

DOUGLAS W. MACDOUGAL
PARTNER**CONTACT**

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AREAS OF FOCUS

Fisheries
Natural Resources and Endangered Species
Permitting and Environmental Review
Project and Property Development
Clean Water and Water Quality
Water Rights/Water Resources
PFAS & Emerging Contaminants

EDUCATION & CLERKSHIPS

J.D., cum laude, Washington and Lee University (1973)
B.S., University of Vermont (1967)

ADMISSIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

State Bars of Oregon, Washington and Hawaii
U.S. District Courts for District of Oregon and Hawaii

RECOGNITION & ACTIVITIES

Best Lawyers in America
Chambers & Partners
Martindale Hubbell AV Preeminent Rated

Leveraging 30 years of experience in water rights, natural resources, and real estate law to serve clients throughout the western United States.

Doug MacDougal is a nationally recognized water rights and resources expert with vast water-related experience and a reputation for deft “code switching” between in multidisciplinary settings, a skill he leverages along with his technical science background to help consultants, lawyers, business people, and environmental advocates find common ground.

With unmatched substantive expertise and a proven, decades-long track record, Doug serves as counsel on a wide array of permitting, regulatory compliance, and natural resources policy matters, as well as water rights negotiations in Oregon involving federal, tribal, environmental, and private-party interests, and contested water cases involving water right transfers, stream and groundwater hydrology, and tribal/native rights nationwide—including the ongoing Klamath Adjudication. He frequently consults on individual, basin, and watershed issues involving water rights, the Clean Water Act, ESA Section 7 consultations, dams and hydropower operations, with frequent emphasis on ports, irrigation water users, ranches, and municipalities. In addition, Marten clients trust Doug with complex environmental diligence in multi-party real estate and other large transactions.

Doug is listed in The Best Lawyers in America and is named one of “Portland’s Best Lawyers” in water law by Portland Monthly.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represent an irrigation district in a collective negotiating effort to attempt to settle water rights of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.
- Represent owner of several ranches in the Wood River in contested cases on claims of USBIA and Klamath Tribes for tribal instream water rights in the Klamath Basin Adjudication.
- Represented large hydropower client in Klamath Basin Adjudication and contests to tribal instream water rights on the Klamath River and Upper Klamath Lake in the Klamath Adjudication. Worked on a successful settlement of that controversy.
- Represented three large irrigation districts in southern Oregon in a multi-year Endangered Species Act consultation on a large Bureau of Reclamation project, culminating in a no-jeopardy biological opinion.
- Represented national conservation organization in the settlement on more than 25,000 acres of land in separate case involving the Sycan Marsh and the Williamson River Delta in the Klamath Basin Adjudication. Worked with tribal and United States interests in settling claims in that multiyear effort.
- Represent a port on the Columbia River in the development of its Water Management and Conservation Plan and in the perfection and marketing of its water rights.
- Advise a large Oregon municipality in the strategic planning and perfection of its water rights
- Represent southern Oregon resort landowner in various land transactions with the Bureau of Reclamation
- Concluded informal consultations with federal and state resource agencies on developing a fisheries plan to protect bull trout, a listed species, and other resources in the Upper Hood River Basin.
- Counseled a large ranch in eastern Oregon dealing with regulatory issues and prior appropriation conflicts among water users.
- Represented an Oregon Coast municipality in fending off a contest by another municipality in the development of its wellfield critically needed for its future growth.
- Undertook water and natural resource due diligence for a large west coast bank in the financing of tens of thousands of acres of farmland in Eastern Oregon.
- Obtained a significant water right and NPDES permit for a Port on the Columbia River for industrial development.