

Education

- B.A. Biology (Ecology) and English (Professional/Technical Writing and Editing), University of New Mexico (1994)
- Graduate Studies in Biology, Public Administration, and Community and Regional Planning, UNM, Albuquerque, New Mexico (1994-1998)
- Culinary Arts, Central New Mexico College, Albuquerque, NM (2009-2011)
- Master Gardener, NMSU, Sandoval County Extension Office (2012)
- Sommelier Certification, Court of Master Sommeliers (2019)



Professional Certifications/Training

- Critical Generator Issues/Advanced RCRA Topics I, Advanced RCRA Topics II and Land Disposal Restrictions I
- Landfill Waste Screening (KAFB)
- Quality Assurance Phase I Training (KAFB)
- Environmental Compliance (USACE)
- Management Program Audit (KAFB)
- Water Resources Management (UNM)
- Watershed Management (UNM)
- Community Ecology (UNM)
- Endangered Species/Habitat Conservation Planning (USFWS)
- Environmental Evaluation and Analysis (UNM)
- Planning Principles and Procedures (USACE)
- Archaeological/Cultural Workshop (USACE)
- Environmental Laws and Regulations (USACE)
- Wetland Regulatory Workshop (USACE)
- 40-Hour Hazardous Waste Operations

Expertise:

- Project Management
- Contract Management
- Environmental Planning & Regulatory Compliance
- Agency Coordination
- Public Outreach
- NEPA Compliance
- CWA Permitting
- ESA Consultation
- RCRA/CERCLA
- ASTM E 1527-05
- Technical Editing
- QA/QC & Peer Review

Previous Professional Organizations/Boards

- Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, Vice Chair, Technical/Customer Advisory Committee
- New Mexico Water Dialogue, Board of Directors
- Rio Grande Agricultural Land Trust, Vice Chair, Board of Directors
- Mariposa Neighborhood Association, Founding President

Cassandra has 30 years of experience as an environmental planner, project manager, and regulatory compliance and policy specialist in the public works (transportation and water resources), defense, and private land development sectors.

Cassandra was recently the Environmental Compliance Project Manager and NEPA Specialist on several state-wide environmental services on-call contracts, including those with the NMDOT and EMNRD/BLM Abandoned Mines Program, as well as the CWA Permitting Specialist for the Gallup Reach of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. She also developed a Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the City of Las Cruces' Flood Control Dam, a supplement to the O&M Manual, with an emphasis on ecological maintenance. Over the past five years, Cassandra has teamed with Wilson & Co as the environmental regulatory compliance manager and public involvement specialist on the Village of Columbus Land Port of Entry Flood Control Diversion Berm Project, and with BHI/3AEGreen on the USACE Northwest El Paso Flood Control Study.

Cassandra began her professional career at the USACE's Albuquerque District, where she worked as a biologist and planner in the Environmental Branch preparing NEPA documents, environmental restoration/mitigation plans, and ESA Section 7 biological assessments for the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and the Rio Grande silvery minnow. While at the USACE, she developed and institutionalized the District's environmental protection construction specifications and their SWPPP procedures and guidelines, and wrote the first draft BA and EIS for the San Acacia Levee Project.

Cassandra has a proven record in successfully leading/managing multi-disciplinary natural/cultural resources compliance/coordination teams, preparing NEPA documents, CWA Section 404 permitting, and conducting public outreach/involvement and stakeholder agency coordination/consultation on projects that present numerous environmental constraints and require mitigation, approvals, and permits.