



WILD & SCENIC[®] FILM FESTIVAL

Film Name	TRT	Genre	Region	Synopsis
Any film with a * are captioned in Interdubs.				
4DWN	17	activism/adventure/youth/family-friendly	Southern states	4DWN tells the unconventional and deeply personal story of a South Dallas skatepark whose mission is to change the lives of everyone who walks through the gate.
841	16	wildlife	California	Catching waves and biting boards, Sea Otter 841 has captured the attention of citizens, scientists, and journalists worldwide. While she continues to evade capture, the media frenzy has raised the question: What should we do about this unruly otter?
6,000 Miles	17	water/river issues	Western states	In 6,000 Miles, Kayla Lopez, a multifaceted artist and river activist, and Steve Evans, the impassioned Wild Rivers Director at CalWild, offer an exciting and educational exploration of California's Wild Rivers, blending expertise and passion to illuminate the essence and threats to our precious waterways. Their journey unfolds a narrative transcending advocacy, revealing the intricate connection and profound significance of preserving wild rivers.
A Farm Goes Wild	9	farming	UK	Derek Gow is a farmer in western England, or at least he was. Now, he's using his decades of experience in conservation to return his land to its original state, as a healthy, biodiverse ecosystem. He's also breeding native species now rare in Britain for reintroduction across the country.
A Journey Upstream	0.5	adventure/fly-fishing/water	Southeast	This is the story of two seemingly unrelated fish that help us understand the connectivity within our environment and the importance of a healthy Chesapeake Bay watershed.
A Renewable Future	7	climate change	Western states	In this film, land stewards and wildlife experts from across the West explore issues surrounding renewable energy projects on public land and encourage the outdoor community to take action and continue to protect the wild spaces we hold dear.
Abundance: The FarmLink Story	23	food/farming/activism/youth	U.S.A.	During the largest food crisis in a century, a group of college students catalyze a national movement to end hunger in the United States. Within months, the project scales larger than anyone could have imagined and the students find themselves on the front lines of fighting hunger. As food bank lines grow across the country and college finals approach, do the students have what it takes to create a long term solution?
African Voices for Africa's Forests- Gender, Indigenous Rights, and Restoration*	9	activism/climate	Africa	Ewi Lamma, a young climate activist from Cameroon, has committed her life and work to changing the status quo by working with local communities, women, and youth. Her work is inspiring people to speak up and take part in local decision-making while protecting the environment and indigenous knowledge.
All Water Touches All Water	4	art/water issues	Canada	A lyrical mini-documentary about the underwater photo and video process of artist Monica Lacey.
Apayauq	17	adventure, DEI	Alaska	Apayauq Reitan's journey of gender, mental health, and purpose on her way to become the first out transgender woman to complete the legendary Iditarod sled dog race across Alaska.
Between Earth & Sky	26	health/adventure	Costa Rica/U.S.	Renowned ecologist Nalini Nadkarni studies "what grows back" after a disturbance in the rainforest canopy. After surviving a life-threatening fall from a tree, she must turn her research question onto herself to explore the effects of disturbance and recovery throughout her own life.
Biopixels	3	wildlife/art/animation	animation	Butterflies and moths comprise 12% of all species known to man (180,000 species!), and their seemingly endless biodiversity is visually translated on their wings through color and pattern variation. <i>Biopixels</i> explores the world of evolutionary biology on a microscopic scale. Using the latest light microscope technology, butterfly wings become micro-mosaics. The images in this film have not been altered but were animated to demonstrate both subtle and dramatic evolutionary development and variation.
Birds on the Brink	10	wildlife	Hawaii	Humans have introduced new species of plants and animals since they first arrived on the Hawaiian islands, and these invaders have devastated many local species, including an incredible radiation of birds known as the honeycreepers. Now, countermeasures to mitigate the threats of predators and another invasive species—a mosquito that carries avian malaria—are helping to protect these amazing, endangered birds.
Black Skimmers, under our wing	12	wildlife/activism	Florida	A pair of Black Skimmers lay their egg on a barrier island along Tampa Bay. Three weeks later, a fuzzy, sand-colored chick emerges from its shell. As the chick grows, it navigates the challenges of a heavily human-populated beach.
Bluebird Sky	23	food/farming/sustainable living	Colorado	<i>Bluebird Sky</i> peeks into the lives of Danny and Annaliese in their second year of operation in Boulder County, Colorado. Their story is one example of young farmers entering into this aging profession. The film explores the challenges of making it as farmers, the value of supporting a local food system, and how to approach long-term change.
Brave Girl	8	adventure/youth/family	Wyoming	Brave Girl is a strong young adventurer who, with the help of her grandpa, is beginning her journey of finding out what it takes to climb mountains. Even though she's only 6, she has an unwavering ambition to climb the biggest mountains in the world, starting with the ones in her backyard in Wyoming.
Bridging Fragments	8	land preservation/activism/wildlife	Costa Rica	Urbanization and deforestation are fracturing the wildlife corridors that preserve biodiversity in tropical rainforests, putting many species at risk, including the world's slowest mammal - the sloth. "Bridging Fragments" explores these stressors in a tropical rainforest community off the Caribbean coast of Costa Rica, where the Sloth Conservation Foundation is helping the local wildlife navigate a disconnected world.
Bright Toh: Unsung Hero	5	wildlife/art/activism	Africa	Bright Toh, a young visual artist from Cameroon, is on a journey to raise awareness about the plight of endangered species in his country. Using his incredibly striking art, he aims to educate people about the need to protect animals like pangolins and primates from threats such as bushmeat poaching and habitat loss.
Café Y Aves*	14	food/farming/wildlife/land preservation	Central America	Coffee farms in Colombia exist in some of the most biodiverse ecosystems on the planet. However, agriculture is putting pressure on biodiversity, causing catastrophic declines in migratory bird species. Farmers are working alongside Smithsonian scientists to develop solutions that will be better for birds and coffee.
California's Watershed Healing	57	land preservation/water-river issues/climate/resources	Western states/ California	California's forested ecosystems are facing tremendous threats. Forest managers, researchers, and policymakers contributed to the documentary, which profiles opportunities for restoration and sustainable management of Sierra Nevada forests. The production delves into equitable, multi-benefit solutions to environmental, economic, and national-security threats and impacts evolving due to the climate crisis and past management actions throughout the watershed.
Chasing the Bono*	11	adventure/	Indonesia	The Kampar River in Sumatra, Indonesia, boasts the world's longest wave: a cyclical tidal bore known as "Bono Seven Ghosts" that can run over 13 miles long and be surfed for an hour and a half. This film explores the relationship between the Kampar River and its surrounding communities, focusing on how surfing has strengthened this connection.
Chicas al Agua*	18	adventure/kayaking/women	Chile	You can count the number of female paddlers in Futaleufú, Chile on one hand... and they want to change that. After many riverside matés and floating conversations, the idea to create a kayak course for local teenage girls was hatched. Thanks to a committed group of women from around the globe, what started as a dream is now an inspirational contribution to the local community.
Coral Comeback	11	climate change	Hawaii	Kira Hughes has witnessed how a warming ocean killed up to 80% of the coral in reefs around Oahu over the past ten years. But she and her colleagues, along with help from the local community, are now breeding the thermally-resistant corals to survive future "bleaching" events—and are already installing them back in the wild.
Curupira*	12	activism/land preservation/animation	South America/Brazil	A docu-animation about a powerful Amazonian goddess told through the voices of the Borari people from the heart of the forest in Pará, Brazil.
Danny Macaskill: Do a Wheelie	6	adventure	UK	In the summer of 2021 Danny MacAskill put out a call to action to his 3.5 million social media fans asking them to #WheelieWithDanny. Riders and fans applied from around the world to feature alongside Danny in his latest project from Five Ten and Cut Media. Join Danny MacAskill and a host of friends as he pushes the boundaries of the humble wheelie and learns a thing or two from friends old and new.
Dante's Paradise*	19	wildlife/activism	Mexico	Dante Aguilar sees the rapid degradation of the planet and applies his skills in environmental conservation and butterfly rearing to make a positive impact in the heart of Mexico City. He is joined by a range of people committed to making the world a naturally balanced place. For Dante, everything is at stake, from the lives of butterflies to the planet's future.
Deep Rising	85	oceans/energy/climate change/resources	international	<i>Deep Rising</i> is a gripping and up-to-the-minute tale of geopolitical, scientific, and corporate intrigue that exposes the destructive machinations of a secretive organization empowered to extract massive amounts of metals from the deep seafloor. Narrated by Jason Momoa, the film illuminates the vital relationship between the deep ocean and sustaining life on Earth.
Diagonal	11	hiking/nature/adventure	Western states/ CO	Feeling stuck in life, 54-year-old India Wood books the traditional way of recreating and strikes a novel path across the state of Colorado. Taking a uniquely in-depth look at the world around her, India's walk is a celebration of the originality that makes us human and delights in doing things a little bit differently.
Driving Sweep	10	adventure	Western states/ Idaho	Few river guides ever get the chance to drive Idaho's iconic sweep boat. Driving Sweep follows Katie Veteto as she learns how to "drive sweep" down the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. She's known the rapids and the river. Now, she is learning to drive a 4,000-lb sweep down steep, rocky rapids.

Eyes Up: A Mural for the Tenderloin	15	art/urban/activism	Western/ California	The Precita Eyes muralists were hired to create a 6 story mural on the side of an affordable housing apartment complex in the Tenderloin neighborhood of San Francisco. Through their efforts they learn about the neighborhood and their drive for creating street art to represent and inspire community.
Finding the Line	32	adventure/art	U.S.A.	From slicing through rapids in a whitewater kayak to carving into a plate while printmaking, Alexandra "Chachi" Riesco draws lines between geologic forces and her work and play — but following her own line isn't always easy. As Chachi navigates challenges, her art highlights the importance of our connections to nature.
Flowing - My Dream of More Freedom	4	water/river issues	Austria	The river itself speaks about its dream of flowing wilder and freer again. Dams, weirs, and other obstacles disrupt the natural functioning of rivers and are detrimental to migrating fish, other river wildlife, and ultimately us humans. The good news is that we can change this. Obsolete stone and concrete barriers can be removed, helping river ecosystems bounce back to whole vibrating life!
Forests Above & Forests Below	6	ocean/water/climate	California	Take a deep dive into California's unique and irreplaceable underwater kelp forests that have experienced catastrophic loss in the past decade. This piece was written and supported by scientists at The Nature Conservancy and was filmed and produced by the Coldwater Collective.
Forward	16	adventure/health	U.S.A.	While navigating a myriad of life challenges, Anjelica turned to the outdoors to improve her mental health to discover a noticeable lack of other plus-size women of color on trail. By posting a simple flyer looking for more women to hike with, Anjelica created a community she never could have imagined.
Gardener to Guardian	13	biodiversity/farming	Ireland	Amid collapsing biodiversity worldwide, Mary Reynolds of Ireland is building a movement to turn gardeners into guardians of the planet, by returning our own patch of land to nature and restoring hope that individual action can create lasting change.
Groundwork: A Family Journey into Regenerative Cotton	16	food/farming	U.S.A.	Follow as the Kahle family breaks the cycle of generational health issues by revolutionizing their farming practices. Driven by a deep commitment to their family and community's well-being, the Kahles bring regenerative science practices to combat years of problematic, status-quo methods of farming.
Healing Hilsyaq'us*	5	wildlife/sustainable living/water-river issues	Pacific NW/Canada	Hilsyaq'us (Tranquil Creek) is located within the traditional territory of the Aa'uuuk' (Tla-o-qui-ah) First Nation approximately 20 km east of Tofino, in Clayoquot Sound, British Columbia. The sharp decline in wild Pacific salmonids in this watershed is poorly understood. It has sparked research, monitoring, and habitat restoration initiatives to address knowledge gaps and restore habitat in hopes of fostering a recovery of wild fish populations within the Tranquil Watershed and contributing to the broader recovery of wild Pacific salmon.
HEALY	14	adventure/energy/climate/oceans	International	Scientists embark on a 55-day mission on icebreaker ship USCGC Healy to study why the Arctic ice cap is melting dramatically faster than previously understood, bringing insight into how a warming Arctic impacts people everywhere.
I Am the Nature	5	sustainable living/land preservation/activism	South American	<i>I Am the Nature</i> is a poetic documentary honoring the philosophy and cultural expression of the Achuar people from the Amazon rainforest in Ecuador. Narrated by Chumpi Washkiat, a local leader, the movie dives into the insights of a man who has walked between worlds, echoing ideas of unity, empathy, and harmony.
INWARD	22	art/environmental justice/adventure	U.S.A.	Michi Meko is a postmodern cartographer and artist who lives within the parallels and meridians of two distinct worlds . . . the Urban world and the Rural world. Michi is highly influenced by his surrounding urbanization and the disposability of humanity, culture, injustice and waste. He's influenced by nature and wilderness and its ability to heal and inspire. As a fly fisherman and outdoor enthusiast, Michi found his place and voice in nature. His journey inspires a new mindset and possibilities for everyone, especially African Americans.
Jaguar del Cielo*	14	wildlife/activism	Mexico/ International	<i>Jaguar Del Cielo</i> follows field tech Felix Tafoya's journey to better understand and conserve Mexico's apex predator in the El Cielo Biosphere Reserve in Tamaulipas, Mexico. By catching jaguars and fitting them with GPS collars, Felix and his co-workers can track the movement of jaguars and get insights into their mysterious and elusive lives. The information collected from the collars is crucial to better understand the species and to mitigate conflicts with humans, which is imperative for the long-term conservation of jaguars.
Jaguar Passage	13	wildlife/activism	Belize / Central America	Jaguar populations are in decline worldwide, but the Central American country of Belize remains a big cat stronghold. Yet, the only remaining link between its protected habitats, a six-mile corridor of forest, is at risk of being severed, and conservationists are in a race against time to preserve it.
Jojo- A Toad Musical	8	wildlife/activism	U.S.A.	The film celebrates a creative and musical portrait of Jojo Nyaribo, a young nature lover and wildlife advocate, as he explores the meaning of biodiversity and stewardship in his backyard.
KELPI	32	oceans/activism/sustainable living	UK	Under the looming shadow of ecological breakdown, a young filmmaker searches for a surprising super-solution that can help build a better future for humans and the planet. On an epic adventure aboard the good ship Gleaner through Britain's rugged coastline, they discover the power of kelp to regenerate our coasts, empower communities, and even replace plastic.
Kind of Fishy	5	adventure/youth/oceans/art	Norway	Imagination and reuse - themes that entwine and enforce for both healthy minds and earth. <i>Kind of Fishy</i> aims to inspire just that: to encourage kids of all ages to look at things from a slightly different perspective. You might not see it at first glance. But tilt your head slightly, blink, and look again - now, what do you see?
Light Beams For Helena	10	health/adventure	Mexico/ International	Helena Bourdillon has pushed her limits in the freediving world, using a single breath to dive to seemingly impossible depths. But her path to discovering her diving potential started 20 years ago when she was on the verge of suicide. <i>Light Beams For Helena</i> explores her journey with depression, her ongoing mental health efforts, and what diving into the darkness of deep water has taught her about life and light.
Lights Out*	9	urban/wildlife/	Midwestern States	"Lights Out" uncovers the largely unknown issue of why Chicago is the most deadly city for migratory birds. Chicago's location, building design, and light pollution all contribute to the window collisions that kill thousands of birds each year. Experts David Willard and Annette Prince discuss how this happens and why it is detrimental to the balance of the ecosystem. We have a responsibility to protect these birds during their incredible feat of migration and the solution can be as simple as turning off the lights.
Losing Blue	16	water-river issues/energy-climate change-resources	Canada	Glacier-fed alpine lakes each have a unique blue formed by the mountains and ice that shaped them. These intense colors hold the memory of "deep time," geological processes millions of years old. Climate change rapidly accelerates environmental shifts, causing some of these spectacular blues to vanish. With stunning cinematography, the film immerses viewers in the magnificence of lakes so rare that most have never seen them, pulling us in so that we experience these bodies of water as if we were standing alone on their rocky shores—witnesses to their power and acutely aware of what their loss would mean.
Love	14	adventure	U.S.A.	After a miscarriage and a historic ascent of the famous sport climb Dreamcatcher, Paige Claassen follows her own path as a professional athlete training through pregnancy, finding new meaning in strength and identity through the early days of motherhood.
Mel Fell	7	animation/wildlife/	U.S.A.	One day, when Mama bird is away, Mel decides it is time to learn to fly. She has been in the nest long enough. Despite the fears of her cautious siblings, Mel takes to the sky...and plummet. But while a host of tree-dwelling animals tries to intervene, can Mel master the art of flight?
Modern Goose	23	wildlife	Canada	Able to navigate by reading the Earth's magnetic field, fiercely loyal to flock and family, at home on land, air, and water, geese straddle the territory between ancient instincts and the contemporary world. Combining beauty, humor, and profound empathy, <i>Modern Goose</i> reveals how the natural world's mysteries persist in the face of continual urbanization. From the S-curve of their elegant black necks to the tips of their dinosaur-clawed toes, geese are tough, resourceful survivors, adapting and thriving. They wing their way forth, creating a living calligraphy against the evening sky, offering a more profound message of continuity and connection. The will and determination of wild creatures to find their way home endures.
Mt. St. Helens: The Fire Within	11	nature	Western states	Through interviews with individuals connected to the mountain, the film tells a story of transformation, showcasing the mountain's beauty before the eruption, the devastation that followed, and the ongoing regeneration. With stunning visuals and personal narratives, it invites viewers to reflect on their relationship with Mt. St. Helens and the power of nature's forces.
Mussel Grubbing: A Citizen Science Treasure Hunt	7	activism/water-river issues	Illinois	Following a citizen scientist's journey of discovery, the film explores the treasure hunt for freshwater mussels in the upper Sangamon River. Finding a diverse collection of healthy mussels means a healthy river and a healthy community.
Mussel Memory	21	wildlife/art	Southeastern states/ Alabama	Dams have completely altered the species makeup, flows, and habitat of many of our most important river systems. In Alabama, home to some of the greatest biodiversity in the nation, Claiborne and Miller's Ferry Locks and Dams have prevented migratory fish, like the sturgeon and Alabama Shad, from accessing their historic runs from the Gulf of Mexico up the Alabama River to their spawning grounds in the Cahaba River since they were built in the 1970s. These barriers have also left endangered and threatened mussels unable to reproduce and in peril of dying out. <i>MUSSEL MEMORY</i> explores the significance of reconnecting river systems and protecting Alabama's freshwater mussels, our natural water filtration system. Join scientists, conservationists, engineers and anglers as they fight to restore fish passage along the Alabama and Cahaba Rivers.

Nanoscapes	4	wildlife/art	U.S.A.	Images of butterfly wings at the microscopic scale are stunning, and at the nanoscopic scale they become otherworldly. Shot at two cutting-edge research labs, the pictures of Nanoscapes were taken with light and electron microscopes at magnifications up to 50,000x. The elaborate nanoscopic topography of butterfly wings has produced a wealth of data on structural coloration. The film is an artistic rendering of exciting new research on how butterflies build these remarkable, infinitesimal landscapes.
Near The River*	11	activism/adventure/water issues	Zambia	In the tourism town of Livingstone, Zambia, a group of local men who make their living portering kayaks aspire to become safety kayakers on the Zambezi River. The proposed Batoka Gorge Hydroelectric Scheme threatens to flood the famous Zambezi rapids and eliminate river-related jobs.
Ni Wapiten*	3	environmental justice/ activism	Canada	Ni Wapiten (I see) is a plea to better respect Mother Earth. This poetic film follows a child's journey through the woods to his community's local dump. Playfully, he reuses the waste to build a bear, symbolizing nature.
On, In & Under the Sava	5	adventure/water-river issues	Slovenia	Armed with a raft, snorkels, and flippers, four friends drift down Slovenia's Sava River with one mission: find the elusive fished-monsters that dwell in the deep to help protect the river from dams.
One Golden Chance*	10	activism/wildlife	Brazil	globally, successfully reversed their decline. Regrettably, a recent yellow fever outbreak led to a significant loss of over 1,000 tamarins, nearly a third of the total population, imperiling a meticulously managed genetic recovery program. Fortunately, virologist Marcos da Silva Feire pioneered a groundbreaking approach: he rapidly adapted a human vaccine to inoculate almost 400 tamarins, a pioneering endeavor among wild animals.
Paatuwaqatsi Water is Life	11	water issues	Western states	"Paatuwaqatsi/Water is Life" is a short film about the Hopi people's ancient relationship with the Grand Canyon and Little Colorado River. Featuring the voices of running-activist, Buckley Preston, Black Mesa Trust CEO, Vernon Masayeva, and the musical advocacy of Ed Kaborie & The "Yoties," "Water is Life" challenges us to rethink our paradigm about the sacred gift of Water.
Paddle Tribal Waters	9	activism/adventure/water	Western states	When the largest dam removal project in history begins, a group of indigenous youth learns to whitewater kayak, hoping to become the first people to paddle the restored river from source to sea.
PLACE - People, Lamprey, and Cultural Ecology	8	activism/water/river/wildlife	Oregon	Follow Cayuse Tribal Member Gabe Sheeships into an ancient cultural practice, and discover the connections between migratory fish, urban forests, and community stewardship... and the work one group is doing to rebuild the strength of these connections for future generations.
Pond	9	animation/family friendly/wildlife	Switzerland/ International	A shoal of herrings, adopting fantastic formations, roams the vast ocean. When seagulls suddenly attack, one small herring is stranded in a tidal pool. As it searches desperately for a way out, it discovers many other sea creatures here. And now there is no time for fear: only by joining forces can they hope to defend themselves against the hungry seagull.
Pripyat Horse	2	art/activism/animation	UK	Pripyat Horse is a tribute to Marianne Kuopansportti Fennel, who died far too young. It is a splinter from a project the filmmaker had worked on with Marianne for ten years, and also inspired by the famous quote: 'A sparrow flies swiftly in through one door of the hall, and out through another...' Even so, man appears on earth for a little while...' (Bede, 673-735 AD.) The film is an expression of grief for one life lost.
Puffling*	20	activism/wildlife/youth	Iceland	A coming-of-age documentary about growing up and making choices, the film explores the delicate interplay between wildlife, the environment, and human life.
Rebuilding a Forest*	16	activism/wildlife	Brazil	in Brazil's Atlantic Forest, Mauricio Ruiz has turned his love for nature into action by working with the community to reforest a critical stretch of the nation's most endangered forest, and by using drones to help him rea
Renaissance	5	Art/health/adventure	U.S.A.	A ballet dancer finds her true expression through rediscovering her passion for movement in the mountains.
Return of the Manatees	16	wildlife	Florida	Today, manatees are experiencing what scientists call a UME — an unusual mortality event — where some 1000 of them are dying each year; a crisis for a population of only 7000. But citizens in the manatee stronghold of Crystal River have pioneered an approach to restore critical seagrass that now shows promise to help the gentle giants throughout their range.
Rewilding Rio*	15	wildlife	Brazil	There's a park in the center of Rio de Janeiro that's five times the size of New York's Central Park, but it boasts only one third of the wild species that used to live in it. Today, there's a group of scientists who are reintroducing wildlife — monkeys, tortoises, rodents called agoutis — and restoring functionality back in the ecosystem.
Road Warriors*	9	activism/wildlife	Brazil	Fernanda Abrabeads a crucial conservation initiative in Brazil, where vehicles annually kill about 475 millionvertebrates—more than double the country's human population.She spearheads over300 projects targetingroads with high wildlife casualties.Her approach includes instal
Romeo November	16	activism/water-river issues	Western states	The lifeblood of the American Southwest, the Colorado River, is experiencing unprecedented conditions. Through the eyes of Lighthawk volunteer pilot, Chuck Schroll, in partnership with American Rivers and Trout Unlimited, Romeo November highlights three climate resilience projects and how an aerial perspective can be an important conservation tool.
Salted Earth	20	activism/oceans/water-river issues	Northeastern States	This hard-hitting, tenderly woven documentary paints a picture of an environmental catastrophe, where the threat is not just the swelling sea but the encroaching salt that kills forests and decimates arable land, potentially returning the Atlantic Coast to its natural state.
School of Fish	19	activism/youth/water issues	Alaska	Indigenous people and salmon have been intertwined in Bristol Bay, Alaska, for thousands of years. Today, kids learn from elders to fish but must also learn to fight, as pollution from Pebble Mine threatens this pristine ecosystem. Can the next generation defend the most prolific salmon run left on earth?
Seabird Sanctuary	11	wildlife	Hawai'i	Petrels and shearwaters are sea birds that spend most of their lives out over the open ocean, but they return to land once a year to breed and raise their young. Conservationists on the island of Maui are safeguarding their rookeries by installing predator-proof fences around them and attracting the birds inside with decoys and audio recordings.
Siddhartha*	10	oceans/health	Norway	Visually informed by the stark, impressive landscape of the Norwegian Lofoten region, this film looks at two individuals, a young man and a young woman, who both have a powerful relationship with the ocean.
Silent Skies - The First Electric Plane Flyover	17	climate/tech	Northeastern States	Silent Skies follows the groundbreaking journey of three Pennsylvania college students who orchestrated and piloted the first ever fully electric airplane stadium flyover. Stunning fans with a whisper-quiet show, this event signaled the dawn of America's transition to electric aviation. The students completed a record breaking trip flying the airplane from its base in Hartford, CT to the stadium in Easton, PA, recharging at enroute airports directly from a fleet of electric F-150 trucks.
Skyward	19	activism/wildlife/youth	UK	Young birdwatchers Mya and Arijun intensely feel the pressure of climate change and the biodiversity crisis. Although they feel isolated and judged by others, they are determined to stand up for their beliefs.
Sol in the Garden*	21	activism/food/farming	Western states/Ca	After 16 years of incarceration, Sol is released from prison when she discovers that her freedom can be as challenging as living behind bars. Through a community gardening collective of formerly incarcerated horticulturalists in East Oakland, Sol strives to recover her humanity and sense of self.
Soundscape	15	adventure/health	California/West	Soundscape features Erik Weihenmayer, a global adventure athlete and author who is fully blind, as he ascends a massive alpine rock face deep in the Sierra Nevada. The film is a surprising and soulful adventure using expert camera work and emotive, novel animation to bring to life a concept by adaptive climbing pioneer Timmy O'Neil.
Spear, Spatula, Submarine	13	oceans/activism/food/farming	Southeastern states	With an avaricious appetite, rapid reproduction rates, and no native predators, the lionfish invasion is one of the ocean's greatest eco-disasters. But a community of passionate Floridians uses creative removal methods to save the waters they love.
STORMY	3	adventure/art/land preservation	Alaska	Stormy, a Master Haida carver, muses in this short zen-like piece about making a canoe by hand on an island in Alaska.
Study Aboard	16	activism/youth/water issues/adventure	Midwest/Southeast	Every April, 60 college kids from around the country attend Living Lands and Waters' unique "Alternative Spring Break" program — trading happy hours and beach tans for spending a week on McKellar Lake with founder Chad Pregracke and his inspiring river rat crew as they clean up the Mississippi River's waterways and learn about river-related careers.
Suzie (& Jenny)	8	energy/climate change/resources	U.S.A.	<i>Suzie (& Jenny)</i> is a dark comedy with a core theme of sustainability centered around Suzie, a 60-year-old hardcore environmental activist who takes her engagement with the planet to the next level when she hears the alarming summary of the latest climate summit.
Tales of Jan Mayen	31	adventure/climate/oceans	international/Norway	A team talks to the remote Arctic island of Jan Mayen to recreate the 1921 British expedition to summit the world's northernmost volcano, Mount Beerenberg. They conduct marine science alongside discovering how climate change is affecting the volcano's glaciers today.
The Bat Couple*	13	wildlife	Nigeria/Africa	"Bats are cool" is the message from renowned bat biologist Iroro Tanshi. Bats dominate her life, day and night. She and her biologist husband, Ben Obithe, comb the caves high up in Nigeria's Afi mountains to research, monitor, and understand different bat species to protect them. They relate their inspiring journey and share their award-winning work, revealing the story of their love of bats and each other.
The Bear Coast	17	wildlife/land preservation	Alaska	This short, informative documentary centers multi-focal storytelling with a local, diverse cast of characters to provide a nuanced account of contentious environmental issues that have real, lived impacts for Alaska Peninsula residents and bear populations alike.
The Beauty Between	5	art/wildlife	Western states/Utah	The Great Salt Lake is often overlooked and misunderstood. Through her passion for wildlife photography, Mary Anne Karren unexpectedly fell in love with the lake's unique landscape and the 10 million birds that rely on it. She now uses her photography to bring attention to the lake's dire situation to save it.
The Invention of Less	3	animation/climate/wildlife	international	In 2031, due to global warming, a young polar bear has to leave her home and move to Zurich. Together with the other animals who fled, she earns a living with odd jobs. But then she has a world-changing ideal.
The Future of Healthcare is Farm Fresh	5	food/farming/sustainable living	USA/California	Working with Chapa De Indian Health, Sierra Harvest is finding new ways to deliver nutrition education. Featuring Food Love Farm Summer Camp campers and local physician Dr. Glenn Gookin, the film poses the question: what if we could change our children's relationship with food?

The Lone Wolverine of the Wallawas	18	wildlife	PNW/Oregon	A husband and wife research team follows in the footsteps of a renowned wolverine expert in the Wallowa Mountains of Eastern Oregon in hopes of detecting the presence of a lone male wolverine named Stormy. They set up several remote monitoring stations deep in the Eagle Cap Wilderness during the dead of winter and in some of the harshest conditions. Additionally, they hope to document the presence of a female, but will they even find what they are looking for?
The Quest to Save Parasites	11	activism/wildlife	U.S.A.	You may have seen a "Save the Whales" t-shirt, but what about "Save the Parasites"? Most people are familiar with parasites as a scourge to humans and livestock, and rightly so. Those parasites need to be controlled. But a vast unseen world of parasites has evolved along with wildlife – the "dark matter" of ecosystems. These parasites have evolved with their hosts over millions of years and are in a delicate balance with nature. They need to be studied and treated as endangered in some cases, according to researchers who are on a quest to save parasites.
The Serpent's Lair	12	wildlife	U.S.A.	In the face of extreme habitat loss, biologist Dr. Chris Jenkins puts an ambitious plan in motion to save two American reptiles, the eastern indigo snake and the gopher tortoise.
The Studio	12	adventure/health	Midwestern states	Scot Simmons has dealt with various forms of anxiety, PTSD, and depression for most of his adult life. He admits he hasn't always made the best choices in life. More recently, considering the tragic murder of George Floyd in his hometown of Minneapolis, Simmons has wondered if "that could have been me." He is committed to creating a better life for himself and others and strives to be a better role model for his family. Fly fishing has helped him find this equilibrium.
The Tundra	3	art/land preservation/wildlife	Canada	Canadians who grew up between the city and backcountry, influenced by what we love – downtowns, outdoor hockey, polar bears, the cabin, hip hop, skate culture, and outside misadventures. But, their creative inspiration always connects back to a simple source: the wild.
Timber Rattlesnakes of Catoctin Mountain Park	6	wildlife	Southeastern	William H. Martin has spent over 60 years hiking the Appalachian Mountains to research and conserve timber rattlesnake populations. Join him on a hike as he searches for these venomous snakes to showcase their beauty, docile attitude, and vital importance to a healthy and balanced ecosystem.
To Be Rich	10	energy/climate/resources	Northern states	In To Be Rich, journalist Erika Bolstad inherits mineral rights. Then, she sets out for North Dakota to confront the legacy of extractive industries in the American West and the people there. The film envisions a new form of mapping that reconsiders what it means "to be rich."
To Heal a Forest: The fight for salmon paks	10	Indigenous/water issues/wildlife	Pacific NW/Canada	First Nations tribes managed forests on Vancouver and Nootka islands, in what is now British Columbia, for thousands of years. As logging encroached on the last untouched salmon stream in their traditional territory, leaders of the Nuchatlaht Tribe launched a movement to heal and protect this land.
Toxic Art	16	art/water and river issues	Midwest	On a mission to clean up Ohio's leaking, abandoned coal mines, Ohio University Art Professor John Sabrah teamed up with an engineer to develop a process that turns the toxic runoff pollution into paint. John's artwork has been shown worldwide, and proceeds have helped numerous environmental organizations and projects, including a new water treatment plant on the Sunday Creek Watershed.
Tracing History	13	history/social justice	Western states	Tracing History follows a Chinese American filmmaker and her mother as they contemplate loss, legacy, and the stories that get left out of History while visiting sites where their Chinese ancestors labored to build the transcontinental railroad six generations ago. They travel to the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the Great Basin Desert. From Montgomery Pass, where 150-year-old artifacts lay strewn across the ground, to catfish pond, where catfish brought by Chinese laborers still survive a 7,000 feet elevation, to Paoha Island on Mono Lake, where Chinese finally found refuge after a racist mob chased them out of town, they travel and retrace their own History, and find the space to open up about the present and deepen their relationship to each other.
TRASHED	21	urban/environmental justice	Alabama/South	In the aftermath of a 2022 landfill fire near Birmingham that raged for months, suffocating multiple counties in smoke and odor, nearby residents demanded answers. They questioned how this was allowed to happen, why this company was not held accountable for years of violations, and what could be done to demand more from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. This film holds ADEM's feet to the fire, as non-profit organizations like Cahaba Riverkeeper, Gasp and Friends of Pinchgut Creek lead the charge to protect the water and air for nearby residents.
Turtle Trackers	11	wildlife	Florida	Three species of sea turtles nesting along the southeast coast of Florida face a range of threats to their survival. Thanks to conservation measures, greens and loggerheads are thriving, but leatherbacks remain at risk. Researchers know little about them, so they're pioneering ways to study them, and safeguard their habitats.
Up and At 'Em	2	animation/wildlife/family friendly	animation	Take a tour of a bustling ecosystem of animal friends as the sun rises on another busy day in Up and At 'Em. Featuring music by Seattle songwriter Eamon Ra
Valley of the Turkeys	25	family-friendly/wildlife	California/West	Filmmaker Sean Grasso takes a pandemic-inspired detour from commercial film work to explore a remote California valley. Initially unimpressed by the wild turkey, he soon discovers their captivating world. Following a hen's journey from mating to raising poults, Grasso uncovers their challenges in a landscape marked by predation and human intervention. The film highlights the resilience of these seemingly ordinary creatures and encourages viewers to appreciate the hidden stories within nature.
Van Versus Vikas (Forest Versus Progress)*	16	environmental justice	India	"A fish cannot live without water. We cannot live without this forest." Indigenous forest defender, Prakash Bhoir. Van Versus Vikas (Forest Versus Progress) interrogates India's model of "vikas" (progress), which has taken a toll on indigenous communities and created an ecological crisis. This is a place-based documentary short that centers two protagonists: Mumbai's beloved and threatened Aarey Forest and the Indigenous Bhoir family, whose ancestors have lived in the jungle for generations. The film chronicles the resistance of the Bhoir family as they fight to #SaveAarey, a youth-led movement to stop deforestation from a contentious city metro project.
Vanishing Oasis	11	water issues/ wildlife	Utah/West	The Great Salt Lake provides for 10 million migratory birds every year, but starving birds will line its shores if the lake continues to shrink, and toxic dust storms will cloud Salt Lake City's skies. Can Utahns prioritize public and environmental health over short-term economic gain?
Vertical Meadows	8			As urban expansion quickly replaces natural habitats, façade engineer Alistair Law has discovered a new way to restore native ecosystems for pollinators and create natural spaces for us all within cities – by turning the walls of buildings into meadows. Alistair has developed his "Vertical Meadows" as a way to combat biodiversity loss in the heart of cities like London.
Wrought	20	animation/food/farming	Canada	With timelapse videography of rotting in action, Wrought creates an intimate, immersive world where decay can be beautiful, tender, and even surprisingly human.
You Are Not Small	3	animation/family-friendly/youth	animation	Lucy Hawking, award-winning children's book author, and daughter of scientist Stephen Hawking, makes science accessible and engaging through her numerous books. Her latest book series, Princess Olivia Investigates, is about a young girl who would rather be a scientist than a princess. You Are Not Small was inspired by Olivia.