

Jonathan Wood

Property and Environment Research Center
Bozeman, MT 59718 | jonathan@perc.org

Professional Experience

Property and Environment Research Center Bozeman, MT
VP of Law and Policy, 2021–present; *Research Fellow*, 2018–2021; *Adjunct Fellow*, 2017–2018

I founded PERC’s Conservation Law and Policy Center and lead its legal and policy efforts, including strategic litigation, amicus briefs, public comments, government affairs, and research to advance legal and policy reforms that respect property rights, expand incentives for voluntary stewardship, and empower conservation through markets.

Pacific Legal Foundation Arlington, VA; Sacramento, CA
Senior Attorney, 2019–2021; *Attorney*, 2014–2019; *College of Public Interest Law Fellow*, 2012–2014

I developed, executed, and supervised strategic litigation in federal and state courts on environmental, administrative, and constitutional issues, including representing prevailing landowners in *Weyerhaeuser v. Fish and Wildlife Serv.*, 139 S. Ct. 361 (2018).

Education

NYU School of Law, JD 2012
London School of Economics, MPA Public & Economic Policy (Merit) 2009
University of Texas at Austin, BA Economics (Hon.) 2007

Publications

Book Chapters

The Future of Habitat: Lessons From the Dusky Gopher Frog Conflict in THE CODEX OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT VOL. II (2023) (coauthored with Tate Watkins)
Reward Landowners to Recover Species: A Regulated Community Perspective on the Endangered Species Act in ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT: LAW, POLICY, AND PERSPECTIVES (ABA 2021) (coauthored with Damien Schiff)

Law Review Articles

State Trust Land Revenue Diversification Through Conservation, 2025 Utah L. Rev. 1 (2025) (coauthored with Temple Stoellinger, et al.)
Opening the Range: Reforms to Allow Markets for Voluntary Conservation on Federal Grazing Lands, 2023 UTAH L. REV. 197 (2023) (coauthored with Shawn Regan and Temple Stoellinger)

Critical Habitat's "Private Land Problem": Lessons from the Dusky Gopher Frog, 51 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,565 (2021) (coauthored with Tate Watkins)

2019 Endangered Species Act Regulatory Revisions, 49 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,989 (2019) (coauthored by Ya-Wei Li, et al.)

The Trump Administrations' Proposed ESA Regulations, 48 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,953 (2018) (coauthored with Ya-Wei Li, et al.)

Antiquities Act: Legal Implications for Executive and Congressional Action, 48 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,187 (2018) (coauthored with James McElfish, et al.)

Standing Up to the Regulatory State: Is Standing's Redressability Requirement an Obstacle to Challenging Regulations in an Over-Regulated World?, 86 UMKC L. REV. 147 (2017)

Overcriminalization and the Endangered Species Act: Mens Rea and Criminal Convictions for Take, 46 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,496 (2016)

Take it to the Limit: The Illegal Regulation Prohibiting the Take of any Threatened Species Under the Endangered Species Act, 33 PACE ENVTL. L. REP. 23 (2015)

Underground Environmental Regulations: Regulations Imposed as Mitigation Measures Under CEQA Violate the California Administrative Procedure Act, 52 CAL. WESTERN. L. REV. 1 (2015)

A Federal Crime Against Nature? The Federal Government Cannot Prohibit Harm to All Endangered Species Under the Necessary and Proper Clause, 29 TULANE ENVTL. L.J. 65 (2015)

Other Publications

A Field Guide for Wildlife Recovery: The Endangered Species Act's Elusive Search to Recover Species—and What to Do About It, PERC POLICY REPORT (2023) (coauthored with Downey, et al.).

Burn Back Better: How Western States Can Encourage Prescribed Fire on Private Lands, PERC POLICY REPORT (2023) (coauthored with Morgan Varner)

Fix America's Forests: Reforms to Restore National Forests and Tackle the Wildfire Crisis, PERC POLICY REPORT (2021) (coauthored with Holly Fretwell)

Prospecting for Pollution: The need for better incentives to clean up abandoned mines, PERC POLICY REPORT (2020)

Monumental Debate: What Past Reforms of the Antiquities Act Can Teach Us about Current Controversies, CENTER FOR GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY POLICY PAPER (2019)

The Road to Recovery: How Restoring the Endangered Species Act's Two-Step Process Can Prevent Extinction and Promote Recovery, PERC POLICY REPORT (2018)

Legislative Testimony

H.R. 5504, House Nat. Res., Water, Wildlife, & Fisheries Subcomm. (Oct. 25, 2023)

ESA at 50, House Nat. Res., Water, Wildlife, & Fisheries Subcomm. (July 18, 2023)

Forest Information Reform (FIR) Act & Accurately Counting Risk Elimination Solutions (ACRES) Act, House Nat. Res., Federal Lands Subcomm. (Mar. 23, 2023)

Recovering America's Wildlife Act, Senate Environment and Public Works Comm. (Dec. 8, 2021)

Tribal Heritage and Grizzly Bear Protection Act, House Nat. Res., Water, Oceans, & Wildlife Subcomm. (May 15, 2019)

Modernization of the Endangered Species Act, House Nat. Res. Comm. (Oct. 18, 2018)

ESA Consultation Impediments, House Nat. Res. Comm., Oversight & Investigations Subcomm. (Mar. 27, 2017)

Representative Cases

Mass. Lobstermen Ass’n v. Raimondo, 141 S. Ct. 979 (2021)

Weyerhaeuser Co. v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Serv., 139 S. Ct. 361 (2018)

Kansas Natural Resources Coalition v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Serv., 971 F.3d 1222 (10th Cir. 2020)

Wildearth Guardians v. Dept. of Justice, 752 Fed.Appx. 421 (9th Cir. 2018)

People for the Ethical Treatment of Property Owners v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Serv., 852 F.3d 990 (10th Cir. 2017)

Cal. Sea Urchin Comm’n v. Bean, 828 F.3d 1046 (9th Cir. 2016)

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Serv., 25-cv-29 (filed Mar. 10, 2025)

Friends of the Crazy Mountains v. Erickson, 19-cv-66 (D. Mt. Mar. 30, 2022)

Tugaw Ranches, LLC v. U.S. Dept. of Interior, 362 F.Supp.3d 879 (D. Id. 2019)