

Donald R. Wharton

Senior Attorney

Is a senior attorney in the Boulder, Colorado office of the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), a non-profit law firm serving American Indian tribes and people. He joined NARF in 1988. He works primarily in the areas of federal-Indian environmental and natural resource law; working with tribes in the development of environmental regulation. Mr. Wharton has held positions as:

- * **Assistant Attorney General for Natural Resources and Special Projects**, Navajo Nation's Department of Justice (^83-88);
- * **Founding Director of Oregon Legal Services Native American Program** (^79-83);
- * **Attorney-Advisor, Indian Affairs Division, Office of the Solicitor, Department of the Interior**, Washington, D.C. (^77-79);
- * **Special Counsel** to the American Indian Policy Review Commission (a joint congressional commission on federal-Indian policy) (^75-77) and served as a **Specialist** on the Jurisdiction Task Force; and
- * **VISTA Volunteer, Attorney** for the Organization of the Forgotten American – an organization of the Klamath Indian people– and served as **General Counsel** to the Klamath Indian Tribe of Oregon (^73-75).

In addition, Mr. Wharton was appointed the J. Skelly Wright Fellow and Visiting Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School for the Spring Term of 1995, and has been a Lecturer for the National Indian Justice Center; and served as President (1980-83) of the National Association of Indian Legal Services. He has also been a regular presenter to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (Regions 5 and 8) concerning the history of federal Indian Law. Don is a 1973 graduate of the University of Colorado School of Law.