**LION: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MARSH PRIDE**

**Premieres Wednesday, September 14 on PBS and Streaming on PBS.org**

**Documentary Follows the Most Famous Family of Lions in the World as They Face Increasing Threats to Their Survival**

**ARLINGTON, VA; DATE** -- The new documentary **LION: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MARSH PRIDE** tells the epic story of the famed lion family as they battle for survival in Kenya’s Maasai Mara Reserve. Filmed for over 30 years by the BBC and others and known worldwide, the Marsh Pride is facing its toughest fight yet as conflict between the lions and humans increases. A powerful and often heart-wrenching tale of shifting loyalties, bloody takeovers, complex family dynamics and sheer resilience, the lions’ story is told by those who filmed them, tried to protect them, lived alongside them — and by some who ultimately want them dead. **LION: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MARSH PRIDE** premieres Wednesday, September 14, at 9:00-10:30 p.m. ET ([check local listings](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Sas1hpvYeviSAUKk4nNYX2RYiPWYTVYkH_J-kW2rqXZLNIDquJ74f5ALv01e3AfYWAeXOq4WwVNtCLicHE0W_EYeeekfq0ctW3vPDoKXlmOG0VWhKPbvyRSeh3fazC5YAIsGeRIcxrSekhsUIz2dITCx8p3GA8n2&c=LQWo8AS0sXMz5eqxrCLO_fPsjE4EkE1noTHWmEu7ztc-lTt1RMm-ag==&ch=g6-SFQpkhCCJi_jg8BY-XSJKhVPgH8Oo4BRMkNHHxOhL-MYEoRFFHg==)), on PBS, [PBS.org](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Sas1hpvYeviSAUKk4nNYX2RYiPWYTVYkH_J-kW2rqXZLNIDquJ74f5ALv01e3AfY5oBL6BFiloOSWobwQc5AU8g1s5GYQHFMmOC8ZdiQYYBfanQufLUej5UJTkh4scAD0XPmI3TgABs=&c=LQWo8AS0sXMz5eqxrCLO_fPsjE4EkE1noTHWmEu7ztc-lTt1RMm-ag==&ch=g6-SFQpkhCCJi_jg8BY-XSJKhVPgH8Oo4BRMkNHHxOhL-MYEoRFFHg==) and the [PBS Video app](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Sas1hpvYeviSAUKk4nNYX2RYiPWYTVYkH_J-kW2rqXZLNIDquJ74f32HiP77i-ap4NsmtLcl4rnrfDnA71bMWD1DzT7TAMVZxEEA8TWqnzX06n3npc65qcF1HbOA_wkOYP6_YN149JE99saeNKdWLSw2Kyr2Z97r&c=LQWo8AS0sXMz5eqxrCLO_fPsjE4EkE1noTHWmEu7ztc-lTt1RMm-ag==&ch=g6-SFQpkhCCJi_jg8BY-XSJKhVPgH8Oo4BRMkNHHxOhL-MYEoRFFHg==).



*Bibi.*

*Credit: © Simon Blakeney*

The Marsh Pride became famous worldwide thanks to a series of wildlife films that chronicled the lives of its members for over 30 years. Featured in **LION** are Simon King and Jonathan Scott, naturalists and filmmakers who first followed the pride in “Big Cat Diary” in 1996 and made the pride’s lions household names. This film combines archival footage and recently shot film showing how the lions now find themselves increasingly at odds with their human neighbors.

Buffalo and male lions pose a deadly threat to young cubs, and human settlements are encroaching more and more onto pride territory. The fortunes of the lions depend on the precious space they have left to be able to raise their young. But the lions’ more frequent attacks on increasing numbers of local cattle and subsequent revenge attacks by Maasai herders — including the use of a poison that kills other animals as well — threaten the pride as never before.

Over the past decades, over half of Africa’s lions have been wiped out, leaving around 20,000 in the wild. Habitat loss and huge population growth increasingly put them in direct confrontation with humans. Today the Marsh Pride remains in its historic territory, though the landscape around the lions has radically changed. The threats to their survival are increasing, as they are for lions across the continent. The future of these noble animals hangs in the balance.

**LION: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MARSH PRIDE** will be available to stream on all station-branded PBS platforms, including [PBS.org](http://PBS.org) and the [PBS Video app](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/), available on iOS, Android, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, Android TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO.

**LION: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MARSH PRIDE** is a BBC Studios Natural History Unit Production for PBS & BBC. The director is Pamela Gordon. Executive producers are Jo Shinner and Kirsty Cunningham. Bill Gardner is the executive in charge for PBS. BBC Studios is handling global distribution.

**About PBS**

[PBS](http://www.pbs.org/), with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 120 million people through television and 26 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS’s broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry’s most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. Decades of research confirms that PBS’s premier children’s media service, PBS KIDS, helps children build critical literacy, math and social-emotional skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality educational content on TV – including a 24/7 channel, online at [pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org/), via an array of mobile apps and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org/), one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, or by following [PBS on Twitter](https://twitter.com/pbs), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pbs) or through our [apps for mobile and connected devices](http://www.pbs.org/anywhere/home/). Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pressroom.pbs.org/) or by following[PBS Communications on Twitter](https://twitter.com/PBS_PR).

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CONTACTS:

PJ Feinstein, PBS, pjfeinstein@pbs.org

Cara White / Mary Lugo, CaraMar, Inc.

cara.white@mac.com; lugo@negia.net

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