

CONTACT

sea@vnf.com
206.802.3858

PRACTICES

Climate Change
Endangered Species & Wildlife
Hydropower
Land Use
Litigation & Investigations
Native Affairs
Water

EDUCATION

University of Miami
University of Washington
University of Washington School
of Law

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Washington State Bar
U.S. District Court for the Western
District of Washington
U.S. District Court for the Eastern
District of Washington
U.S. Court of Appeals for the
Ninth Circuit

SOPHIA E. AMBERSON

ASSOCIATE



Professional Background

Sophia provides counsel to both public and private sector clients on various environmental, tribal, and natural resource matters under the SEPA/NEPA, Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, and Marine Mammal Protection Act.

During law school, Sophia served as an extern to Honorable Robert S. Lasnik in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington. She also interned in D.C. at the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, where she worked with the Office of International and Maritime Law on environmental law issues. Sophia was an Associate Editor-in-Chief of the *Washington Law Review*, President of the Environmental Law Society, Vice President of the Native American Law Student Association, and an executive board member of the Moot Court Honor Board. Prior to attending law school, Sophia received her Master's in Marine and Environmental Affairs and her research focused on how the environment influences tribal well-being. When not in the office, Sophia enjoys cheering on her Miami Hurricanes, hiking, and trivia.

Articles and Presentations

- Traditional Ecological Disclosure: How the Freedom of Information Act Frustrates Tribal Natural Resource Consultation with Federal Agencies, *Washington Law Review*, Vol. 92 pp. 937, 06/19/2017
- The Heartbeat of Our People: Identifying and Measuring How Salmon Influences Quinault Tribal Well-being, *Society & Natural Resources*, Vol. 29 pp. 1389, 05/25/2016

Alerts

- Biden-Harris Administration Debuts Inaugural Ocean Justice Strategy, 12/28/2023
- U.S. Supreme Court's *Sackett* Decision Prompts Conforming WOTUS Rule, 09/11/2023
- U.S. Supreme Court Narrows WOTUS, Limiting Scope of Clean Water Act, 05/30/2023
- EPA Proposes to Expand State and Tribal Authority Over Section 401 Water Quality Certifications, Reversing Trump Era Rule, 06/15/2022
- Shifting Baselines: New Guidance from Army Corps and NMFS on ESA Compliance for Work on Existing Structures, 01/19/2022
- UPDATED: EPA and Army Corps Announce Latest Update to Definition of "Waters of the United States", 12/07/2021
- EPA and Army Corps Announce Latest Update to Definition of "Waters of the United States", 11/29/2021
- UPDATED: Rough Waters Ahead, Once Again: A District Court Vacates the 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule as the EPA and Corps WOTUS Definition Rulemaking Continues, 09/03/2021
- Rough Waters Ahead, Once Again: A District Court Vacates the 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule as the EPA and Corps WOTUS Definition Rulemaking Continues, 09/02/2021
- EPA Reissues Temperature TMDLs in the Columbia and Lower Snake Rivers, 08/30/2021
- U.S. Supreme Court Issues Decision Clarifying Boundaries of FOIA's Deliberative Process Privilege, 03/05/2021
- U.S. Supreme Court Holds Clean Water Act Covers Groundwater in *Limited Circumstances*,

04/24/2020

- Settlement of *County of Maui* Prolongs Clean Water Act Uncertainty for Regulated Community, 09/27/2019
- Federal Agencies Repeal Obama-Era Clean Water Rule, 09/17/2019
- Federal Judge Limits the Reach of the WOTUS Rule, 08/27/2019
- Federal Guidance on Section 404 Permitting Under Development, 02/14/2019
- Federal Agencies Release the New Clean Water Rule to Replace "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS) Rule, 12/12/2018
- BSEE Streamlines Oil and Gas Production Safety Systems Requirements, 10/04/2018
- Obama Era WOTUS Rule Reinstated in Washington State (For Now), 09/19/2018
- WOTUS Rule Reinstated in 26 States After Court Enjoins Delay, 08/27/2018
- EPA and Corps Seek Additional Comment on Proposal to Repeal Definition of WOTUS, 07/18/2018