Press Contact:

Chelsey Saatkamp, The WNET Group, 212.560.4905, saatkampc@wnet.org

Press Materials: [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pbs.org/pressroom) or [thirteen.org/pressroom](http://thirteen.org/pressroom)

*Nature: WILDHEART*

Premieres Wednesday, January 18 at 8 p.m. ET on PBS ([check local listings](http://www.pbs.org/tv_schedules/)), [pbs.org/nature](https://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/user/naturePBS) and the [PBS Video app](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/)

**Synopsis:**

Few beings have lived to see a 500-year sweep of history - and at a time of such unprecedented change. This is the remarkable biography of a noble Scots Pine tree, ancient, gnarled, and weather worn. It stands in the Scottish Highlands, exactly where it landed as a tiny seed some five centuries ago - and where it greeted a young Mary, Queen of Scots, who was then just a child herself. It becomes the heart of a magnificent highland wilderness, home to eagles and wolves, strutting capercaillies and feisty red squirrels.

**Featured Creatures:**

* Atlantic salmon
* Black grouse
* Dipper
* European crested tit
* Golden eagle
* Osprey
* Pine marten
* Red squirrel
* Scottish wood ant
* Timberman beetle
* Western capercaillie

**Short TV Listing**: Immerse yourself in Scotland’s wild highlands with its magnificent 500-year-old Scots pine tree.

**Long TV Listing:** Immerse yourself in Scotland’s wild highland landscape and meet its long-lived forest keeper, a magnificent Scots pine tree. As one of its longest living species, this ancient tree has witnessed the nation’s history across 500 years.

**Buzzworthy Moments:**

* Crowned at just nine months old, Mary Queen of Scots was hidden as a child in the Scottish Highlands. With her maid, she would have been among the first to witness the birth of Wildheart in the 1500s.
* Capercaillies, birds that live and breed amongst the Scots pines, have an intimate relationship with the tree. The male birds’ bizarre popping call summons females, but first they must compete for the right to mate exclusively with all the hen capercaillies.
* The only aquatic songbird in the world, dippers can dive beneath the surface to harvest insect larvae and tiny fish. A pair’s brood of chicks is ready to fledge, but an unseasonal downpour transforms the benign river into a raging torrent. The parents need to coax the chicks out of the nest as quickly as possible to get them to safety. They do so by offering tasty morsels to draw them out of the nest.

**Noteworthy Facts:**

* The world around the Scots pines is complex and diverse. The highlands are home to 172 insect species, 200 fungi species and a rich array of birds and mammals.
* Red squirrels spend 90% of their time in the treetops. With double-jointed ankles and small sharp claws, they are expertly adapted to climb and leap among the branches.
* The Timberman is Scotland’s longest beetle. It spends four years in a larval stage beneath the surface of the tree’s bark. Its adult lifespan will only last a third of the time it spent beneath the bark.

**Series Overview:**

Since 1982,***Nature*** has brought the natural world to millions of viewers, pioneering a television genre that is now widely emulated in the broadcast industry. 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. Consistently among the most-watched primetime series on PBS, ***Nature*** continues to innovate through original digital programming, such as the Webby Award-winning podcast ***Going Wild with Dr. Rae Wynn-Grant*** and digital series ***Animal IQ*** and ***Crash Course: Zoology***. ***Nature***’s award-winning website, [pbs.org/nature](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/), features full episodes, short films, digital series, behind-the-scenes content, news articles, educational resources and more.

***Nature*** is available for streaming concurrent with broadcast 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 streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO. PBS station members can view many series, documentaries and specials via [PBS Passport](https://www.pbs.org/passport/videos/). For more information about PBS Passport, visit the [PBS Passport FAQ](https://help.pbs.org/support/solutions/5000121793) website.

**Production Credits:**

***Nature: WILDHEART*** is a production of Maramedia Ltd and The WNET Group in association with ARTE G.E.I.E. The documentary is written and produced by Nigel Pope. Thoren Ferguson is narrator and Jackie Savery is Executive Producer for Maramedia. ***Nature*** is a production of The WNET Group. Fred Kaufman is Executive Producer. Bill Murphy is Series Producer and Janet Hess is Series Editor.

**Underwriters:**

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**Websites:**[pbs.org/nature](http://pbs.org/nature); [facebook.com/PBSNature](http://www.facebook.com/PBSNature); [twitter.com/PBSNature](https://twitter.com/PBSNature); [instagram.com/pbsnature](http://www.instagram.com/pbsnature); [youtube.com/naturepbs](https://www.youtube.com/naturepbs), [tiktok.com/@pbsnature](https://www.tiktok.com/%40pbsnature?lang=en), #NaturePBS

**About The WNET Group**
[The WNET Group](http://wnet.org/) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York’s [THIRTEEN](http://thirteen.org/) – America’s flagship PBS station – [WLIW21](http://wliw.org/), THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS](https://www.mynjpbs.org/), New Jersey’s statewide public television network; Long Island’s only NPR station WLIW-FM; [ALL ARTS](http://allarts.org/), the arts and culture media provider; and newsroom [NJ Spotlight News](https://www.njspotlightnews.org/). 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 programs ***MetroFocus*** and ***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 nearly 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.

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