About CLEANR
The mission of the Center is to promote the development and implementation of creative, practical, and effective conservation strategies in the fields of environmental and land use law. The Center strives to advance a program of educational opportunities and interdisciplinary research engaged with intractable environmental problems, to facilitate dialogue and collaboration addressing concrete conflicts among diverse stakeholders, and to shape environmental policy both locally and globally.

Center Director
Alejandro Camacho

Advisory Committee
Seth Davis
Joseph DiMento
Carrie Menkel-Meadow
Michael Robinson-Dorn
Benjamin van Roolj

Staff Attorney
Elizabeth Taylor

Affiliated Faculty
Stephen Lee
Nicholas Marantz

Law Centers Manager
Rabie Kadri

More information on the Center’s web page: law.uci.edu/CLEANR
This roundtable convenes emerging leaders from around the world to exchange experiences and ideas and to foster collaborative research and action related to sustainability. This series convenes emerging leaders from around the world to exchange experiences and ideas and to foster collaborative research and action related to sustainability. Contact nyokota@uci.edu to apply or for more information.

As the Arctic Thaws: New Challenges, Remaining Issues
April 2017: Building on the successful Arctic I Symposium and Arctic II Roundtable, this program will extend discussions of the state of Arctic governance and ecosystem-based management, looking toward the next major challenges facing environmental governance in the region.

Wayne Pacelle: The Humane Economy
February, 2017: Wayne Pacelle, President and CEO of Humane Society of the United States, will discuss how animal rights activism, animal welfare, and social change in Sea World, the egg and chicken industry, animal testing and humane science, and beyond.

Tensions of Transparency: Open Government Laws in Land Use Regulation
December 9, 2016: Open government laws facilitating public access to government meetings and records can promote public participation in the democratic process. Yet, some participants in public-private land development deals contend that existing open government law can constrain productive negotiations without effectively increasing public engagement. This roundtable explores the tensions that arise in the land development process, where the goal of maintaining government transparency can conflict with the goal of effectively negotiating complex deals mingling private resources and public authority.

Food Security and Sustainability
March 20, 2017: This roundtable brings together academics, practitioners, activists, and students to examine the relationship between food security and environmental sustainability as alternative legal frames. It will consider the extent to which these frames complement and contradict one another, setting a relatively straightforward but ambitious agenda: to identify legal reforms that advance the goals of both food security and environmental sustainability.

Recent Publication Highlights:

This article aims to instruct future area wide, multiagency HCP efforts about the potential trade-offs of particular design alternatives, specifically in light of emerging challenges such as climate change. It concludes that a clear and streamlined interagency framework that engages stakeholders and encourages open participation is essential to negotiate these trade-offs and maximize the likelihood of effective, multijurisdictional, adaptive conservation planning.


This article evaluates a range of efforts to coordinate proposed California Habitat Conservation/Natural Community Conservation Plans with freshwater aquatic resource permits under federal and state laws, concluding that strong guidance and higher level support from federal and state agencies with a well-developed learning infrastructure are required to direct, manage, and improve coordination efforts.

Tensions of Transparency: Open Government Laws in Land Use Regulation
December 9, 2016: Open government laws facilitating public access to government meetings and records can promote public participation in the democratic process. Yet, some participants in public-private land development deals contend that existing open government law can constrain productive negotiations without effectively increasing public engagement. This roundtable explores the tensions that arise in the land development process, where the goal of maintaining government transparency can conflict with the goal of effectively negotiating complex deals mingling private resources and public authority.

Food Security and Sustainability
March 20, 2017: This roundtable brings together academics, practitioners, activists, and students to examine the relationship between food security and environmental sustainability as alternative legal frames. It will consider the extent to which these frames complement and contradict one another, setting a relatively straightforward but ambitious agenda: to identify legal reforms that advance the goals of both food security and environmental sustainability.

Recent Publication Highlights:

This article aims to instruct future area wide, multiagency HCP efforts about the potential trade-offs of particular design alternatives, specifically in light of emerging challenges such as climate change. It concludes that a clear and streamlined interagency framework that engages stakeholders and encourages open participation is essential to negotiate these trade-offs and maximize the likelihood of effective, multijurisdictional, adaptive conservation planning.


This article evaluates a range of efforts to coordinate proposed California Habitat Conservation/Natural Community Conservation Plans with freshwater aquatic resource permits under federal and state laws, concluding that strong guidance and higher level support from federal and state agencies with a well-developed learning infrastructure are required to direct, manage, and improve coordination efforts.