

Riley Wheeler **Government Affairs Manager**



As Government Affairs Manager at Western Resource Advocates (WRA), Riley Wheeler collaborates with public officials, legislators, and partner organizations to advocate for policy solutions that drive clean energy, water conservation, and wildlife protection in Utah.

Wheeler's career in public service spans more than seven years with the state of Utah, where he cultivated deep expertise in state government. He began his public sector career as an election specialist, spearheading updates to Utah's lobbyist regulations and campaign finance laws. During his tenure as director of administrative services for Lieutenant Governor Deidre Henderson, he managed the office's daily operations and oversaw initiatives related to notary administration, public records, and municipal annexations. His leadership helped grow the office from 8 to 20 staff members, demonstrating his ability to manage rapid organizational change. Later, as training and process Manager at the Utah Department of Commerce, he streamlined internal processes and provided critical guidance on statutory compliance.

Wheeler's path to WRA was driven by a personal desire to align his career with his passion for climate advocacy. Having grown up near the Great Salt Lake, he witnessed firsthand how environmental changes impacted his community. Joining WRA gave him the opportunity to merge his professional experience with his personal values, allowing him to be part of a movement that addresses one of the most pressing challenges of our time.

At WRA, Wheeler is proud to be part of a collaborative and mission-driven team. He believes in pragmatic, science-based solutions and the importance of finding common ground to address the unique challenges faced by Utah's communities. Whether it's securing small victories or advancing large-scale policy reform, he is committed to being part of the solution.

Wheeler earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Weber State University. He continues to give back to his community as a member of the Clearfield City Planning Commission, where he supports responsible land use and development in his local area.

A lifelong Utahn, Wheeler and his wife share their home with four cats. In his free time, he enjoys riding trails on his bike or ATV, camping in state and national parks, and visiting Disney theme parks.

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