

### **Risky Routes**

Risky Routes follows a common toad on its arduous yearly journey back to the waters of birth to reproduce. Seen from the toads' perspective, it explores how navigating a man-made world turns ordinary features into real obstacles, revealing how biodiversity loss can occur right at our doorstep—and how simple, thoughtful actions can make a difference. (6 min.)

### **Return to the Earth**

What if your home could be handmade—from the ground beneath your feet? This intimate micro-documentary tells the story of Betty Seaman—a mother, builder, and teacher—who constructed her family's cob home with her own hands. What began as a quest for affordable, sustainable shelter grew into a living classroom for resilience and community. (7 min.)

### **The Leap Beneath**

A lighthearted and entertaining short film about the epic quest of a tiny globular springtail navigating through the soil to find food. Narrated by the one and only Coyote Peterson of Brave Wilderness. This film is a collaboration with Venus Laowa. (4 min.)

### **Maine's Seaweed Moment**

The film follows seaweed farmers Nathan and Natalie Johnson, diving into their world to demonstrate how farmed seaweed can revitalize Maine's working coastline, improve local ocean habitats, and diversify its economy. The film explores the qualities that make seaweed a conservation solution and a valuable product, and how expanding farmed seaweed markets can help address local and widespread challenges. (7 min.)

### **Pride of the Gobi**

Determined to protect his homeland from mining, Batmunkh Luvsandash's activism resulted in the creation of a 66,000-acre protected area in the Gobi Desert's Dornogovi province, abutting tens of thousands of acres already protected by Batmunkh and allies. Home to Argali sheep, 75% of the world's population of endangered Asiatic wild ass, and a wide variety of endemic plants, the protected area forms an important bulwark against Mongolia's mining boom. His dogged determination to map and protect his homeland led to Batmunkh receiving the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize for Asia in 2025. The film is narrated by Academy Award nominated actress / environmentalist Sigourney Weaver. (7 min.)

### **The Detectorists**

Set against the serene backdrop of rural Wales, this short documentary follows wildlife ecologist Lee Jenkins and his two German Pointers—Neo and pup-in-training Cariad—as they search for elusive otters. Using scent detection to guide camera trap placement, the team gathers crucial evidence to protect these endangered animals. Shot from a dog's-eye view with immersive cinematography, the film offers a poetic glimpse into conservation through the nose and eyes of a canine detective. (6 min.)

### **Assynt**

In the remote Scottish Highlands, the community of Assynt lives in harmony with the rugged landscapes that surround them. This documentary offers an intimate portrait of a place where human life and nature are deeply intertwined. Through evocative imagery and personal narratives, Assynt captures the resilience of a community shaped by its environment, reflecting on themes of identity, tradition, and the enduring bond between people and the land. (17 min.)

**Intermission with door prizes drawing**

### **SLIDING**

On a beautiful, blue-bird day in the Swiss Alps, a female athlete listens to the weather report over her morning coffee. After contemplating hitting the ski slopes with the other outdoor enthusiasts, she has an idea... she will go sledding instead. She digs her sled out from the back of the gear room and heads to the top of the mountain, where she is alone on top of the world. She drops in on her sled, headfirst. (4 min.)

### **ADA Travel on the Oregon Coast**

The Oregon Coast is leading the way in making travel more accessible and inclusive for everyone. From wheelchair-friendly beaches to thoughtful design in coastal towns, this stunning region is ensuring that people of all abilities can experience its beauty. Learn about the innovative programs and community-driven efforts that are changing the travel landscape on the coast. (6 min.)

### **Heritage and Harvest: Quinalt Razor Clams**

After fighting for decades for recognition of their treaty fishing rights, the Quinalt Indian Nation—located on the Olympic Peninsula—now exclusively manages the northern razor clam harvest on their reservation and co-manages the harvest with WA within their treaty area. This fishery is rated green for environmental sustainability by Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch program thanks to a strong management plan rooted in traditional knowledge and modern science. This highly effective blend of management systems includes population assessments and strong policies to prevent overharvest. (3 min.)

### **A Home in the Grass**

Since 1970, North America has lost 3 billion birds. As grassland bird populations continue to decline, one conservationist's act of devotion represents hope in a world where natural habitats are disappearing every day. (6 min.)

### **A Little Story About Forever**

This short film about forever unfolds from the POVs of father (Max) and son (Kip) as they attempt to write a book about what forever means. The father feels overwhelmed by all of the threats to forever, like forever chemicals, and calls an unlikely hero—Mark Ruffalo—to ask for help seeing the big picture. (10 min.)

### **The Moon had a Shadow**

Stunning, evocative and world-class footage of solar eclipses in Idaho/Wyoming and the Tetons, and Exmouth, Western Australia—with a soundtrack 'of "Shine" by Jason Mraz that was made for this film. (6 min.)

**Good night and thank you to everyone who was part of this magical evening.  
We'll see you at the next Wild & Scenic® Film Festival on March 26, 2027.**

**Please support the New Hampshire Rivers Council. Become a member today at [NHRivers.org](http://NHRivers.org).**

The New Hampshire Rivers Council is the only statewide conservation organization dedicated to the protection and conservation of New Hampshire rivers. Since its founding as the New Hampshire Rivers Campaign in 1989, the Council has worked to educate the public about the value of the state's rivers, designate rivers in the state's protection program, and advocate for strong public policies and wise management of New Hampshire river and watershed resources.

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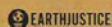
Steven and Madeline Lowe



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