

**STEPHEN J. ODELL**  
**PARTNER****CONTACT**

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**AREAS OF FOCUS**

Air Quality  
Agency Enforcement, Congressional Oversight,  
and State AG Investigations Agribusiness  
Mining  
Natural Resources and Endangered Species  
Permitting and Environmental Review Project  
and Property Development Water Rights/  
Water Resources

**EDUCATION & CLERKSHIPS**

J.D., Stanford Law School  
A.B., Stanford University  
Law Clerk to the Honorable Diarmuid F.  
O'Scannlain, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth  
Circuit  
Law Clerk to the Honorable Owen M. Panner,  
U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon  
Law Clerk to the Honorable Dave Frohnmayer,  
Oregon Attorney General

**ADMISSIONS & MEMBERSHIPS**

Oregon State Bar

**RECOGNITION & ACTIVITIES**

- Recipient of multiple awards for distinguished government service, U.S. Department of Justice
- Member, Senior Executive Service, 2000-03
- Board Member, U.S. District Court of Oregon Historical Society, 2018-present
- Pro Bono Counsel, Pura Vida Coffee, 2000-03
- Recipient, West Publishing Hornbook Award, 1985-86
- Regular Presenter at environmental and natural resources conferences, including U.S. Department of Justice National Advocacy Center, on various topics, including Endangered Species Act, Water Law, Forestry Law, NEPA, Administrative Law, Developed Recreation, Public Lands, and natural resource issues in the West
- Adjunct Professor, Willamette University College of Law, Northwestern School of Law (of Lewis & Clark College), Stanford-in-Washington, University of Arkansas Senior Notes Editor, Stanford Law Review, Vol. 40 (1987-88)

**A top-tier litigator who has served in all three branches of the U.S. government, Steve has played a pivotal role in resolving some of the most complex and contentious issues in environmental, natural resources, and energy law in both the public and private sectors for more than 25 years, and is a nationally recognized subject-matter expert with a proven track record in the courtroom stemming from his successful handling of literally hundreds of cases**

Steve is a litigation partner and senior member of the firm's Regulatory and Government Controversies practice group, based in the Portland Office. He joined Marten following a distinguished career as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Oregon, where he successfully handled many of the district's most consequential and controversial environmental disputes during the last two decades, in cases involving resources and issues ranging from timber, water quality and use, developed recreation, and transportation, to grazing, protected species, wetlands, and energy (encompassing production, transmission, and rate-setting) matters. Steve has also handled cases and been at the forefront of various initiatives addressing highly sensitive environmental issues throughout the country, with a principal focus on those in the West. This, combined with the fact he is a native Westerner, provide Steve with virtually unparalleled knowledge of the unique array of legal and policy issues related to management of natural resources and public lands in the region.

**REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS**

- Represented U.S. Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture against consolidated challenges involving more than 100 different claims to Northwest Forest Plan. See *Seattle Audubon Soc'y v. Lyons*, 871 F. Supp. 1291 (W.D. Wash. Dec. 21, 1994), *aff'd*, 80 F.3d 1401 (9th Cir. 1996).
- Represented Bonneville Power Administration against petition for review of its decision authorizing Whistling Ridge Energy Project to interconnect to Bonneville transmission system. See *Friends of Columbia Gorge v. BPA*, 716 Fed.Appx. 681 (9th Cir. Mar. 27, 2018).
- Represented Bonneville Power Administration in challenge to its adoption of Residential Exchange Program Settlement Agreement pursuant to the Northwest Power Act. See *Association of Public Agency Customers v. BPA*, 733 F.3d 939 (9th Cir. 2013).
- Represented Forest Service against challenge to its authorization of 10 years of livestock grazing within Wild & Scenic River corridors and ESA-listed fish critical habitat on National Forest. See *Oregon Natural Desert Assn. v. Forest Serv.*, F&R, 2017 WL 9535170 (D. Or. Oct. 3, 2017), adopted as Op., 2018 WL 1811467 (Apr. 16, 2018), on appeal.
- Represented Forest Service in challenge to its issuance of Special Use Permits to City of Bend authorizing replacement and operation of municipal water supply pipeline Central Oregon. See *Landwatch v. Connaughton*, 2014 WL 6893695 (D. Or. Dec. 5, 2014), *aff'd* on appeal, (9th Cir. Aug. 23, 2017).
- Represented home builders in challenge to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's approval of the San Diego Multi-Species Conservation Program Habitat Conservation Plan under Endangered Species Act, authorizing incidental take of listed species within 900-square-mile area in San Diego County. See *Southwest Ctr. for Biological Diversity v. Berg*, 268 F.3d 810 (9th Cir. 2001).
- Represented Forest Service against challenge to its Special Use Permit to construct and operate new chair-lifted mountain bike park and trail system at Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood. See *BARK v. Northrop*, 2016 WL 1181672 (D. Or. Mar. 25, 2016).