

ANIMAL WELFARE TOWN HALL

Hosted by Congressman DeSaulnier

With Special Guest Susan Lee Vick



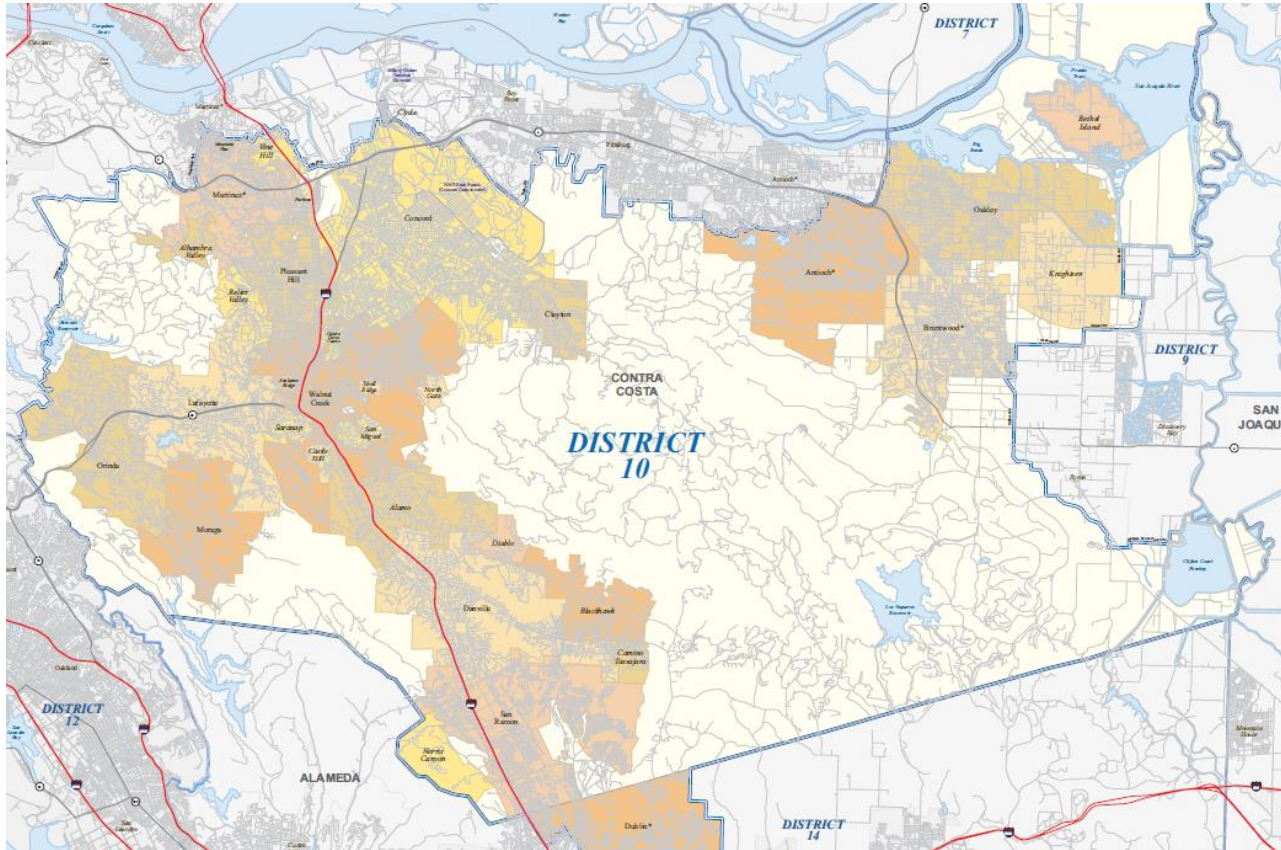
HOUSE ETHICS: CONGRESSIONAL VS. CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY

- Members of Congress are governed by the House Code of Official Conduct, which includes standards for whether, how, when, and where Members may engage in campaign activity.
 - This town hall is being hosted in my official capacity as Representative for California's 10th District, not as a candidate in a campaign. Therefore, House Rules prevent me from:
 - Solicitating, receiving, and accepting campaign contributions.
 - Making political endorsements.
 - Directing attendees to websites, resources, or events created or operated by a campaign or any campaign-related entity, including political parties and campaign committees.

You can learn more about the House Code of Official Conduct and how it relates to this event here:



CALIFORNIA'S 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



CA-10 includes
most of Contra
Costa and part of
Alameda County

COMMITTEES AND CAUCUSES

COMMITTEES:

- Ethics Committee – Ranking Member
- Education & Workforce Committee
 - Ranking Member of the Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee
 - Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development
- Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
 - Subcommittees on Highways, Aviation, Water Resources and Environment, and Railroads

CAUCUSES:

- Congressional Animal Protection Caucus
- Congressional Progressive Caucus
- Bipartisan Cancer Survivors Caucus – Co-Chair
- Urban Regional Studies Caucus – Co-Chair
- Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition
 - Climate Jobs Task Force – Co-Chair
- Gun Violence Prevention Task Force
- Reproductive Freedom Caucus

MEET NORTH!



- Mark adopted his dog, North, from Contra Costa Animal Services in 2021. He previously adopted Maggie, a Rottweiler, and Pickles, a Bassett Hound, from the shelter.
- This shelter was dedicated by the Board of Supervisors in 2005, during Mark's tenure.



MARK'S WORK ON ANIMAL WELFARE

- Congressman DeSaulnier is a **member of the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus** and received a score of 100+ from the Humane World Action Fund in 2025 for his efforts in Congress.
- Congressman DeSaulnier sponsors several animal protection bills, including:



- **Puppy Protection Act (H.R. 2253)** – to raise federal standards for licensed commercial dog breeders.
- **Bring Animals Relief and Kibble (BARK) Act (H.R. 3732)** – to encourage donations of pet food and supplies to animal shelters by waiving donor liability.
- **Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act (H.R. 1661)** – to ban the sale or transport of horses in interstate commerce if the horses are to be slaughtered for human consumption.
- **Better CARE for Animals Act (H.R. 3090)** – to strengthen the Department of Justice's ability to enforce the Animal Welfare Act through license suspension, civil penalties, and forfeiture and removal of abused animals.

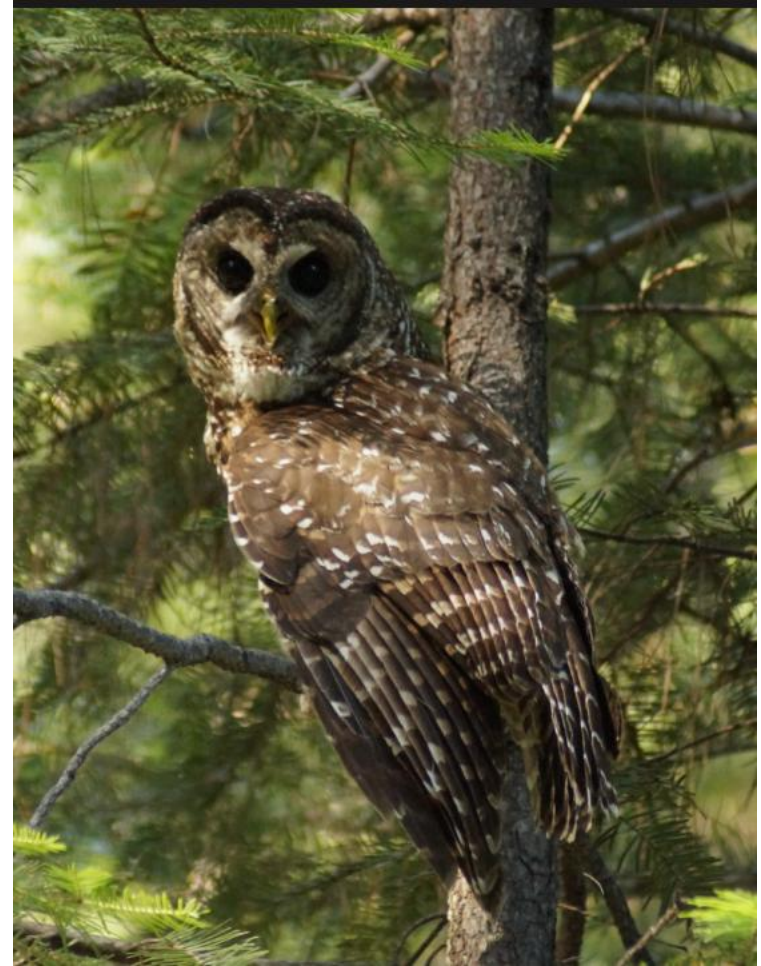
THE ADMINISTRATION'S ATTACKS ON ANIMAL WELFARE

- Weakening the definition of what constitutes “harm” to endangered species:
 - On July 14, 2026, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services published a final rule amending the definition of “harm.” It will take effect on September 14, 2026.
 - This rule eliminates habitat protections for endangered species by allowing fossil fuel companies to drill, mine, and log in the habitats of endangered species so long as they do not kill the species directly.
 - Habitat loss causing death of endangered species will no longer be considered harm under the Endangered Species Act.



THE ADMINISTRATION'S ATTACKS ON ANIMAL WELFARE

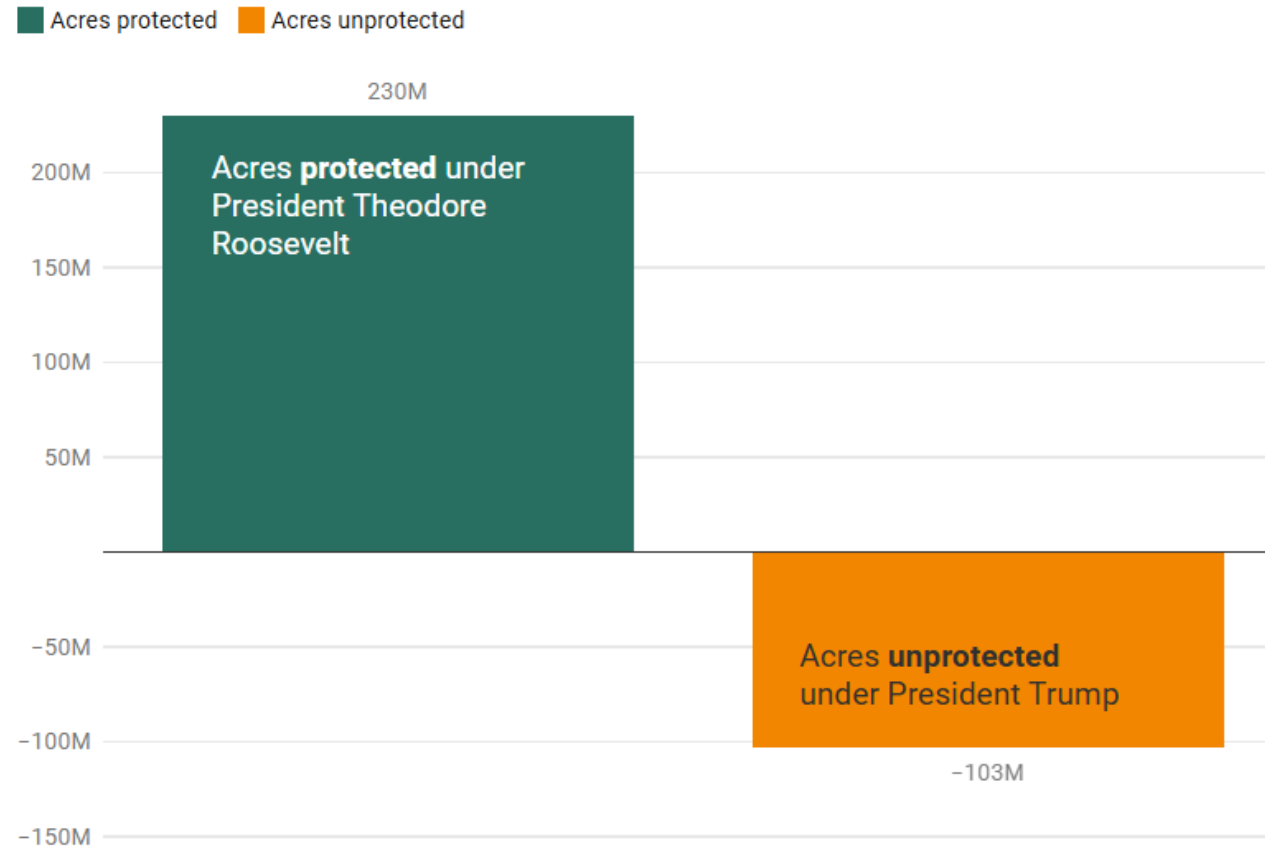
- Eliminating the “blanket rule”:
 - On July 21, 2026, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a final rule eliminating the “blanket rule.” It will take effect on August 20, 2026.
 - The blanket rule was created to give newly threatened species the same protections as an endangered species until a species-specific plan could be developed.
 - Threatened species will no longer receive protections under the Endangered Species Act unless granted on a case-by-case basis.



Spotted Owl

President Trump's rollbacks equal nearly half the acreage protected under President Roosevelt

Cumulatively, President Trump has removed protections from more than 100 million acres of land, while President Roosevelt protected more than 230 million acres



President Theodore Roosevelt

STANDING UP TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S ATTACKS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Public lands and wilderness are habitats for many threatened and endangered species. Preserving these lands is critical to the survival of these species.

- Congressman DeSaulnier sponsors the **Arctic Refuge Protection Act (H.R. 3067)** to protect the **Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from development** and designate its coastal plain as a wilderness area.
- Congressman DeSaulnier sponsors the **Roadless Area Conservation Act (H.R. 3930)** to codify the 2001 Roadless Rule, which prohibits road construction, reconstruction and timber harvesting in inventoried roadless areas on National Forest System lands.
- Congressman DeSaulnier signed a letter to the Department of Interior and Department of Commerce **opposing the elimination of the “blanket rule.”**

THANK YOU!

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