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Nature Explores the Thriving Wildlife in Southern California's Urban Landscape in San Diego: America's Wildest City

New documentary premieres Wednesday, November 6 at 8/7c on PBS (<u>check local listings</u>), <u>pbs.org/nature</u>, <u>YouTube</u> and the <u>PBS App</u>

San Diego isn't just America's Finest City; it's America's Wildest City. Despite its 3.3 million human residents and an utterly transformed landscape, San Diego County is the most biologically diverse county in America. Witness its hidden wonders in *Nature—San Diego: America's Wildest City,* premiering Wednesday, November 6 at 8/7c on PBS (check local listings), pbs.org/nature, YouTube and the PBS App.

San Diego is an oasis at the intersection of hostile worlds: the dividing line between the Mojave Desert to the East and the Pacific Ocean to the West; the Sierra Mountains to the North and Mexican border to the South. Meet the diverse array of wildlife thriving incongruously in a transformed landscape of manmade wilderness. From the dramatic rituals of grebes and the playful antics of ground squirrels to the thrilling hunts of orcas and the moonlit spawning of grunion, witness nature's resilience and beauty amidst the urban sprawl.

"The first day I arrived in San Diego and walked to the beach at sunset, I looked out at the ocean and listened to the sound of surf, seagulls, and seals and knew this wonderful place would become my home," said writer and director Nate Dappen. "What I didn't realize on that

day was just how rich this landscape was. I began to explore and was stunned by the diversity of ecosystems here - deserts, mountains, chaparral, and the great Pacific Ocean all within an hour drive. I knew I wanted to create a film that celebrates a different, spectacular side of America's most biodiverse county."

Nature—San Diego: America's Wildest City is a production of The WNET Group, Terra Mater Studios GmbH and Day's Edge Productions. The documentary is written and produced by Nate Dappen and Neil Losin. For Terra Mater Studios, Ivo Filatsch and Sabine Holzer are Executive Producers. 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 *Nature—San Diego: America's Wildest City* was provided in part by Perpetual Kindness Foundation and Sun Hill Renewal Fund. Series funding for *Nature* is made possible in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Arnhold Foundation, The Fairweather Foundation, Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, Charles Rosenblum, Kathy Chiao and Ken Hao, Sarah and Sandra Lyu, 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 <u>FAST channel platforms</u> and on <u>PBS Passport</u>.

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 PBS

PBS, 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 36 million adults on linear primetime television, more than 16 million users on PBS-owned streaming platforms, 53 million viewers on YouTube, and 60 million people view PBS content on social media, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature, and public affairs and to take frontrow 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 LearningMedia for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. As the number one educational media brand, PBS KIDS helps children 2-8 build critical skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality content on TV — including a PBS KIDS channel — and streaming free on pbskids.org and the PBS KIDS Video app, games on the PBS KIDS Games app, and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at PBS.org, one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, Facebook, Instagram, or through our apps for mobile and connected devices. Specific program information and updates for press are available at pbs.org/pressroom or by following PBS Communications on X.

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