Heather Leigh Merfeld

3455 NW Harrison Blvd, Corvallis, OR 97330 | C: (541) 740-3248 hmerfeld@gmail.com

EDUCATION/ACCREDITATION:

Juris Doctorate, University of Oregon School of Law	2001
Environmental and Natural Resources Law Certificate,	2001
University of Oregon, School of Law	
Oregon State Bar Membership	2001-present
Bachelor of Arts, Education, Oregon State University	2020
Oregon Teaching License, Foundational Social Studies Endorsement	2020
Bachelor of Arts, Psychology/History, Boston University	1995

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT:

Pro Tem Instructor, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 2024-present

• Teach upper level Environmental Law and Policy course, including nuisance law, constitutional law, National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Administrative Procedure Act, energy policy, and climate change policy.

Public Interest Environmental Attorney, Corvallis, OR

- Research and synthesize complex federal environmental law issues, including Indian law, Endangered Species Act, Administrative Procedure Act, and National Environmental Policy Act.
- Analyze federal and international Indigenous/Indian law and policy research (American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Religious Freedom Restoration Act, and Canadian healthcare and wellness policies for urban Indigenous populations) in preparation for narrative responses to legal queries.
- Collaborate with NGOs in legal strategic planning.

Attorney/Partner (Family Law), Merfeld & Felling, LLC, Corvallis, OR 2005-2008

- Litigated and negotiated domestic relations cases on behalf of clients (divorce, separation, custody, child support, spousal support, and division of property).
- Researched relevant statutory and case law and prepared legal memoranda
- Co-ran and managed firm (marketing, retention and billing of clients, trust account and business account management).

Associate Attorney (General), Reeves, Kahn & Hennessy, Portland, OR 2003-2005

- Litigated and negotiated cases involving environmental law, torts, contracts, probate, estate planning, real estate, creditor-debtor and domestic relations.
- Conferenced with members of firm, scientific experts, clients, and opposing counsel in furtherance of case resolution.
- Prepared legal research and writing for all areas of law described above.
- Synthesized scientific and legal information in environmental cases.

Law Clerk, Western Environmental Law Center (Envir.), Eugene, OR, 2000-2001

- Performed federal environmental legal research and writing, for cases including those involving Indian law, NEPA, ESA, FLPMA.
- Conferenced with various professionals, including water and soil scientists, ornithologists and entomologists.

2022-present