New series OPERATION MANEATER Seeks to Resolve Conflicts Between Humans and Predators

* Three-Part Series Premieres August 27, 2014, 10:00-11:00 p.m. ET
* as part of PBS’ “Think Wednesday” Lineup –

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| PromoDocs:New Promo Docs Folder:PI Photos:Summer 2014:My Wild Affair:Photos:M2078 Sheldrick Daphne Schmetty red bush.jpg |
| OPERATION MANEATER host, Mark EvansCourtesy of Gwyn Williams and Windfall Films |

**ARLINGTON, VA; AUGUST 7, 2014** – The conflict between humans and nature’s deadliest predators takes center stage in **OPERATION MANEATER**¸ a three-part series premiering August 27, 2014 on PBS that will be part of the “Think Wednesday” lineup of acclaimed science and nature programming. Veterinarian and tech expert Mark Evans hosts (SEX IN THE WILD and INSIDE NATURE’S GIANTS), and applies his passion for both animals and gadgetry to seek resolutions between human communities and those of dangerous predators.

OPERATION MANEATER gives viewers an in-depth, behind-the-scenes look at how humans affect their natural habitats of crocodiles, polar bears and great white sharks, and the impact of that encroachment. The series shows that both sides of the man/predator fight lose out, with increasing numbers of people killed or maimed– and scores of animals killed in retaliation. Evans finds ingenious high-tech solutions to the most hostile wildlife conflicts on earth and proposes ways to break the circle of violence.

**GREAT WHITE SHARKS, August 27, 10:00-11:00 p.m.:** Last summer saw a record number of shark attacks in the attack capital of the world: the Southwest Australian coast near Perth. Although Australians love to swim, surf and dive, many are scared to enter the water. The situation has become desperate and politically charged, with authorities implementing radical measures including hunting and killing in heavily populated areas. Mark meets advocates on both sides of the debate and helps tag large sharks from an underwater cage, so they can be tracked -- and beaches can be closed -- when predators are near.

**POLAR BEARS, September 3, 10:00-11:00 p.m.:** Every year in Canada’s Hudson Bay, polar bears congregate along the coast waiting for ice to harden so they can migrate north and feast on seals. Faced with global warming and dwindling food sources, bolder bears are venturing into local towns and terrorizing residents. Some have been viciously attacked and bears are regularly shot in self-defense. Host Mark Evans works with locals to test aerial drones and acoustic devices that deter bears away from town with the sound of a dominant male roar.

**CROCODILES, September 10, 10:00-11:00 p.m.:** Mark Evans and conservation and wildlife experts Rom Whitaker and Patrick Aust build on recent discoveries about crocodile intelligence, face their own dangerous situations and attempt a radical new experiment to train crocodiles in the crocodile-attack capital of the world: Namibia’s Chobe River. These notoriously aggressive animals attack more humans than any other predator, with instances are on the rise as successful Namibian conservation efforts increase the number of crocodiles, causing more retaliation killings by humans.

**OPERATION MANEATER** airs as part of **PBS’** “Think Wednesday” programming lineup of science, nature and technology programming that includes the acclaimed series NATURE and NOVA, offering new perspectives on life in the universe to keep viewers both curious and wanting more. For more information on “Think Wednesday,” visit [www.pbs.org/thinkwednesday](http://www.pbs.org/thinkwednesday).

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