

01:00:25	There is a place on our planet, ancient and primordial, hidden to most of the world.
01:01:30	Here glacier-crowned peaks... protect an ancient rainforest.
01:02:04	Home to one of the rarest animals on Earth... the Spirit Bear.
01:02:17	There are fewer than 200 of them alive today.
01:02:26	This is Moks. You might think she's an albino or a polar bear, but she's a rare subspecies of the North American Black bear.
01:02:44	Now that she's left her winter den where she slept for 6 months, you can imagine it's a little slow going just to wake up, not to mention the "morning breath".
01:03:44	Moks has lived in this part of the rainforest all her life. Some years she'll have cubs, some years she won't, but don't worry about her... there's others in the neighborhood to keep her company.

01:04:03	<p>People have lived here since the ice age...and still do.</p> <p>Marven: <i>See that's one of the places where she likes to sleep.</i></p> <p>Marven: <i>My name's Marven Robinson, Gitga'at First Nation. My Indian name, is Mengees Hyke and that's from the Raven Clan</i></p>
01:04:25	<p>Long ago, the Elder Chief of Marven's First Nation tribe, gave him the job of protecting the spirit bear and its ancient forest home.</p> <p>Marven: <i>Okay, we are going to set up in one of the best spots on the creek</i> Nelson: <i>okay</i></p>
01:04:51	<p>Today he is teaching his son Nelson about the ways of the Spirit Bear, so he too can be their guardian in the future.</p> <p><i>Nelson: "My name is Nelson Robinson. I'm 12 years old. My indian name is Nu'Nuk"gamol, that's baby spirit bear. My Grandfather gave me my indian name. I've been coming out here since I was 4. I'm pretty comfortable around bears."</i></p>
01:05:25	<p>The First Nations people are a big reason this wild and unchanged place still exists.</p>
01:05:36	<p>But the very <b>foundation</b> of this natural wonder comes from a unique marriage between the rainforest and the ocean.</p> <p>T</p>

01:05:48	The great bear rainforest is the largest and most intact coastal temperate rainforest left on earth.
01:06:03	This place contains more life by weight than a tropical rainforest like the Amazon.
01:06:11	Some of the largest trees here are more than a thousand years old.
01:06:27	This is one of the rarest forest types left on earth.
01:06:40	The unique conditions that make these forests possible can only be found in small, scattered pockets around the planet
01:06:50	Forests like this are so rare they only ever covered one half of one percent of the earth's land surface. And today, almost all of it is gone.
01:07:05	Over half of the remaining coastal temperate rainforests lies along Canada's rugged Pacific coastline in British Columbia.

01:07:22	Here, there is more than 20,000 miles of coastline winding around a maze of islands, inlets and fjords.
01:07:36	This mosaic of land and sea makes for ideal conditions to transfer marine nutrients to the forest from the bounty of the ocean.
10:07:54	A cold water ocean supports more life than a warm one making the North Pacific one of the richest oceans in the world.
01:08:10	If you look deeper, you'll see that the forests here aren't just above ground...
01:08:35	Underwater kelp forests are one of the most productive ecosystems on the planet.
01:08:43	They're essential to one species in particular.
01:08:51	Sea otters.

01:08:56	<p>Over 100 years ago they were hunted to extinction here for their luxurious fur.</p> <p>About fifty years ago, a few otter families were transplanted here from Alaska, and the population has thrived ever since.</p>
01:09:16	<p>Otter moms raise their pups alone. And boy are they a handful. Or in this case a tummyful! You'd be hard pressed to find a more dedicated parent.</p>
01:10:00	<p>Humpback whales have also returned to this coast.</p>
01:10:07	<p>They too had once been "hunted out", but now thousands of whales come each year to fatten up after their long migration from Hawaii.</p>
01:10:23	<p>They time their arrival each spring to take advantage of one of the biggest buffets on the planet...</p>
01:10:31	<p>... the return of Pacific herring to spawn.</p>
01:10:36	<p>This event is so important to the Heiltsuk First Nations that it marks the start of their New Year.</p> <p><i>Saul: The Wanay, the herring, are something that we have a long relationship with.</i></p>

	<p><b>Saul:</b> <i>Herring season is like seeing a relative who we haven't seen for a while. It's a reunion of sorts that needs to be protected and cherished.</i></p> <p><b>Saul:</b> <i>My name is Saul Brown. My Heiltsuk name is Adejepa, meaning the silver tipped super natural grizzly bear. I'm 25 years old and I'm from Bella Bella</i></p> <p><b>Saul:</b> <i>Herring season is my favourite time of the year as a young person getting out on the water and understanding that what I'm doing is an ancient practice that my ancestors did. I love herring season because we all come together and share that food and experience and it always makes my heart full to see these animals come and converge where there's a feast.</i></p>
01:12:59	The Heiltsuk people say that each spring “when the moon tips over” the herring move close to shore under the forest to lay their eggs.
01:13:08	The females converge - each one laying tens of thousands of eggs onto seaweed and rocks.
01:13:26	Herring can spawn in such abundance that the milky water will stretch for miles along the coast.
01:13:52	While the herring are a delicacy for some animals, others come to feed on their eggs.

01:14:06	These are Surf scoters. They time their northern migration each year to arrive just in time for the herring to lay their eggs.
01:14:20	But they have to dive to reach them.
01:14:48	These eggs fuel their migration north to the scoter's nesting grounds.
01:15:03	The Heiltsuk people have also learned from their ancestors to time their own harvest.
01:15:10	A week ago, Saul and his family placed these hemlock tree branches in the Ocean where they thought the herring would spawn.
01:15:18	And they got it right.
01:15:23	The branches are just covered in herring eggs.
01:15:28	These eggs are an important economic resource and a favourite food of the Heiltsuk.
01:15:35	Their children sing a traditional song celebrating the harvest.

	<p><i><b>Saul:</b> my people have been harvesting spawn for 14,000 years</i></p> <p><i><b>Saul:</b> The sustainability of our fishery allows for herring to come and spawn up to six times in their lifetime compared to a commercial fishery that you know takes the eggs right out of the belly and that's it.</i></p> <p><i><b>Saul:</b> So we take care of the herring and the herring take care of us</i></p>
01:16:21	<p>If the ocean is the lifeblood of the Great Bear Rainforest, then the thousands of river estuaries where the freshwater meets the ocean are its beating heart.</p>
01:17:06	<p>This abundant habitat is home to the biggest guy in the neighborhood: Grizzly's!</p>
01:17:16	<p>They converge each spring on these tidal meadows to feast on sedge – a grass-like plant rich in protein.</p>
01:17:30	<p>These guys have no problem eating their vegetables. In spring they can -eat ten pounds of these greens each day</p>
01:17:48	<p>When they're done eating, grizzly's head for the trees for two reasons: to mark their territory and to get a really good back scratch.</p>

01:17:59	Mmmm that's gotta feel great...They leave behind their personal scent and an awful lot of bear hair...not unlike my mother-in-law.
01:18:14	When the bears leave, the trees attract another inhabitant of the forest...
01:18:21	The Kitasoo Xai'xais (Hay hays) people have been living alongside these bears for thousands of years.
01:18:28	Now they're using modern technology to study bears that live in their traditional territory. They collect the hair left behind on these "rub trees" to analyze the bears' DNA.
01:18:44	<p>A big part of the project is getting the younger generation involved.</p> <p><b>Mercedes:</b> <i>"my name's Mercedes, I'm 15 years old in grade 10. I have two traditional names, uh, Halulu which means butterfly and Abuxklumau which is mother that keeps the family together."</i></p> <p><b>Mercedes:</b> <i>"I'm the student field technician for the bear research team. I go out with the research crew and we set up bear sites all around the territory to collect bear hairs."</i></p> <p><i>"The bears' hair is basically like a fingerprint for bears."</i></p> <p><i>"From the bear hairs were able to tell if they're male or female, how much salmon they're eating, and which ones are healthier than others."</i></p>
01:19:47	Mercedes's generation is the first to use these new research techniques to better understand bears.

	<p><b>Mercedes:</b> <i>“I really like science and biology, it's really great to do this research because I'm able to combine knowledge from elders and community members with the science that I'm learning”</i></p>
01:20:08	<p>They're combining the technology of the modern world with the traditions of the old and giving her people a fresh perspective on the bears who share their homeland.</p>
01:20:23	<p>And it's not just grizzly bears. Black bears also live in these forests.</p>
01:20:34	<p>They have to be careful around their much bigger, very cranky neighbours.</p>
01:20:40	<p>Grizzly claws aren't great for climbing so up here the black bear family feels safe, from their <b>grizzly</b> cousins.</p>
01:20:57	<p>By climbing they can also reach a black bear delicacy: the wild Pacific crab apple!</p>
01:21:12	<p>Out in the open, the grizzly's long claws are the perfect tools for digging up roots and tubers that grow wild here.</p>

01:21:30	The best advice for the Black Bear cubs is to keep a low profile and stay up in trees.
01:21:42	They'll learn how to climb by observing the masterful climbing technique of their mother...I'm sure she meant to do that.
01:22:00	Yap, seeing your child up there hanging from a branch by their fingernails...that's not at all precarious.
01:22:11	Thankfully, his climbing skills are keeping him out of trouble.
01:22:25	Getting enough to eat before winter is critical for all bears.
01:22:32	As summer arrives, they're all about to get a big boost to their diet plans.
01:22:52	The salmon are back! After 4 years at sea, they're headed to their freshwater home to spawn.
01:23:14	It's the beginning of the most important time of the year for the spirit bear.

01:23:27	<p>And it's also a great time for Marven to teach Nelson more about these mysterious animals.</p> <p>Marven: <i>You just have to watch to see which way she is going to go. She's coming up.</i></p> <p>Nelson: <i>Looks like she's moving slowly.</i></p> <p>Marven: <i>Ya. Pretty nice looking bear though.</i></p> <p>Maven: <i>You can see fresh carcasses here. We'll just set up here for now.</i></p>
01:23:58	<p>Nelson has been coming here with his Dad for most of his life. At 12 year's old he already knows more about bears than most adults.</p> <p><i>Nelson: "I've learned from my Dad to understand bears and what they do, watch his ears and his eyes, if he is smelling the air. Move around so they don't think you are another bear and wear not black cause it will think you are another black bear."</i></p> <p><i>Marven: "You see where the moss is clear. It should be all covered in moss so when that moss gets moved by their walking you know that a bear's been here. When you are walking up a creek you look for that on the logs in the river."</i></p> <p><i>Nelson: Ah, That's my first time seeing her run!</i></p> <p><i>Marven: She can run! Ya, that's good. She's trying.</i></p>
01:24:54	<p>You might wonder why there are white bears in this rainforest?</p>
01:25:01	<p>When Moks is fishing, her white fur camouflages her against the sky.</p>

01:25:10	By catching more salmon, it ensures her survival allowing her to pass on her genes to future generations.
01:25:20	The ocean has such a strong influence on this rainforest that over time it actually changed the color of a bear.
01:25:38	There's a reason this is called a rainforest. It gets 10 feet of rain a year.
01:25:55	Most storms come and go as part of the normal weather cycle here...But today's storm dumped a full foot of rain - a tenth of the year's total - in just one day...
01:26:17	The rain saturated the ground until...soil on the steep slopes gave way and thousands of tons of mud, rocks and trees came crashing down the mountain...burying the stream and the salmon that were in it.
01:26:57	Moks' beautiful salmon stream is ruined and the consequences are dire.
01:27:16	She needs to eat a lot of salmon to gain enough weight to survive next winter's hibernation.

01:27:27	The storm has impacted everyone, even the wolves who share this valley... but with their keen sense of smell at least they are able to find salmon buried in the mud.
01:28:08	Moks is never going to get enough to eat here...She'll have to move if she's going to survive.
01:28:28	Throughout the Great Bear rainforest, the big storm has caused the rivers to rise.
01:28:47	The highwater is making the salmon's journey upstream more difficult.
01:29:08	Clearing these falls is equivalent to a human leaping over a 4-story building.
01:29:25	This highwater is also giving the bears here a new fishing opportunity.
01:29:35	But there's only one spot to stand on these falls to catch fish.
01:29:43	So he has to wait for the fish to come to him.
01:29:50	You might think that this is a bear's version of fast food,

	but it's not as easy as it looks.
01:30:31	It takes patience, until...wait for it...wait for it...there you go.
01:30:50	Dinner time baby!
01:31:06	Mom and the cubs are switching from crab apples to salmon, but first they'll have to wait for the big fella to leave.
01:31:27	The coast is clear, so mom and her cubs can dive in.
01:31:37	Coming here is risky, big males have been known to kill cubs
01:31:57	And before she can catch a fish, guess who's back.
01:32:07	The mother bear tries to make a stand against him.
01:32:21	The male takes back the best fishing spot, but moms don't give up that easily. She stands her ground.
01:32:56	This must be hard for the hungry family to watch.

01:33:10	She needs to find fish, so she makes the difficult decision to leave her cubs behind to try her luck upstream.
01:33:19	But leaving cubs alone is risky.
01:33:23	They're too young to know what's dangerous.
01:33:52	Defending cubs is how most mother bears are killed. But not today bucko! Don't mess with this mama bear...
01:34:02	The big male wisely decides it's just not worth the hassle.
01:34:09	Her decision to stay has paid off for this hungry family of four.
01:34:43	While other bears have been busy fattening up for winter, Moks has been searching for a new stream to call home.
01:35:05	She left her devastated fishing ground behind and headed towards a familiar place from her past. It's the perfect salmon stream...

01:35:17	...shallow water for spawning and a set of rapids for fishing. But like most rapids, it has its own resident bear that holds the best fishing spot.
01:35:32	She going to have to learn to fit in around the bears on this new creek.
01:35:43	First encounters between bears can be tense.
01:35:50	But given the fact that Moks is...well...perhaps not the most graceful? Oh...oh Moks, you poor thing.
01:36:06	This bear feels he probably doesn't have <i>too</i> much to worry about.
01:36:14	Moks doesn't hesitate to move right into a prime fishing spot.
01:36:21	But it's not that simple.
01:36:27	She's the new kid here...and the new kids can sometimes be taken advantage of...
01:37:00	Moks came here for a reason. She's hungry and there's plenty of salmon. She takes a stand in the stream. It's like she's remembering what to do.

01:37:29	<p>She has, in fact, been here before.</p> <p>Marven: <i>"I was worried when the mudslide destroyed her old home. But I thought she might come back here. I'm relieved that she's okay. It's good to see her getting the salmon she needs".</i></p>
01:37:57	<p>This creek <i>is</i> part of her old territory, the place where she first grew up...where her cubs were born.</p>
01:38:11	<p>But she left it years ago because of one bear in particular...</p>
01:38:28	<p>...this young spirit bear.</p>
01:38:39	<p>Its Moks' daughter</p>
01:38:45	<p>This could be the first time they have seen each other in five years.</p>
01:38:54	<p>Moks moved from this perfect salmon creek to make room for her.</p>
01:39:04	<p>It's the start of a new generation of spirit bears for Marven and Nelson.</p>

	<p>Nelson: <i>"I'm going to be able to grow up on this creek watching this young bear become the new old bear of the forest. My home is special, and I want to be a part of making sure it's going to stay that way."</i></p> <p>Marven: <i>"Nelson is growing up in a time when our home is facing more pressures all the time."</i></p> <p><i>And that's why the spirit bear is giving us the opportunity to show what an amazing place we live in."</i></p> <p><i>"if we protect the bear, it will protect our home."</i></p>
01:39:53	<p>Although there are reasons to be hopeful, the future here is far from secure. It's going to take everyone, everyone pulling together to make sure that Moks and all who live here have a home for many more years to come in the Great Bear Rainforest.</p>
BTS Credits	<p>It's "The Land of the Spirit Bear", take 5, sequence 9, day 400.</p> <p>Action!...No, no, don't listen to him.</p> <p>Oh he is down there somewhere.</p> <p>Never seen that one before...I have never seen that before...I don't even know what this is.</p>

We just had a black bear coming in. He is more interested in the camera I think than the fish.

I just got into grade 12...ahh grade 11!...I keep saying grade 12.

Filmed a bear rubbing, on a tree right in front of us. It has taken us month...or minutes. Depending on how you look at it.

That was extremely lucky. Right place in the right time.

Hello, hey guys, hey!

That's it that's all you get.

Silver-tipped super natural grizzly bear? What I would give for a name like that!