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Nature Examines the Plight of the American Grizzly Bear Through the Eyes of Its Most Famous Representative, Grizzly 399: Queen of the Tetons

New documentary premieres Wednesday, May 8 at 8/7c on PBS (<u>check</u> local listings), pbs.org/nature, YouTube and the PBS App

Known only by her research number, Grizzly 399 has been a fixture in Grand Teton National Park since 2007, becoming the world's most famous — and photographed — grizzly bear in the world. Now 399 is raising four new cubs in the face of human encroachment, a warming climate, and the threat of losing protection under the Endangered Species Act. Witness a riveting story full of twists and turns, hope and heartbreak in *Nature—Grizzly 399: Queen of the Tetons*, premiering Wednesday, May 8 at 8/7c on PBS (check local listings), pbs.org/nature, YouTube and the PBS App.

From producers Lucky 8 and Elizabeth Leiter, the film explores 399's life through those closest to her, including world-renowned nature photographer Thomas Mangelsen, grizzly biologists, National Park Service rangers, local ranchers and more. The stakes for 399 and her progeny are higher than ever as Wyoming, Idaho and Montana seek to remove grizzlies from the endangered species list, which would make it legal to hunt them. *Nature—Grizzly 399: Queen of the Tetons* examines the urgent and contentious debate over the future of the iconic American species through the life of one exceptional mama bear, who stands as a symbol of the clash between humans and the wild.

"The story of 399 offers a wonderful window into the life of the modern American grizzly, but it also intersects with so many urgent issues facing wildlife and the environment today, from climate change to the potential delisting that will have a massive impact on grizzlies in this region,' said Executive Producer Kim Woodard. "We were proud to work with Elizabeth to bring the legend of 399 to life in a film that aims to be as thought-provoking as it is engaging and inspirational."

Nature—Grizzly 399: Queen of the Tetons is a production of Lucky 8 and The WNET Group. For Lucky 8, Woodard, Isaac Holub, Gregory Henry and George Kralovansky are Executive Producers. Elizabeth Leiter is Producer, and Daniel Carter is Director of Photography. For Nature, Fred Kaufman is Executive Producer, Bill Murphy is Series Producer and Janet Hess is Series Editor. Nature is a production of The WNET Group.

Support for *Grizzly 399: Queen of the Tetons* was provided in part by Arlene and Milton D. Berkman, Perpetual Kindness Foundation and Sun Hill Renewal Fund. Series funding for *Nature* is made possible in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The Arnhold Family in memory of Henry and Clarisse Arnhold, The Fairweather Foundation, Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, Charles Rosenblum, Kathy Chiao and Ken Hao, Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III, Filomen M. D'Agostino Foundation, Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust, Gregg Peters Monsees Foundation, Koo and Patricia Yuen, Sandra Atlas Bass, and public television viewers.

Since 1982, *Nature* has pioneered a television genre that is now widely emulated in the broadcast industry, bringing the natural world to millions of viewers. The series has won more than 700 honors from the television industry, the international wildlife film communities and environmental organizations, including 21 Emmys and three Peabodys. *Nature* is available for streaming concurrent with broadcast on all station-branded PBS platforms, including <u>PBS.org</u> and the <u>PBS App</u>, available on iOS, Android, Roku streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO. Classic episodes are available on various FAST channel platforms and on PBS Passport.

Websites:

<u>pbs.org/nature</u>; <u>facebook.com/PBSNature</u>; <u>twitter.com/PBSNature</u>; <u>instagram.com/pbsnature</u>; <u>youtube.com/naturepbs</u>, <u>tiktok.com/@pbsnature</u>, #NaturePBS

About The WNET Group

<u>The WNET Group</u> creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York's <u>THIRTEEN</u> – America's

flagship PBS station – <u>WLIW21</u>, THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; <u>NJ PBS</u>, New Jersey's statewide public television network; Long Island's only NPR station WLIW-FM; <u>ALL ARTS</u>, the arts and culture media provider; newsroom <u>NJ Spotlight News</u>; and FAST channel PBS Nature. Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group's award-winning productions include signature PBS series *Nature*, *Great Performances*, *American Masters* and *Amanpour and Company* and trusted local news program *NJ Spotlight News with Briana Vannozzi*. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group's award-winning Kids' Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series *Cyberchase*, interactive *Mission US* history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for more than 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including multiplatform initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.

About Lucky 8

Lucky 8 is one of the unscripted industry's most prolific independent content creators, producing feature documentaries and non-fiction series across a variety of genres, including crime, food, science, wildlife and more. Current series include Netflix's upcoming *Unlocked: A Jail Experiment*, A&E's groundbreaking and long-running hit docuseries 60 Days In and the recently launched Booked: First Day In; The HISTORY Channel's The Food that Built America and The Mega-Brands That Built America and National Geographic's hit series To Catch A Smuggler. In addition to PBS' Grizzly 399: Queen of the Tetons, Lucky 8's feature documentaries include NatGeo's Emmynominated Jane Goodall: The Hope, as well as Showtime's lauded Bronx Obama and DOC NYC premiere Standing Up. The company also has numerous projects in development and production for Netflix, Discovery, PBS and other streamers and networks. For more information, visit www.lucky8.tv

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