

Sawyer Connelly is a member of the firm's energy, environmental and natural resources practices. Sawyer leverages his background in environmental science and public lands policy to help clients find comprehensive and cost-effective legal solutions to complex legal issues.



Sawyer Connelly

Associate | Missoula

Biography

Before joining Parsons Behle & Latimer, Sawyer served as a law clerk for the Honorable Brian M. Morris, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana.

Sawyer received his J.D. from the University of Montana School of Law, where he graduated with Honors. Sawyer served as editor-in-chief of the Public Land and Resources Law Review while in law school and served as a teaching assistant for constitutional law and legal research and writing.

Before starting law school, Sawyer spent six years working in public lands policy for various NGOs, state government and the federal government. Prior to his work in public lands policy, he was a fly-fishing guide in Colorado and Norway.

Sawyer enjoys spending time with his wife and friends exploring Montana's forests and rivers and bird hunting with his two bird dogs.

Accomplishments

Professional

Law Clerk to the Honorable Brian M. Morris, U.S. District Court for the District of Montana, 2024–2025

Academic

The University of Montana School of Law (J.D., Honors, 2024)

- Editor-in-Chief, Public Land and Resources Law Review, 2023–2024
- Certificates in American Indian Law and Natural Resources and Environmental Law
- Wyss Scholar for Conservation in the American West

Contact information

406.317.7252

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Capabilities

Environmental & Natural Resources

Environmental Property Damage

Environmental Litigation & Administrative Appeals

Public Lands

Plaintiffs Litigation

Licensed/Admitted

Montana

Utah

Wyoming

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LATIMER**

- The Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law – Legacy and Recognition Scholar and Foundation Scholar
- National Moot Court Team

The University of Montana (M.S., Environmental Studies, 2024)

- M.S. Professional Paper: “Unlocking the West: A Critique of Previous Statutory Attempts and a Proposed Statutory Solution to Allow Access to Corner-Locked Public Land”

Colorado College (B.A., Environmental Science, 2015)

Associations

Professional

State Bar of Montana

Community

Lolo National Forest Resource Advisory Counsel

Articles

Environmental Quality Council Review Signals Growing Focus on Corner-Crossing in Montana, May 12, 2026

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