Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Environmental
Environmental Litigation
Wildlife and Protected Species
State Government Affairs
Climate Change
Environmental Health and Safety
Federal Lands Permitting
Environmental Transactions

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources
Mining
Data Centers

EDUCATION

University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, J.D., 2004

Boston College, M.A., 2001

Boston College, B.A., 1998
cum laude

BAR ADMISSIONS

Alaska

COURT ADMISSIONS

Alaska Supreme Court
U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Jon Katchen

Partner

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Jon leverages extensive state government experience and sophisticated knowledge of Alaska's resource and economic development opportunities to help energy industry clients achieve their business goals.

Jon has extensive experience representing entities in a wide range of complex commercial disputes in state and federal courts, before judges and juries, appellate courts, and in private arbitrations. Jon also serves clients in a variety of infrastructure and natural resource contexts, guiding them past regulatory and environmental review obstacles to win agency approvals, then defending those approvals in court. Jon focuses on projects that raise complex issues, attracting scrutiny from both regulators and third-party groups. His recent representations include oil and gas, mining, and rail projects.

Jon practices in federal and state courts and has represented clients before the U.S. Supreme Court, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, federal District Court of Alaska, the Alaska Supreme Court, the Alaska Superior Court, the Office of Administrative Hearings, and the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. He has argued before the Minnesota Supreme Court and Minnesota Court of Appeals.

Before joining Holland & Hart, Jon served in strategic roles for the State of Alaska, including senior counsel to Alaska Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Dan Sullivan; and special assistant to then Attorney General Dan Sullivan.

After graduating from law school, Jon served as a law clerk to the Honorable Maryanne Trump Barry on the court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

EXPERIENCE

- Administrative enforcement actions
- Citizen suits
- Clean Water Act
- Commercial litigation
- Contaminated Sites
- Debt Financing
- Energy and Resources Litigation
- Exploration and development contracts

- Federal and State administrative-agency regulations
- Federal lands
- Joint operating agreements
- Joint venture agreements
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Public lands
- Project development
- Purchase and sale agreements
- Regulatory Compliance in Oil and Gas, Mining, Renewable Energy, and Electric Power Generation Sectors
- Right-of-way agreements
- Rulemaking and policy
- Surface use agreements

Government Experience

As senior counsel to Alaska Department of Natural Resources Commissioner, Jon advised senior administration officials and state legislators on natural resource issues, including impediments to oil, gas, and mining project development, improvements to state and federal permitting requirements, and strategies to increase investment and job opportunities in Alaska. Jon was also responsible for the agency's administrative appeals and land use planning decisions.

As Alaska-Assistant Attorney General, Oil, Gas and Mining section, Jon counseled the Attorney General, Governor, and senior state officials on oil and gas lease disputes, permitting natural resource development on federal lands, and pipeline regulatory issues.

CLIENT RESULTS

- Successfully represented Alaska Native Regional Corporation in a two-week arbitration relating to ANCSA's application to revenue generated from the sale of California Air Resource Board carbon offset credits.
- Represented the Alaska Congressional Delegation in successfully defeating a motion for injunctive relief to stop the Willow Project. *Sovereign Iñupiat for a Living Arctic v. BLM,* 2023 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 58502 (April 3, 2023).
- Successfully represented an Alaska Native Regional Corporation in a dispute over whether Alaska Native Corporations are eligible to receive CARES Act funds. *Yellen v. Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation*, 141 S.Ct. 2434 (2021).
- Drafted amici briefs in a dispute over federal land management, resulting in two unanimous favorable decision by the United States Supreme Court in *Sturgeon v. Frost*, 587 U.S. ___, 139 S. Ct. 1066, 203 L. Ed. 2d 453 (2019) (on behalf of Ahtna Inc.) and in *Sturgeon v. Fros*t, 577 U. S. 424 (2016) (*Sturgeon I*) (on behalf of

the Alaska Congressional Delegation).

- Successfully defended the State of Minnesota in an action brought by environmental groups seeking to strike down Minnesota's mining regulations as unconstitutional. *Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy et al., v. Minnesota Dep't of Natural Resources,* 2019 Minn. App. Unpub. LEXIS 753 (Aug. 5, 2019).
- Briefed and argued cases before the Minnesota Supreme Court and the Minnesota Court of Appeals defending authorizations issued by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on behalf of the state's first permitted copper-nickel mine.
- Successfully represented oil and gas companies in litigation involving leasing and unitization disputes in Alaska, North Dakota, and Montana.
- Prevailed on summary judgment in a dispute between a managing member of a limited liability company in litigation against a minority member involving the parties' respective rights and obligations under the company's operating agreement.
- Represented a LNG company in connection with a $600 million transaction involving the acquisition of Cook Inlet gas reserves, lease negotiations with a local government for the liquefaction facility, marketing efforts, and permitting issues associated with the LNG facility.
- Represented an independent oil and gas company in a $500 million public-private partnership to finance development drilling, civil work, pipelines, and the first independently owned and operated production facility on the North Slope.

PUBLICATIONS

"Before we "fix" Alaska's oil tax system, let's get the question right," *The Alaska Landmine*, November 19, 2026

"Anchoring Deference: The Chevron Doctrine, Loper Bright, and Alaska Administrative Law," *Duke Law | Alaska Law Review*, Co-Author, December 2025

"Chevron is Dead…But Modified Agency Deference May Exist," *US Supreme Court Update*, July 1, 2024

"Chevron Deference Destined for Change in Loper Bright & Relentless," *Bloomberg Law* , May 3, 2024

"Strangers in Their Own Land: A Survey of the Status of the Alaska Native People from the Russian Occupation Through the Turn of the Twentieth Century," *39 Alaska Law Review 1-47*, 2022

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Implications of Loper-Bright," Panelist, *2025 Environment and Natural Resources Summit*, March 13, 2025

RECOGNITION

- *Chambers USA*, Environment, Natural Resources & Regulatory Industries, 2015-2020; Natural Resources & Environment, 2021-2024, 2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Litigation – Environmental, 2026, 2027
- *Lawdragon,* 500 Leading Environmental Lawyers – The Green 500, 2023-2026
- *Lawdragon*, 500 Leading U.S. Energy Lawyers, 2023-2025; 500 Global Leaders in Energy, 2026
- *Lawdragon*, 500 Leading Environmental and Energy Lawyers, 2021
- *Lawdragon*, 500 Leading Litigators, Environmental Litigation and Regulatory, 2025-2027
- Alaska Super Lawyers®, Environmental Litigation, 2023-2025
- *Alaska Business*, Legal Elite, 2025, 2026
- Anchorage Bar Association, Benjamin Walters Distinguished Service Award, 2021

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Alaska Federal Judiciary Council, 2023-present