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Practice Areas

*Electricity*

*Environment*

*Government Relations & Public Policy*

*Hydropower*

*Public Lands & Natural Resources*

Education

*J.D., Columbus School of Law,  
Catholic University of America, 1992*

*B.A., Phi Beta Kappa, University of  
Idaho, 1988*

Bar and Court Admissions

*California*

*District of Columbia*

## Joseph B. Nelson

*Member*

Mr. Nelson's practice focuses on legislative and regulatory representation of clients on natural resource and energy issues. He has extensive experience in project compliance and permitting matters arising under the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act and other environmental statutes. In addition, he has represented clients on energy regulatory matters before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and state utility commissions, and has litigated before federal courts in California and Texas, California state court and the Interior Board of Contract Appeals.

Mr. Nelson practiced with Van Ness Feldman from 1992 to 1996 and rejoined the firm in June 1998. From May 1996 to June 1998, Mr. Nelson worked at the Sacramento, CA law firm of Ellison & Schneider, where he represented municipal and private water projects on state water rights and environmental matters. Previously, he served on the legislative staffs of former Sen. James A. McClure (R-ID) and then Rep. Larry E. Craig (R-ID), where he worked primarily on agricultural and budget matters.

### *Professional Background*

Ellison & Schneider, 1996-1998

### *Government Service*

Legislative Assistant, Congressman Larry Craig, (R-ID), U.S. House of Representatives, 1990-1991

Staff Assistant, Senator James McClure (R-ID), U.S. Senate, 1988-1990

### *Professional and Civic Affiliations*

- American Bar Association
- Energy Bar Association