

Panelist Bio's

Jillian Ames

Jillian is a third-year law student at the University of California Davis. While at King Hall, Jillian served as Co-Chair of the Environmental Law Society and was an editor of the *Environs, Environmental Law and Policy Journal*. She also externed for the U.S. Department of Justice in the Wildlife and Marine Resources Section of the Environment and Natural Resources Division, the California Office of the Attorney General in the Environmental Sections, and the California State Water Resources Control Board in the Office of Chief Counsel. Prior to law school, Jillian obtained her M.A. in Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, and her B.A. in Geography from the University of California Los Angeles. Jillian will be starting as a first-year associate at Hanson Bridgett LLP in fall of 2021.

Matt Bogoshian

Matt Bogoshian is a former environmental law enforcement official at both the California EPA and the U.S. EPA in Washington D.C. During his time in the Obama Administration he helped lead the development of recommendations made to the U.S. State Department for their NEPA approach to the Keystone XL Pipeline permit application. Matt went on to lead sustainable economic development initiatives for the administration and was an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center. Matt's varied legal career began as a US Navy JAG Corps Officer followed by years prosecuting state-wide consumer and environmental protection cases in California. He presently serves as the Executive Director of the American Manufacturing Communities Collaborative (AMCC) and teaches sustainability law at the U.C. Davis School of Law, King Hall.

Susan Brandt-Hawley

Susan Brandt-Hawley received her J.D. from UC Davis Law. Since then she has represented public-interest groups in a broad range of environmental issues statewide for almost 40 years. Her practice now focuses on historic and cultural resources. She is a member and past president of the California Academy of Appellate Lawyers. She and her husband own Random Ridge winery in the Mt. Veeder appellation.

Christopher Calfee

Deputy Secretary and General Counsel, California Natural Resources Agency

Christopher Calfee was appointed as Deputy Secretary and General Counsel at the California Natural Resources Agency in January 2017. He previously served as Senior Counsel in the Governor's Office of Planning and Research where he advised the Governor and Cabinet on legislative and regulatory matters involving land use and environmental law, focusing on state and local government responses to climate change. He has also served as the lead attorney overseeing revisions to the regulations implementing California's Environmental Quality Act. Prior to joining state service, Mr. Calfee represented

both local governments and private applicants in matters involving the California Environmental Quality Act and related environmental and planning laws in association with the law firm of Remy Moose & Manley LLP, and later with Best Best & Krieger LLP. Christopher.Calfee@resources.ca.gov

Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye
Chief Justice of California

Sworn into office in January 2011, Chief Justice of California Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye was the first Asian-Filipina American and the second woman to serve as the state's chief justice. Since then, she has emerged as one of the country's leading advocates for equal access to justice, civic education, and reform of court funding models and procedures that unfairly impact the poor. As leader of California's judicial branch and chair of the Judicial Council, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has led the judicial branch out of the state's worst fiscal crisis since the Great Depression. She has improved the branch's efficiency, accountability, and transparency in how it conducts business, sets policy, and discloses information. Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye is a graduate of UC Davis King Hall School of Law, Class of 1984.

Douglas Carstens

Douglas Carstens is the Managing Partner of a small environmental law firm, Chatten-Brown Carstens & Minter LLP (CBCM), based in Hermosa Beach and San Diego. CBCM primarily represents environmental and community groups statewide as petitioners relying upon the California Environmental Quality Act and other environmental laws. CBCM has helped bring about the public acquisition of parklands in northeast Los Angeles, for the Rio De Los Angeles State Park, the State Historic Park of Los Angeles, and additions to the Kenneth Hahn State Park in Baldwin Hills. He is a past president of the Sierra Nevada Alliance and is a current board member of the Planning and Conservation League.

Ethan Elkind

Ethan Elkind is the Director of the Climate Program at UC Berkeley School of Law's Center for Law, Energy & the Environment (CLEE) and leads the Climate Change and Business Research Initiative on behalf of the UC Berkeley and UCLA Schools of Law. He taught at the UCLA law school's Frank Wells Environmental Law Clinic and served as an environmental law research fellow. He has a background in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), climate change law, environmental justice, and other environmental law topics. In 2005, he co-founded The Nakwatsvewat Institute, Inc., a Native American nonprofit organization that provides alternative dispute resolution services and support for tribal governance, justice and educational institutions. His book [Railtown](#) on the history of the modern Los Angeles Metro Rail system was published by University of California Press in

January 2014. Ethan is also a regular host of the weekly call-in radio show “[State of the Bay](#)” on the San Francisco NPR affiliate [KALW 91.7 FM](#), airing Monday nights at 6pm PT.

B.A. Brown University, 1998

J.D. UCLA, 2006

Wade Crowfoot

California’s Natural Resources Secretary

Wade Crowfoot was appointed California’s Natural Resources Secretary by Governor Gavin Newsom in January 2019.

Secretary Crowfoot oversees an agency of 19,000 employees who protect and manage California’s natural resources. This includes the state’s forests and natural lands, rivers and waterways, coast and ocean, fish and wildlife, and energy development. As a member of the Governor’s cabinet, he advises the Governor on natural resources and environmental issues.

Secretary Crowfoot believes good natural resources management helps natural places thrive and allows communities and our economy to prosper. His key priorities include: Building California’s resilience to climate change-driven threats, including wildfire, drought, flooding and sea-level rise.

Expanding access to parks, natural places and outdoor recreation for all Californians.

Preserving California’s world-renowned biodiversity of plants and animals.

Prior to leading the Natural Resources Agency, Crowfoot served as chief executive officer of the Water Foundation, a nonprofit philanthropy that builds shared water solutions across the American West. Before that Crowfoot served in Governor Jerry Brown’s Administration as deputy cabinet secretary and senior advisor to the Governor. He also previously served as West Coast regional director for the Environmental Defense Fund and a senior environmental advisor to then-San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom.

Secretary Crowfoot received a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1996 and earned a master’s degree in public policy from the London School of Economics in 2004, graduating with honors.

A native of Michigan, Crowfoot grew up spending his summers outdoors at a YMCA camp and at his family’s remote cabin in Northern Ontario. Upon moving to California in the mid-1990s, he became an avid hiker and backpacker and marks his first time in the redwoods at Big Basin State Park as one of his defining California moments. Now he spends his time outside of work hiking and camping with his wife, Lisa, and their young daughter.

Christopher Elmendorf

Martin Luther King, Jr. Professor of Law, UC Davis

Professor Elmendorf’s varied teaching and research interests include election law, property and land-use law, statutory interpretation, and administrative law. He has published widely in top law journals, including the *Yale Law Journal*, *Columbia Law Review*, *University of Chicago Law Review*, *New York University Law Review*, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, *California Law Review*, *Duke Law Journal*, and *Cornell Law Review*,

as well as leading peer-reviewed political science journals such as *American Journal of Political Science*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Research Quarterly*, and *Political Behavior*. His work has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the MIT Election Science & Data Lab, and an Interdisciplinary Research Grant from the UC Davis Committee on Research.

Ellison Folk

Ellison Folk is a partner with Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, a law firm that specializes in land use and environmental law. Ms. Folk represents community groups, public agencies, and environmental organizations on a wide range of environmental and land use issues, including strategies for building decarbonization, CEQA, the California Coastal Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and general plan and zoning law. Ms. Folk also advises and defends public agencies in litigation raising takings and related constitutional challenges to land use and environmental regulations. Ms. Folk has considerable litigation experience in state and federal courts on behalf of environmental organizations and public entities. Most recently, Ms. Folk represented the City of Oxnard before the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Energy Commission its successful effort to oppose the location of a natural gas fired power plant on the beach in Oxnard. Ms. Folk also represented the Bay Area Air Quality Management District in *California Bldg. Industry Assn. v. Bay Area Air Quality Management Dist.* (2015) 62 Cal.4th 369 and was lead counsel for petitioners in *Communities for a Better Environment v. Cal. Resources Agency* (2002) 103 Cal.App.4th 98.

Richard Frank

Richard Frank is Professor of Environmental Practice and Director of the California Environmental Law & Policy Center at the University of California, Davis School of Law. From 2006-2010, he served as Executive Director of the Center for Law, Energy & the Environment and as a Lecturer in Residence at the U.C. Berkeley School of Law. From 1977-2006, he served in various legal capacities with the California Department of Justice, culminating as Chief Deputy Attorney General for Legal Affairs (2003-06). During most of his career with the Department, Frank focused on constitutional, environmental, land use and public land management issues. Since leaving the California Department of Justice in 2006, Frank has served on a number of California state policymaking and advisory bodies. He served on the Board of Directors of the California High Speed Rail Authority from 2014-15. Frank has worked on CEQA issues for a half-century, beginning in 1972 when as a law student he participated in King Hall's moot court competition based on a problem modeled on the California Supreme Court's iconic *Friends of Mammoth* case in which the Court would issue its decision later that year. Mr. Frank received his law degree from the University of California at Davis in 1974.

William Fulton

Bill Fulton is the author of *Guide to California Planning*, the standard urban planning textbook for California, and editor and publisher of *California Planning & Development*

Report, the state's leading subscription publication on land use planning. He serves as director of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research at Rice University. During his career, Bill has served also served as Mayor and City Councilmember in Ventura, Director of Planning for the City of San Diego, a Principal and Shareholder at the planning consulting firm now known as Placeworks, and Vice President for Policy at the advocacy group Smart Growth America. He also taught in the UC Davis Extension Land Use and Natural Resources certificate program for more than 20 years. Bill holds an M.A. in urban planning from UCLA.

Kevin R. Johnson

Kevin R. Johnson is Dean, Mabie-Apallas Professor of Public Interest Law, and Professor of Chicana/o Studies. He joined the UC Davis law faculty in 1989 and was named Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in 1998. Johnson became Dean in 2008. He has taught a wide array of classes, including immigration law, civil procedure, complex litigation, Latinos and Latinas and the law, and Critical Race Theory. In 1993, he was the recipient of the law school's Distinguished Teaching Award.

A regular participant in national and international conferences, Dean Johnson has also held leadership positions in the Association of American Law Schools and is the recipient of an array of honors and awards. He is quoted regularly by the **New York Times**, **Los Angeles Times**, and other national and international news outlets.

A magna cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School, where he served as an editor of the **Harvard Law Review**, Dean Johnson earned an A.B. in economics from UC Berkeley, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. After law school, he clerked for the Honorable Stephen Reinhardt of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and worked as an attorney at the international law firm of Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe. Dean Johnson has served on the board of directors of Legal Services of Northern California since 1996 and currently is President of the board. From 2006-11, he served on the board of directors of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, the leading Mexican-American civil rights organization in the United States.

Dean Johnson is the recipient of many awards and honors, including the Association of American Law Schools Minority Groups Section Clyde Ferguson Award (2004), the Hispanic National Bar Association Law Professor of the Year award (2006), the National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies Scholar of the Year award (2008), the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) Romero Vive Award (2012), and the Centro Legal de la Raza Outstanding Achievements in the Law Award (2015). In 2003, he was elected to the American Law Institute.

Meea Kang

Senior Vice President, Related California, LLC

Ms. Kang has dedicated her career to joining her passion for environmentally sustainable design with her commitment to helping communities grow stronger and closer. Ms. Kang is an expert in forging innovative partnerships, and combing complex financing, to bring difficult projects to fruition. As a founding board member of the Council of Infill Builders,

she advocates for state and local governments to adopt policies that support compact growth in California's cities and towns.

Ms. Kang has been honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, American Institute of Architects, U.S. Green Building Council and in 2014 received the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award, California's highest environmental honor.

Ms. Kang serves as a Commissioner on the California Commission on Aging, appointed by Governor Brown in 2016. She also is member of Lambda Alpha International and serves as a director on the boards of the California Housing Consortium, Rail~Volution, Council of Infill Builders and the California Museum. Ms. Kang earned a Master of Architecture from the University of California at Berkeley and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Cornell University.

Linda C. Klein

Linda C. Klein is a partner at Cox, Castle & Nicholson, LLP. She has worked more than 20 years in the building industry and beginning in 2009, has focused on environmental and land use law, with special emphasis on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Since then, she has entitled numerous projects, including corporate campuses, master-planned communities, and mixed-use infill projects, and successfully defended entitlements against CEQA and Planning and Zoning Law challenges. Particularly relevant to this panel, Linda was part of the attorney team that successfully defended the greenhouse gas analysis prepared by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) for its 2050 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy Environmental Impact Report in the California Supreme Court against claims that the analysis was inadequate and failed to disclose the project's adverse impacts on climate change. She also was part of the attorney team that represented the County of San Diego in its appeal of an adverse trial court ruling against its Climate Action Plan. When not billing or spending time with her family, Linda regularly writes and speaks about new regulations and court cases that affect the analysis of climate change impacts in CEQA documents.

Shana Lazerow

Shana Lazerow is the legal director at Communities for a Better Environment, an environmental justice nonprofit that organizes in low-income communities of color in the Los Angeles and Bay areas. Shana has worked as a public interest lawyer and advocate since 1999. From the beginning, her practice has included community enforcement of state and federal environmental laws, and advocacy before administrative agencies to secure meaningful environmental protection statewide. When Shana began at CBE in 2005, the importance of CEQA to environmental justice communities was already well-established, and she quickly immersed herself in its practice. Shana holds a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and a J.D. from UCLA School of Law.

Jeannie Lee

Jeannie Lee is Chief Counsel at the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) where she focuses primarily on CEQA and land use law. Prior to OPR, Ms. Lee was an attorney at the California Attorney General's Office in the Land Law section. Before entering state service, Ms. Lee was an attorney at Remy Moose Manley, LLP in Sacramento and focusing on CEQA litigation. Ms. Lee has a background in environmental and land use planning and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Letitia D. Moore, Holland & Knight

Letitia Moore is a San Francisco attorney with more than 25 years of experience addressing complex environmental, regulatory and land use decisions. Ms. Moore's experience as a senior managing attorney with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Planning Commissioner and Mayor of the City of El Cerrito, gives her a deep understanding of government decision-making, allowing her to offer an insider's view for her public, private and nonprofit sector clients. Ms. Moore focuses her practice on complex redevelopment projects, land use permitting, environmental compliance and government advocacy. She is well-versed in matters involving local land use and State Housing laws, compliance with environmental regulations, and the implementation and enforcement of federal and state environmental laws. Ms. Moore's practice includes land use and environmental due diligence for real estate transactions, in addition to counseling on environmental management, planning, and cleanup issues related to hazardous substances. Ms. Moore is a leader in the California bar and her community, serving on the Executive Committee of the California Lawyers Association Environmental Law Section, and the Board of the Rosie the Riveter Trust.

Jim Moose

Jim Moose is the senior partner in Remy Moose Manley, LLP, which emphasizes land use, environmental, and related fields of law. He represents both public and private clients on projects ranging from large land use plans to major infrastructure. With over 35 years of litigation experience in state and federal environmental cases, Mr. Moose has been involved in litigation resulting in numerous significant CEQA precedents in the Courts of Appeal and California Supreme Court.

Les Perry

Mr. Perry graduated from King Hall in 1974 and has practiced in Sonoma County since 1975. He is a founding partner of Perry, Johnson, Anderson, Miller & Moskowitz. Mr. Perry practices in the areas of general land use. He represents clients before various administrative and planning agencies, including County of Sonoma, City of Santa Rosa, Town of Windsor, City of Petaluma, City of Rohnert Park, City of Sonoma, City of Cotati, City of Sebastopol, Sonoma County Airport Land Use Commission and Water Quality and Air

Quality Boards. He has significant experience with California Environmental Quality Act compliance and litigation. Mr. Perry has served on a number of government commissions and committees including the Sonoma County Planning Commission; Sonoma County Fair; Sonoma County Harvest Fair; Sonoma County Fair Foundation, Santa Rosa Mainstreet Board of Directors; Santa Rosa Business Advisory Assessment District; Sonoma County Emergency Medical Care Advisory Committee; Sonoma County Energy Advisory Committee; Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control Board and Sonoma County Civil Service Commission.

Aruna Prabhala

Aruna Prabhala is a Senior Attorney and Urban Wildlands Director for the Center for Biological Diversity. Her legal practice focuses on land use issues under the California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act, with a particular emphasis on climate change and habitat protection for endangered species. She graduated from the University of Michigan Law School and double-majored in biology and journalism as an undergraduate at Boston University. Before becoming an attorney, she worked in Washington, D.C., on science-policy issues.

Holly A. Roberson

Holly represents public and private sector clients in the areas of natural resources and water law. Her practice focuses on environmental law and policy, CEQA, land use, water, climate change, and renewable energy. Prior to joining the firm, Holly served as Land Use Counsel at the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR). At OPR, she worked on tribal cultural resources and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the General Plan Guidelines, military land use compatibility planning, infill streamlining, utility-scale solar siting, complex mediation, drought issues, and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

Holly has experience working with environmental laws on the National, State, and Local level. She has special expertise in tribal cultural resources and CEQA (AB 52). She has provided technical assistance and training to lead agencies, the private sector, and tribal governments throughout the state. Prior to her appointment, Holly worked at a prominent Sacramento law firm specializing in CEQA. hroberson@kmtg.com

Ronald B. Robie

Associate Justice, 3rd District Court of Appeal,
Adjunct Professor, Environmental Law, McGeorge School of Law - 43 years
Faculty, California Environmental Quality Act courses for Judges - 20 years
Recipient of California Lawyers Association, Environmental Law Section, Lifetime Achievement Award - 2020
Co-Author, California Civil Practice, Environmental Litigation
Graduate, University of California, Berkeley (AB, MJ), University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law (JD)

Andrea Ruiz-Esquide

Andrea Ruiz-Esquide has worked as a Deputy City Attorney at the San Francisco City Attorney's Office since 2007. Prior to that, she was a law fellow at Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP in San Francisco, and a law clerk to the Honorable John T. Noonan, Jr., at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Andrea got her J.D. from Berkeley Law in 2004, with a certificate in Environmental Law and Policy. She also has a Ph. D. in History from Columbia University, which she obtained in 2000. Her undergraduate degree is from Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile.

Andrea advises different City departments and Commissions within San Francisco on a wide array of matters under local, state and federal environmental and land use laws. She counsels, among others, the Historic Preservation Commission, the Municipal Transportation Agency, and the Planning Department, and specializes in the California Environmental Quality Act, historic preservation, transportation, air quality, and GHG issues.

Margaret Sohagi

Ms. Sohagi's practice for the last 35 years has focused on assisting cities, counties, and other public agencies navigate the legal complexities of land use, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Ms. Sohagi provides constructive, practical legal advice, working directly with lead agency counsel, staff, and appointed elected officials. When necessary, she zealously defends lead agencies' land use approvals and environmental determinations in judicial proceedings, and frequently heads mediation teams in settlement discussions. As a longstanding CEQA instructor for California's Continuing Judicial Studies Program, Ms. Sohagi has the unique opportunity to instruct Superior Court judges, appellate justices and court attorneys. Her land use and environmental law expertise, and ability to keep public agencies informed about the latest legal developments and trends, is also demonstrated through her frequent planning and legal conference presentations, extensive UCLA and USC teaching experience, and publications such as the Solano Press book *Exactions and Impact Fees in California*. Ms. Sohagi's prior career as a city planner gives her invaluable insight into the intricacies of complex project development and review.

Tim Taylor

Tim Taylor is one of Sacramento's best-known environmental and land use lawyers. He helps residential, commercial and industrial developers achieve compliance with California's numerous land use and environmental laws, with a particular focus on the California Environmental Quality Act and related litigation. During his more than 25-year career, Tim has also dealt extensively with a wide range of federal environmental laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Water Act and the Endangered

Species Act. He also represents numerous public agency clients on state planning, zoning, development and environmental law matters. Tim served as the office managing partner for the firm's California offices from 2009 to 2014 and was a member of the firm's Executive Committee for much of that time. He was selected by Best Lawyers as the Sacramento Land Use & Zoning Law "Lawyer of the Year" in 2013 and the Sacramento Environmental Law "Lawyer of the Year" in 2012 and 2015.