

# Steven E. Clyde

Vice President, Director and Shareholder,  
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Chair of  
Natural Resources and Water Law Practice Group



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Throughout his career, Mr. Clyde has specialized in natural resources law, including oil and gas, public land law, and mining law, with a primary emphasis in water law.

Mr. Clyde has represented many clients in the buying and selling of water rights and in the conversion of water rights from agricultural irrigation use to domestic, municipal, and industrial use for development of real property, particularly in the resort areas of Summit County, Utah. He has represented parties in the negotiations of a Lease of Power Privilege on Bureau of Reclamation Facilities for the Central Utah Project and in the negotiation of power sales contracts from the hydroelectric facilities constructed under the lease. Mr. Clyde is general counsel to the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the sponsor of the Central Utah Project, and is knowledgeable regarding federal reclamation law. Real estate development projects for which he handled the water rights acquisition and conversion include the Jeremy Ranch, Park Meadows Golf Course and Development, Glenwild Golf Resort, Ranch Place, Landmark Plaza, Mountain Regional Water Special Service District, Summit Park Special Service District, Park City Mountain Resort, Snowbasin Ski Resort, Brian Head Ski Resort, and many others.

Mr. Clyde has represented many individuals and entities before the State Engineer of the State of Utah, both as applicants and as protestants to water rights applications, and has litigated water rights appeals in Utah state and federal courts, and the Utah Supreme Court. He also has experience in local government law and has represented many clients in planning and zoning activities before city and county planning and zoning authorities, drafted a water concurrency ordinance for Summit County, Utah, and created local special districts to provide water and sewer service within and without incorporated municipalities.

Additionally, he has served on the Utah Legislature's Water Task Force and on the Executive's Water Task Force since 2007 to revise Utah's water laws. He is also a registered lobbyist for Central Utah Water Conservancy District.

## PRACTICES

- Water Rights and Resources
- Water Quality
- Water Rights Litigation
- Natural Resources
- Administrative Law
- Local Government Law
- Real Estate and Real Property
- Real Estate Litigation

## BAR ADMISSIONS

Utah (1975)

## WEB PROFILES



## Education

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- Juris Doctor, University of Utah College of Law (1975)
- Bachelor of Science, Political Science, University of Utah (1972)

## Awards and Honors

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- S.J. Quinney College of Law Alumnus of the Year (2020)
- Utah Legal Elite, Energy and Natural Resources, *Utah Business Magazine* (2017-2022)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Natural Resources Law (1995-2022)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Water Law (2007-2022)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Environmental Law (2006-2022)
- 2019 Natural Resources Law "Lawyer of the Year," *Best Lawyers in America*® (Salt Lake City, Utah)
- *Mountain States Super Lawyers*®, Energy and Natural Resources Law and Environmental Law (2007-2021)
- *Chambers USA*, Utah Environment and Natural Resources Law Award (2017)
- Fellow, American Bar Foundation (2015)
- 2014 Natural Resources Law "Lawyer of the Year," *Best Lawyers in America*® (Salt Lake City, Utah)
- Top 100 Lawyers, *Mountain States Super Lawyers*® (2013)
- 2012 Water Law "Lawyer of the Year," *Best Lawyers in America*® (Salt Lake City, Utah)
- 2011 Water Law "Lawyer of the Year," *Best Lawyers in America*® (Salt Lake City, Utah)
- Outstanding Service in the Private Sector Award, American Water Users' Association (Utah Chapter) (2012)
- AV Preeminent®, Martindale-Hubbell® (30+ years)

## Representative Clients

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- Central Utah Water Conservancy District, Salt Lake City Corporation
- Powdr Corporation, Snowbasin Ski Resort, Powder Mountain
- Gunnison Irrigation Company, Henefer Irrigation Company, Bear River Canal Company, Bear River Water Users Association, Beaver-Shingle Creek Irrigation Company, South Kansas Irrigation Company, Washington Irrigation Company, Wasatch Irrigation Company
- Sinclair Oil Company, Canyon Fuel Company
- TCFC Finance Co., LLC

## Professional Affiliations

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- Member, Utah Executive Water Task Force (2007-2018)
- Lay Member, Legislative Water Development Commission (2017)
- Board of Advisors, Dividing the Waters (2013)

- Governing Council, American Bar Association, Natural Resources, Energy and Environmental Law Section (1989-1991)
- Former Chair, Utah State Bar, Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Section (1989-1990)
- Former Chair, American Bar Association, Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Section, Water Resources Committee (1985-1988)
- Past Chair, Utah State Bar, Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Section, Water Law Committee (1983-1986)
- Member, former Chairman, University of Utah College of Law Alumni Association
- Former Chair, Vice-Chair, and Board Member, Utah Open Lands Conservation Association
- Past Board of Trustees, Utah Water Conservation Forum
- Adjunct faculty member, S.J. Quinney College of Law, University of Utah (2001-2004, 2007-2009)

## Interests

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- Mountain biking and road biking
- Alpine and cross-country skiing
- Hiking
- Co-owner and operator of Diamond Bar X Ranch in Woodland, Utah