

## Ann D. Navaro

Partner

[ann.navaro@bracewell.com](mailto:ann.navaro@bracewell.com)

WASHINGTON, DC  
+1.202.828.5811



Ann Navaro advises on and litigates under the federal laws and policies governing natural resources and the environment. After more than 25 years as a top litigator and policy adviser to the federal government, Ann brings exceptional insight and acumen to clients seeking to build infrastructure, produce valuable natural resources, or improve government policies and programs affecting their businesses. She has held senior legal and policy positions at the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Department of the Interior. Ann spent more than 10 years as a trial lawyer in the Environment and Natural Resources Division at the US Department of Justice, as well as 10 years litigating and managing civil works litigation for the Army Corps.

Ann has advised on some of the most challenging and high-profile policy issues in natural resources and environmental law, including NEPA reform, federal permit streamlining, wetlands protection, and protected species policy. She has litigated or overseen the litigation of scores of disputes involving a wide range of issues, such as upstream energy permitting, wetlands permitting, offshore royalties, federal takings and constitutional challenges.

Ann supports clients—including infrastructure developers and companies active in the upstream, pipeline, renewables, power transmission, and LNG sectors—on project siting and operation; permitting and enforcement under federal wetland, habitat and resource statutes; and related regulatory issues, policy advocacy, and litigation.

### **Industries**

[Energy](#)

### **Practices**

[Environment, Lands and](#)

[Resources](#)

[Oil & Gas](#)

[Public Lands & Resources](#)

[Wind](#)

## Credentials

### Education

- University of Cincinnati College of Law, J.D., 1991
- Wellesley College, B.A., 1988, *cum laude*

### Bar Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- District of Columbia

### Affiliations

- *Law360*, Environmental Editorial Advisory Board, 2021 – 2022

### Chambers USA

- District of Columbia Environment, 2022 – 2024

### The Legal 500 United States

- Environment: Litigation, 2022 – 2024
- Environment: Regulatory, 2023 – 2024

### Portfolio Media, Inc.

- *Law360*, Environmental MVP, 2020

### BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Environmental Law, 2023 – 2025

### Lawdragon Inc.

- *Lawdragon 500 Leading US Energy Lawyers*, Energy Regulation and Litigation, 2023 – 2024
- *Lawdragon Green 500: Leaders in Environmental Law*, Environmental Law, Especially Litigation, 2024

---

## Resources

### WOTUS, the ESA, and Permitting Through Changing Regulations With Ann Navaro and Brittany Pemberton

Podcast

## **EPA and Army Say they are Staying in the Comfort Zone with the Proposed Revision to the Definition of “Waters of the United States”**

Update

## **Trump Administration Publishes Final Revisions to NEPA Regulations**

Blog Post

## **Changes to Expect in Environmental Litigation Under Biden**

Blog Post

## **Will Congress Rollback Trump Regulatory Actions to Advance the Biden Policy Agenda?**

Blog Post

## **FOIA’s Deliberative-Process Privilege and the ESA**

Blog Post

## **Public Interest? Federal Court Questions USACE Review of Need for Hospital**

Blog Post

## **Department of Interior Revokes Migratory Bird Treaty Act Rule**

Blog Post

## **2022 Preview – Politics and Policymaking**

Podcast

## **Federal Natural Resource Management, Permitting, and Species Protection – Expectations for 2022**

Video

## **The Future of NEPA**

Podcast

## **Sackett II Me: Breaking Down the Arguments in <i>Sackett v. EPA</i>**

Podcast

## **Happy Holidays: Looking Back, Looking Ahead**

Podcast

## **Environmental Essentials Webinar Series – Updates on Waters of the United States**

Video

## **Environmental Essentials Webinar Series – Sackett II/WOTUS IX: Implementation of the Supreme Court’s Interpretation of “Waters of the US” Under the Clean Water Act**

Video

## **Climate Change on Every Menu**

Video

## **The First 100 Days and the Second 100 Days of the Biden Administration**

Video

## **Change at the Interior Department: A Look Ahead**

Video

## **Climate Change: A Policy Driver in Agency Decision Making**

Video

## **The Biden Executive Orders: Implementation at the Agencies**

Video

## **Infrastructure Under the Biden Administration**

Video

## **Clean Water Act: The Good, The Bad, and The Muddy**

Video

## **Clean Water Act News: Final Rulemaking Defining Waters of the United States Released**

Update

## **Key Developments in Environmental Law and Policy in 2023, and What’s Ahead in 2024**

Podcast

## **Edwards Aquifer Blindcats: A Potentially Endangered Species With Amanda Glen and Ann Navaro**

Podcast

## **Clean Energy Transition, Part 7: Executive Order Implementation at the Agencies**

Podcast

## **Unpacking the Impact of NEPA Phase Two Regulations on Environmental Policy and Infrastructure Development**

Podcast

## **Navigable Waters Protection Rule Vacated—EPA & Corps to Treat Vacatur as Nationwide**

Update

## **Déjà Vu: CEQ to Reset NEPA Regulations, and Then Some**

Update

## **Under the Sea: Congress Amends OCSLA to Provide for Offshore CCS**

Update

## **USACE Changes Course on CWA Approved Jurisdictional Determinations**

Update

## **Council on Environmental Quality Seeks Input on Path Forward for Carbon Capture**

Update

## **Army Corps Issues Notice of Nationwide Permit 12 Review and Seeks Stakeholder Input**

Update

## **Biden Administration Finalizes Redefinition of “Waters of the United States”**

Update

## **New Climate Guidance Issued to Federal Agencies Conducting Environmental Impact Analyses**

Update

## **Congress Amends NEPA in Effort to Reform Federal Permitting**

Update

## **Endangered Species Act Developments: Court Finds Species Do Not Get The “Benefit Of The Doubt” & Agencies Propose Compensatory Mitigation Under ESA Section 7**

Blog Post

## **US Army Corps Permitting: Proposed Revocation of Historic Properties Regulation**

Update

## **Chevron Overturned: No Judicial Deference to Agencies in Interpreting Statutes**

Update

## **Unpacking the NEPA Ruling: Marin Audubon Society v. the FAA**

Podcast

## **The Reasonably Foreseeable Effects of Seven County Infrastructure Coalition**

Update

## **Environmental Essentials Webinar Series – Ready, Set, Go: A Review of Early Trump Administration Actions on Energy and the Environment**

Video

## **EPA and the Army Make More Waves on WOTUS**

Update

---

## **Publications & Speeches**

- "Navigating Change: Law and Policy Implications of the Trump Administration on Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment," The Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law Webinar, December 4, 2024.
- Instructor for Energy Bar Association Environmental Law Course, September 22-23.
- "Working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: the Regulatory Program in the Southwestern Division," Association Of Oil Pipelines Annual Business Conference, September 2021.
- "Non-Federal Infrastructure Projects and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Federal Courts: The Dakota Access and Keystone XL Pipelines," *ABA Infrastructure Magazine*, Vol. 60, No. 2, Winter 2021.

- "The Corps of Engineers' Nationwide 12 Permit: Pipeline Litigation and the Litigation Pipeline," *ABA Trends Newsletter*, Vol. 52, No. 4, *March/April 2021*.
- "The Nationwide Permits – Their Promise and Peril," *ABA SEER Fall Conference*, 2020.
- "The Wonderful World of WOTUS: The Ever Changing Meaning of Waters of the United States," Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, July 2020 (co-presenter).
- "Permitting Issues Related to the US Army Corps of Engineers," Association of Oil Pipe Lines Annual Business Conference, September 2019.
- "Taming NEPA Tigers in the Trump Administration: How Two Agencies Handle Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Under the National Environmental Policy Act And Why It Matters," Texas Environmental Super Conference, August 2019.
- "Environment and Natural Resource Laws Applicable to Infrastructure Projects: Changes Affecting Projects Planning & Execution," ABA Webinar, July 24, 2019.
- "NEPA 101," Environmental Law Institute, June 11, 2019.