

MARY ELIZABETH KELLY**Principal****SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

As an independent consultant with almost 30 years of experience as a lawyer and non-profit program manager, I offer policy, strategic planning, program development and program assessment consulting services in the environmental and natural resource arena, with an emphasis on sustainable freshwater management. I can also provide services in the areas of direct advocacy with policy makers and others; proposal writing and evaluation; and building and managing coalitions among conservation organizations to achieve ambitious policy reform goals.

CURRENT AND RECENT CLIENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Focusing on Colorado River basin issues, I currently provide strategic planning, policy, coalition coordination and other services to the Colorado River Program of the Nature Conservancy, the Western Water Program of Trout Unlimited, Environmental Defense Fund, and the Walton Family Foundation's Freshwater Program, as well as serving as coordinator for the six-group binational [Raise the River](#) coalition. I also engage in work on Texas water policy issues with the [Texas Center for Policy Studies](#) and the Trans Pecos Water and Land Trust. In addition, I provide strategic analysis and expertise to the [Water Funder Initiative](#).

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Texas School of Law, December 1985 (with honors, top 10%) B.S., University of Arizona, Chemical Engineering, 1979 (with distinction, top 10%)

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

October 2002 to July 2010: Various positions at Environmental Defense Fund, Positions included Senior Attorney (2002- 2004), Program Manager, Ecosystems (2004-2005), Vice President, Rivers and Deltas (2005-2009) and Senior Counsel, Rivers and Deltas (2009-2010). Responsibilities included strategic planning and program development; management of 30 or more staff; fundraising; financial management; interaction with policy makers, a wide range of stakeholders on water and wildlife issues, EDF donors and trustees, media, conservation organization partners and the general public; and extensive substantive work on western water law and policy. During the 2005 to 2009 period, developed the concepts, strategic vision, program objectives and funding for EDF's Center for Rivers and Deltas, operating with an annual budget of about \$ 5 million. Key areas of focus included California (including Bay-Delta system), the Colorado River Basin, Texas state water policy, the Rio Grande and restoration of coastal Louisiana.

May 1989 to September 2002: Executive Director, Texas Center for Policy Studies, a public interest non-profit organization working on a wide variety of environmental, natural resource and economic development issues. Full responsibility for TCPS management, fundraising, financial oversight, staff oversight and project work. Project work was concentrated in the areas of U.S./Mexico border environmental and water issues and Texas environmental issues, including water policy. Responsibilities included original research; policy analysis; writing; technical assistance to citizen groups; development

of networks and coalitions; presentations; testimony before legislative committees and administrative agencies; and regular interaction with citizen groups, media, policymakers and academics.

1986 to 2002: Environmental Law Practice. Associate (1986), Partner (1987 to 1991), Of Counsel (1991 to 2002). Handled or provided consultation on key cases for various configurations of a public interest environmental law practice in Austin, Texas. The practice involved representation of counties, cities, farmers, ranchers and citizen groups before administrative agencies, courts and legislature in environmental matters, including water quality, water rights, hazardous waste and air quality issues.

1983-1985: Law clerk positions with in the Environmental Protection Division of the Texas Attorney General's Office the Natural Resources Defense Council, San Francisco and private law firms in Austin and Los Angeles.

1979-1983: Chemical Engineer, Radian Corporation, Austin, Texas, and Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Project Director of contract work for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Electric Power Research Institute and private sector clients. Projects involved primarily air quality issues, including power plant and toxic emissions. Managed \$ 1 million project for EPA regarding air pollution standards development. Authored a number of reports on coal-fired power plant emission control technology and toxic air pollution. Had supervisory responsibilities over other professionals on a number of projects.

OTHER

Frequent speaker at legal and other conferences, primarily on water law and policy. Member, Texas Science Advisory Committee on Environmental Flows. Extensive experience in NGO coalition-building and coalition management. Proficient in written and spoken Spanish.

List of publications, articles and invited presentations available upon request. References available upon request.