 537, 512 P.3d 267. (hearing case – abandonment)

BNSF Ry. Co. v. Blackfeet Tribe, 2020 Mont. Water LEXIS 741 (Dec. 4, 2020) and companion case *Columbia Grain Inc. v. BNSF Ry. Co.*, 2020 Mont. Water LEXIS 751 (Dec. 4, 2020); *aff'd In re Columbia Grain Inc.*, 2021 Mont. Water LEXIS 459 (Mar. 19, 2021). (state-based water right v. tribal water right)

Public Speaking:

Flathead Irrigation District, Ronan, MT

October 17, 2018

Overview of the adjudication process without approval of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai-Montana Compact versus overview of the Water Court's process for approval of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai-Montana Compact for interested members of the public.

Montana Watercourse, Montana State University

September 12, 2013, Hamilton, MT; November 19, 2013, Webinar; April 30, 2014, Big Timber, MT

Overview and status of the Montana Water Court adjudication for realtors and interested members of the public.

Continuing Legal Education Presentations:

Dividing the Waters at the National Judicial College, Webinar

June 28, 2024

Follow up on Dividing the Waters' Great Salt Lake Conference and the collaborative work of the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation to restore wetlands.

Panelist presentation for judges and other judicial officers that hear water cases.

Montana Water Court, Bozeman, MT

January 12 and February 9, 2021

Case Management from A to Z. How to run an efficient docket.

Course for Water Masters.

Ninth Judicial District Bar Association, Conrad, MT

June 1, 2018

Overview of the Water Court adjudication process.

Course for members of the Bar.

Montana Water Court, Bozeman, MT

February 11, 2016

Evidentiary value of patents during adjudication of Montana's historical water right claims.
Course for Water Masters.

Montana Water Court, Bozeman, MT

February 18 and 20, 2014

Basics of Indian water law, Montana's compacting process for Indian water rights, and their interaction with the adjudication of Montana's historical water right claims.
Course for Water Masters.

Public Meetings:

Basin 40O Interlocutory Decree

April 9, 2024 Conference Call

Basin 76N Preliminary Decree

October 21, 2023, Thompson Falls, MT

January 9, 2024; April 30, 2024; and May 2, 2024 Conference Calls

Basin 41F Preliminary Decree

August 22, 2023 and March 26, 2024, Ennis, MT

August 24, 2023; March 28, 2024; and July 25, 2024 Conference Calls

Basin 41M Interlocutory Decree

June 13, 2023; August 29, 2023; February 22, 2024; and May 7, 2024 Conference Calls

Basin 40F Interlocutory Decree

October 20, 2022 and February 21, 2023 Conference Calls

Basin 41L Interlocutory Decree

December 2, 2021; April 12, 2022; and July 7, 2022 Conference Calls

Basin 40R Interlocutory Decree

April 13, 2021; August 12, 2021; and November 16, 2021 Conference Calls

Basin 40N Preliminary Decree

September 15 and 17, 2020; February 9 and 11, 2021; and April 20 and 22, 2021 Conference Calls

Basin 43D Preliminary Decree

August 10, 2017, Joliet, MT

August 8, 2017; May 8 and 10, 2018; and August 7 and 9, 2018 Conference Calls

Basin 41L Preliminary Decree

December 12 and 15, 2016; March 28 and 30, 2017 Conference Calls

Basin 40F Preliminary Decree

March 6, 2014; April 22, 2014; January 22, 2015; and March 26, 2015 Conference Calls

Basin 40J Preliminary Decree

September 14, 2011 and March 8, 2012 Conference Calls