

# Wildscreen Panda Awards 2025 Nominees Announced - Nat Geo dominates "Green Oscars" with a record-breaking 14 nominations

Tuesday 8 July, 2025

Wildscreen, has revealed the nominees for its Panda Awards 2025 – the highest honours in the international natural world storytelling film, TV and content industry.

Nat Geo racked up nominations across 9 of the 17 award categories, with a full-house in the Series category, sponsored by Doclights, with *A Real Bug's Life*, *Series 2* (Plimsoll Productions), *Secrets of the Penguins* (Talesmith) and *OceanXplorers* (co-produced by BBC Studios Natural History Unit and OceanX).

Silverback Films picks up the most nominations for a single production company, garnering 7 nominations across 3 titles. Amongst them, *Ocean with David Attenborough*, the Silverback Films and Open Planet Studios co-production is the most nominated production, with 5 nods spanning Scripted Narrative, Cinematography, Music, Producer/Director and Impact.

Joining the ocean-focused nominees is Netflix's docuseries, *Our Oceans* (Wild Space Productions), with 2 nominations, alongside *OceanXplorers*, *Tides of Life* and *Sea Lions of the Galapagos*.

Joint second most nominated, with 3 nods each are *Underdogs*, *A Real Bug's Life*, *Series 2* and *The Birds*. *Underdogs*, a co-production from Ryan Reynolds' Maximum Effort and Wildstar Films, celebrates nature's unsung and unconventional heroes and is narrated by the actor. *A Real Bug's Life* (Plimsoll Productions), is an adventure into different micro bug worlds around the globe, narrated by Awkwafina, and is recognised across Cinematography, Children's and Series. *The Birds* (Passion Planet and HHMI Tangled Bank Studios in association with Ammonite Films) is a cinematic providing insights into the mechanisms of the natural world and a filmmaker in the twilight of this career.

*The Birds* is nominated in the new for 2025, Independent category, alongside *Trade Secret* and *The Old Bear*. *Trade Secret*, Directed by Abraham Joffe and Executive Produced by Adam McKay, exposes the sanctioned commercial sale of hundreds of polar bears on the global market each year. *The Old Bear*, Directed, Written and Produced by Julie Busse & Candice Odgers and featuring Casey Anderson which meditates on the last days of old grizzly bears as a window into exploring human attitudes about aging and death.

This year's Awards also see the introduction of the Short category sponsored by Leica for productions less than 20 minutes in length, reflecting the importance of connecting with younger audiences – the nominees are *Tides of Life*, *Life (Cycle) of the Hong Kong Newt*, and *H5N1 Conservation in Crisis*. Another new addition, best In-Country Production, recognises productions made on location in-country with at least 50 percent of the production team being in-country nationals – the nominees are *The Birds*, *My Otter Diary*, *Mighty Monkeys*.

The use of A-list narrators features throughout the awards line-up with other notable productions including Tom Hardy (*Rhino*), Tom Hanks (*Americas*), James Cameron (*OceanXplorer*), Barack Obama (*Our Oceans*), Brendan Fraser (*Sea Lions of the Galapagos*) and Blake Lively (*Secrets of the Penguins*), reflecting a drive to reach and inspire new audiences worldwide.

The competition saw 682 entries, from 46 countries across the 17 categories, with 48% of entries featuring talent from underrepresented backgrounds spanning, identify as BIPOC, female, part of the LGBTQ+ community or living with a disability. The nomination jury was representative of industry experts from 20 countries, with over 60% from underrepresented backgrounds.

This, the competition's 43<sup>rd</sup> Edition marks its move to an annual awards event for the first time in the charity's history. The Panda Awards will sit alongside the new Wildscreen Industry Summit, taking place in Bristol and online between 20-22 October in Bristol, which will convene the wildlife film, TV and content community to navigate the challenges and opportunities of a content world in flux. A limited number of passes are on sale now, [here](#).

Warner Chappell Production Music returns as Headline Sponsor of the Wildscreen Panda Awards 2025. The music publishing arm of Warner Music Group, will be hosting an official nominees party later today (8 July) in Bristol, UK.

## Media:



## Related Sectors:

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## Related Keywords:

David Attenborough :: Wildlife Film :: Green Oscars ::  
Environmental Film :: Wildscreen :: Wildlife Film Festival :: Ryan Reynolds ::

## Scan Me:



Lina Tebbs, Director of UK Production Music said: *"We're thrilled to partner with Wildscreen for another year. Warner Chappell Production Music champions great storytelling, and we absolutely understand the value in educating and entertaining audiences through nature programming. The Panda Awards celebrate the dedication and hardwork of all the people behind-the-scenes and we're honoured to be headline sponsor for the second year running."*

The winners of each category along with the highly coveted Golden Panda for the best overall production, also sponsored by Warner Chappell Production Music, will be announced on 22 October at Wildscreen Panda Awards Ceremony which returns to the Bristol Harbour Hotel. Tickets for the ceremony are now on sale and available [here](#).

Other category sponsors are: Films at 59 Cinematography and Sound Awards, UWE On-Screen Talent Award, Leica Short Award, Doclights Series Award and Wildscreen ARK Children's Award.

The full list of nominees across the 17 categories are:

## BEHAVIOUR AWARD

### **Katavi Africa's Fallen Paradise – Episode 2: Purgatory**

A production of Terra Mater Studios, The WNET Group & Shibumi Films. In association with PBS and CPB and WDR/ARTE.

*Austria*

### **Our Oceans – Episode 1: Atlantic Ocean**

A Wild Space Production. In association with Freeborne Media and Higher Ground.

*UK*

### **Sea Lions of the Galapagos**

A Silverback Films production for Disneynature and Disney+.

*UK*

## CHILDREN'S AWARD

### **A Real Bug's Life - Series 2, Episode 3: Once a Pond a Time**

Produced by Plimsoll Productions for National Geographic

*UK*

### **America's Wolf**

National Geographic Society Impact Story Lab

*USA*

### **FYI INVESTIGATES - Saving Nature: Where has our Wildlife Gone?**

A Fresh Start Media Production for Sky News and Sky Kids

*UK*

## CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARD. Sponsored by Films at 59

### **A Real Bug's Life – Series 2, Episode 1: Love in the Forest**

Produced by Plimsoll Productions for National Geographic.

*UK/USA*

Cinematography: Ben Cherry, Katherine Hannaford, Martin Dohrn, Robert Hollingworth, Doug Gardner,

Andrew Fleming, Mark Payne-Gill.

## **Ocean with David Attenborough**

A Silverback Films and Open Planet Studios co-production, in association with All3Media International, National Geographic, and Minderoo Pictures. The film is co-produced by Arksen & 10% for the Ocean, Don Quixote Foundation, National Geographic Society and Pristine Seas, Revive Our Ocean, and The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

*UK*

Cinematography: Doug Anderson, Toby Strong.

## **The Birds**

A Production of Passion Planet and HHMI Tangled Bank Studios in association with Ammonite Films.

*UK*

Cinematography: Martin Dohrn, Laurence Hamilton-Baillie, Hugh Campbell, Steve White, John Waters

## EDITING AWARD

## **Secrets of the Spy Whale**

An Oxford Scientific Films, Bonne Pioche and Alfredfilm production for the BBC, NRK and ITV Studios.

*UK*

Editors: Ian Grech, Fredrik Limi, Francis Robertson, James Lagen

## **Rhino Narrated by Tom Hardy**

Dustoff Films production, presented by Kaleidoscope Distribution.

*UK*

Editor: Cassandra Roberts

## **Underdogs: Superzeroes**

Produced by Wildstar Films, a Fremantle company, in partnership with Maximum Effort for National Geographic

*UK*

Editor: Nigel Buck

## EMERGING TALENT AWARD

## **Death Row Dogs – Somerset Phaedrus**

The National Film and Television School

*UK*

## **The Fading Star - Aishwarya Sridhar**

Bambee Studios Private Limited in association with the National Geographic Society

*India*

## **The Bird in my Backyard – Ryan Wilkes**

A Trochilus Films Production for CBC

*Canada*

## IMPACT AWARD

### **Kingdom of Fish – Episode 1: The Power of Water**

Ecofilm Scandinavia AB and Sveriges Television AB

*Sweden*

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*UK*

### **Pantanal**

A film by the Environmental Justice Foundation

*Brazil / UK*

## IN-COUNTRY AWARD

### **My Otter Diary**

An Aranya Parva and Oxford Scientific Films film for All3Media and ARTE.

*India*

### **The Birds**

A Production of Passion Planet and HHMI Tangled Bank Studios in association with Ammonite Films.

*UK*

### **Mighty Monkeys**

Produced by NHK/NHK ENTERPRISES/Doclights, in association with NDR/ARTE/ZDFS.

*Japan*

## INDEPENDENT FILM AWARD

### **Trade Secret**

An Untitled Film Works production.

*Australia*

### **The Birds**

A Production of Passion Planet and HHMI Tangled Bank Studios in association with Ammonite Films

*UK*

### **The Old Bear**

A Think Lemonade Production, in association with Vision Hawk Films

*USA*

## MUSIC AWARD

## **My Otter Diary**

An Aranya Parva and Oxford Scientific Films film for All3Media and ARTE

*India*

Music: Brollyman

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A Silverback Films and Open Planet Studios co-production, in association with All3Media International, National Geographic, and Minderoo Pictures. The film is co-produced by Arksen & 10% for the Ocean, Don Quixote Foundation, National Geographic Society and Pristine Seas, Revive Our Ocean, and The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

*UK*

Music: Steven Price

## **Pangolin: Kulu's Journey**

An Anonymous Content / Dog Star Films / Water Creature Film / Production for Netflix.

*UK*

Music: Anne Nikitin featuring Zolani Mahola & Sky Dladla

ON-SCREEN TALENT AWARD, Sponsored by UWE

## **Superskilled with Eva Zu Beck**

Produced by National Geographic.

*USA*

On-Screen Talent: Eva Zu Beck.

## **Wild Wild South**

A Sound Off Films and Southern Wild Films Production for South Carolina ETV.

*USA*

On-Screen Talent: Hyatt Mamoun

## **Secrets of the Penguins – Episode 1: Heart of the Emperors**

Produced by Talesmith in association with Lightstorm Earth for National Geographic.

*UK*

On-Screen Talent: Bertie Gregory

PRODUCER / DIRECTOR AWARD

## **Ocean with David Attenborough**

A Silverback Films and Open Planet Studios co-production, in association with All3Media International, National Geographic, and Minderoo Pictures. The film is co-produced by Arksen & 10% for the Ocean, Don Quixote Foundation, National Geographic Society and Pristine Seas, Revive Our Ocean, and The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

*UK*

Producer/Director: Toby Nowlan

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## **Pangolin: Kulu's Journey**

An Anonymous Content / Dog Star Films / Water Creature Film / Production for Netflix.

*UK*

Producer / Director: Pippa Ehrlich

## **Underdogs: Superzeroes**

Produced by Wildstar Films, a Fremantle company, in partnership with Maximum Effort for National Geographic

*UK*

Producer / Director: Gary Smith

## **PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT TEAM AWARD**

## **Secret Lives of Animals**

Produced by BBC Studios Natural History Unit for Apple TV +

*UK*

## **Shared Planet: Forests**

A River Road Films production produced in association with CBC, PBS and Arte.

*Canada*

Production Management: Armen Evrensel, Jeff Turner, Neil Nightingale, Lynn Fuhr, Production Coordinator Matthew Muncaster

## **The Americas - Episode 2: Mexico**

BBC Studios Natural History Unit, in association with Universal Television Alternative Studio, a division of Universal Studio Group.

*UK / USA*

Production Management: Alex Martin, Ally Young, Anna McGill, Claire Spelling, Emma Davidson, Gaby Wakefield, Hollie Diment, Jasmine McCrae-Jones, Jo Verity, Jordan White, Judy Roberts, Lisa Sibbald, Lizzie Derry, Louise Dawe-Lane, Melissa Burgers, Nicola Kowalski, Rachel Buxton, Sandra Forbes, Sophie Johnson, Sue Aartse-Tuyn, Tom Bowell, Zaylin September

## **SCRIPTED NARRATIVE AWARD**

## **Ocean with David Attenborough**

A Silverback Films and Open Planet Studios co-production, in association with All3Media International, National Geographic, and Minderoo Pictures. The film is co-produced by Arksen & 10% for the Ocean, Don Quixote Foundation, National Geographic Society and Pristine Seas, Revive Our Ocean, and The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

*UK*

Scripted Narrative: David Attenborough, Toby Nowlan, Keith Scholey, Colin Butfield.

## **Secret Lives of Orangutans**

A Silverback Films Production for Netflix.

*UK*

Scriptwriter: Huw Cordey

## **Underdogs: Terrible Parents**

Produced by Wildstar Films, a Fremantle company, in partnership with Maximum Effort for National Geographic

*UK*

Writer: Polly Billam

SERIES AWARD, Sponsored by Doclights

## **A Real Bug's Life Series 2**

Plimsoll Productions for National Geographic

*UK*

## **OceanXplorers**

Co-produced by BBC Studios Natural History Unit and OceanX in association with Lightstorm Earth for National Geographic.

*UK / USA*

## **Secrets of the Penguins**

Produced by Talesmith in association with Lightstorm Earth for National Geographic.

*UK*

SHORT AWARD, Sponsored by Leica

## **Tides of Life**

University of the West of England

*UK*

*Director:* Tatiana McCabe

## **Life (Cycle) of a Hong Kong Newt**

Frigatefilms

*China*

*Director:* Hon Shing Fung

## **H5N1: Conservation in Crisis**

Valentin Blüml and Liam Strong Co-Production

*Austria*

*Director:* Valentin Blüml

SOUND AWARD, Sponsored by Films at 59

## **Our Oceans – Episode 1: Pacific Ocean**

A Wild Space Production, In association with Freeborne Media and Higher Ground.

*UK*

Sound: Sound Editors: Jonny Crew, Tom Mercer; Foley Recordist: George Baynes: Foley Artist: Rory Joseph; Foley Editor: Ellie Bowler; Dubbing Mixer: Hannah Gregory

## **Pangolin: Kulu's Journey**

An Anonymous Content / Dog Star Films / Water Creature Film / Production for Netflix.

*UK*

Sound: Barry Donnelly

## **ROCK POOL**

SOUP Audiovisual

*UK*

Sound: Tom Boshier

## SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

## **Pangolin Journey to Freedom**

A Terra Mater Studios / Silver Bullet Films Production in co-production with The WNET Group in association with PBS and CPB.

*Austria*

## **Saalbach-Hinterglemm - Where Nature Comes Out On Top**

A Co-Production of ORF UNIVERSUM and INTERSPOT FILM GMBH

*Austria*

## **Snow Leopards - Episode 1**

Blue Ant International, An Off The Fence Production for Love Nature

*UK*



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