

Nathaniel H. Hunt

Nate counsels clients in permitting, regulatory compliance, and litigation under a broad range of federal and state environmental laws – including litigating many Clean Water Act and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) cases in federal district and appellate courts.

Nate previously served as a Senior Attorney at the Southern Environmental Law Center where he represented environmental groups in various environmental litigation in Georgia and the Southeast.

Representative Experience

Counseling and litigating on behalf of governments, environmental groups, outfitters, and others regarding water quality, wetlands, NEPA, RCRA, various environmental matters, and Freedom of Information Act requests:

City of Los Angeles

Represented City of Los Angeles at the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in successful challenge to FAA flight procedures at Los Angeles International Airport under National Environmental Policy Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act.

City of Phoenix

Represented the City of Phoenix at United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in the successful challenge to FAA flight procedures based on failure to comply with environmental laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act.

City of Chicago

Represented the City of Chicago in a case brought by over 60 property owners seeking damages allegedly caused by noise and vibrations from aircraft using a new runway at Chicago O'Hare International Airport. Chicago prevailed on summary judgment based on Statute of Limitations grounds.

Environmental Defense Fund

Represented EDF before the federal District Court for the District of Columbia under the Freedom of Information Act resulting in disclosure of public records and successful fee settlement.

City of Northglenn, Colorado

Represented City of Northglenn in successful defense of wastewater treatment permit in state administrative appeal proceeding.



Partner

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Areas of Practice

Airport Litigation
Climate Policy & Litigation
Environment, Public Lands, and
Conservation Litigation
Environmental Impact Reviews
Water Quality
Wetlands

Education

J.D., University of Georgia
School of Law, 2007
Oxford University, 2006
B.A., Duke University, 1999

Bar and Court Admissions

Colorado
Georgia
Federal District Court for the
District of Colorado
United States Court of Appeals
for the Ninth Circuit
United States Court of Appeals
for the Tenth Circuit
United States Court of Appeals
for the Eleventh Circuit
United States District Court for
the Middle District of Georgia
United States District Court for
the Southern District of Georgia



KAPLAN KIRSCH ROCKWELL

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Utah

Represented Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance before the federal District Court for the District of Columbia seeking public records from the Department of the Interior under the Freedom of Information Act.

Dvorak Expeditions v. BLM

Represented outfitter company in appeal of BLM's cancellation of special recreation permits before the Department of Interior's Board of Land Appeals including successfully obtaining stay of BLM's decision and the reissuance of permits.

Representative Clean Water Act Litigation

- *Georgia River Network v. U.S. Army Corps of Eng'rs*, 517 Fed. Appx. 699 (11th Cir. 2013). Challenged Corps' issuance of a Clean Water Section 404 permit for 1000-acre recreational reservoir, including appeal at the Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.
- *Altamaha Riverkeeper v. Rayonier, Inc.*, No. 2:14-cv-00044-LGW-JEG, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 42849 (S.D. Ga. Mar. 31, 2015). Sued international pulp company alleging violations of pollutant discharge permit under the Clean Water Act.
- *Center for a Sustainable Coast v. Army Corps of Engineers*, Case No. 4:13-cv-00179-WTM-GRS (S.D. Ga. 2014). Challenged Corps' issuance of a programmatic general permit for docks along the Georgia Coast under the Rivers and Harbors Act, NEPA, and Endangered Species Act.
- *National Wildlife Federation v. U.S. Army Corps of Eng'rs*, No. 1:14-cv-01701-JDB (D.D.C. 2014). Challenged Corps' issuance of Nationwide Permit 13 for bank stabilization structures under Clean Water Act, NEPA, and Endangered Species Act.
- *Altamaha Riverkeeper v. Hutcheson*, Case No. 2:11-cv-00100-LGW (S.D. Ga. 2010). Citizen suit action against private landowner for violation of the Clean Water Act, resulting in settlement with private party and federal and state agencies requiring restoration and permanent protection of 700 acres of coastal wetlands.

Professional and Civic Activities

- *Chambers USA*, Environment – Up and Coming (2021)
- Board Member, Rocky Mountain Wild (2017–Present)
- Board Member, Rivers Alive (2009–2015)
- Board Member, Savannah Riverkeeper (2010–2012)

Publications

Chapter 11: Water Quality and Wetlands
May 2018



KAPLAN KIRSCH ROCKWELL

Chapter 11: Water Quality and Wetlands
May 2017

Is the Farm Pond Exemption Being Abused?
April 2012

One Step Forward, Two Steps Back: The Central American Free
Trade Agreement and the Environment
Spring 2007

News

BLM May, Once Again, Require Compensatory Mitigation
04.27.22

Firm Attorneys Author Amicus Brief in Case Vacating Gulf of
Mexico Oil and Gas Leases
01.28.22

Ninth Circuit Strikes Down FAA Flight Procedure Changes at Los
Angeles International Airport
07.14.21

Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell Ranked Among Nation's Top Law
Firms by Chambers USA 2021
Chambers & Partners
05.20.21

Tenth Circuit Rules Trump-Era Clean Water Act Regulation Must
Be Enforced in Colorado
03.05.21

Illinois Appeals Court Affirms Dismissal Of Takings Claims
Against O'Hare International Airport
06.11.20

Chicago Court Dismisses Takings Claims Against O'Hare
International Airport
12.21.18

Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell Represents Environmental Defense
Fund in Suit Over Access to U.S. Department of Transportation
Records
12.20.18

Court Rules Against ExxonMobil's Attempt to Block Investigation
04.06.18

Court of Appeals Rejects Challenge to City of Albuquerque's
ART Bus Rapid Transit Project
12.13.16

NM Biz Groups Fight to Curb Route 66 Rapid Transit Plan
Law360



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06.15.16

Advances in Airport Technology Mean Sleepless Nights for Some

The Washington Post

03.04.16

Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell Welcomes New Associates Heather Haney, Nate Hunt, and Nick Clabbers
Summer 2015

Presentations

Wetlands Regulations: How to Navigate Current Rules and New Developments in Wetlands Law

12.06.19

Groundwaters of the United States? Regulation of Groundwater Discharges Under the Clean Water Act

04.16.19

Clean Water Act: New Rule Defining Waters of the United States

08.26.15