



Agenda: Protecting Animals Through Transparency, Engagement, & Regulatory Practice  
May 7-8, 2026

## **Thursday, May 7**

### **9:00 a.m. PT / 12:00 p.m. ET – Welcome Remarks**

### **9:00 – 10:15 a.m. PT / 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. ET - Deregulation in Federal Courts**

This panel explores how recent federal court decisions are reshaping the regulatory landscape and their potential impacts on legal advocacy for animals. Panelists will examine the implications of landmark cases, with particular attention to how growing judicial skepticism of the administrative state affects the future of animal law. The discussion will also consider what these trends mean for advocates seeking to defend and advance regulatory policy.

- Nick Fromherz, Independent Consultant & Adjunct Professor, Lewis & Clark Law School
- Kristen Monsell, Ocean Programs Litigation Director, Center for Biological Diversity
- Delcianna Winders, Director of the Animal Law and Policy Institute and Associate Professor of Law, Vermont Law and Graduate School
- Moderator: Brittany Peet, Transparency and Regularly Affairs Program Director, Animal Legal Defense Fund

### **10:15 – 10:30 a.m. PT/1:15 – 1:30 p.m. ET – Break**

### **10:30 – 11:45 a.m. PT / 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. ET - Deregulation in the Executive Branch**

Focusing on the executive branch, this panel analyzes how deregulation efforts play out through agency rulemaking, enforcement priorities, and policy rollbacks. Speakers will address key areas including the Endangered Species Act, industrial animal agriculture, and potential changes for animals in laboratories. The panel will highlight both the impacts of deregulation for animals, and the strategies advocates are using to respond.

- Tala DiBenedetto, Staff Attorney, Carnivore Conservation Program, Center for Biological Diversity
- Amanda Hitt, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Animal Law and Policy Institute, Vermont Law and Graduate School
- Alka Chandna, Vice President of Laboratory Oversight and Special Cases, PETA
- Moderator: Alyssa Crowell, Law School Programs Attorney, Animal Legal Defense Fund

### **Closing remarks**



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## **Friday, May 8**

### **9:00 a.m. PT / 12:00 p.m. ET – Welcome Remarks**

### **9:00 – 10:15 a.m. PT / 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. ET – Expert Witnesses in Animal Advocacy**

This panel explores the critical role expert witnesses play in animal advocacy litigation and enforcement actions. Panelists will share perspectives from criminal prosecutions, wildlife and endangered species cases, and challenges involving animal agriculture. The discussion will cover how experts are selected, prepared, and challenged, as well as best practices for effectively using expert testimony to advance animal protection goals.

- Chris Carraway, Staff Attorney, Animal Activist Legal Defense Project, Denver University School of Law
- Marcos Hasbun, Partner, Zuckerman Spaeder LLP
- Will Lowrey, Founder and Legal Counsel, Animal Partisan
- Moderator: Caitlin Hawks, Chief Programs Officer, Animal Legal Defense Fund

### **10:15 – 10:30 a.m. PT/1:15 – 1:30 p.m. ET – Break**

### **10:30 – 11:45 a.m. PT / 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. ET – Information Innovation in Animal Advocacy**

This panel highlights innovative approaches to gathering, analyzing, and communicating information to drive change for animals. Speakers will discuss research, data transparency, investigative storytelling, and tools for influencing public opinion and policy. The conversation will focus on how credible, accessible information can strengthen advocacy strategies and accelerate impact across the movement.

- Sam Tucker-Davis, Founder, Open Paws
- Ana Bradley, Executive Director, Sentient Media
- karol orzechowski, Resource Director, Faunalytics
- Moderator: Chris Green, Executive Director, Animal Legal Defense Fund

### **Closing remarks**