

Mira Barney Executive Assistant



As an executive assistant at Western Resource Advocates (WRA), Mira Barney provides administrative support for the organization's president, managing scheduling, travel, and other executive needs. She also works alongside WRA's four vice presidents and the senior leadership team to ensure administrative needs are met and board communications flow smoothly.

Barney joined WRA in 2023 with nearly a decade of experience environmental and social justice work. She's always had a passion for uplifting marginalized voices and advocating for diversity, and her time studying abroad in Italy solidified her desire to dedicate her life to protecting

the planet. She is a proud Diné woman who believes in the importance around centering Indigenous voices, stewards and leadership amongst the climate crisis.

Barney's professional career has been devoted to outdoor-related nongovernmental organizations. Prior to joining WRA, she worked with The Nature Conservancy on the global Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities team and the Agility Lab. Part of her time was spent supporting the Colorado River Program team where she had the opportunity to assist organizing and participating in a three-day rafting trip on the San Juan River with Tribal leaders. This experience helped her to feel the impact that lowering water levels have on the 30 Tribes in the Basin and to better understand what can be done by giving Tribal voices a real seat at the table, especially for the discussions around the 2026 Interim Guidelines.

Currently, Barney works with the [Indigenous Women's Leadership Network](#), a group supporting Indigenous women as leaders in the areas of natural resources, water, and the broader environment. The network focuses on creating a space for current and future emerging leaders to exchange information, as well as mentor and inspire one another. In her role there, she staffs the monthly meetings with co-chairs, crafts regular newsletters, develops social media content, manages the website and listserv and assists with event planning and logistics. She was in the pilot mentorship program for Next 100 Colorado in 2020-2021. She remains an active member of Next 100 Colorado helping to ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion in public lands.

Barney earned a Bachelor of Arts in Geochemistry from Lawrence University in Wisconsin. She is currently enrolled in the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Justice at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

A resident of Colorado, Barney loves spending time with her partner and their fluffy cat, Lily. When she's not working, she can often be found outdoors, rock-climbing or hiking with friends. She's enthusiastic about the arts, frequents the theater, and recently joined an accordion choir.

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