

# Leanne Allison

Necessary Journeys Inc.

637 3rd st  
Canmore, AB T1W 2H9  
**(403) 679-9041**

<https://vimeo.com/leanneallison>

## **Losing Blue** Short film director

CURRENT PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD

[Losing Blue](#)

*Losing Blue* is Leanne's upcoming short film about our impact on deep time processes in high alpine lakes in the age of the Anthropocene written by J.B. Mackinnon (*Bear 71*) and produced by the National Film Board.

## **Bear 71** Interactive documentary *Co-creator*

2010-2012 PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

[Bear 71](#)

*Bear 71* was inspired by images from motion-triggered cameras used for research in Banff National Park. The original pitch to the NFB's digital studio consisted of a handful of compelling images, but no clear story. Leanne followed her instincts that said there was a strong story to tell through an interactive medium using the simple images at its core. The resulting interactive documentary is widely considered a seminal piece in the genre, garnering many international awards. *Bear 71* premiered at the Sundance Film Festival's New Frontiers lab. In 2017, Google partnered with the NFB to turn *Bear 71* into their first virtual reality web browser project.

## **Being Caribou** Feature length documentary *Co-director and writer, camera and sound*

2000 - 2004 PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

[Being Caribou](#)

*Being Caribou* was Leanne's first feature-length documentary about a five-month journey on foot with the Porcupine Caribou Herd. Her partner, Karsten Heuer, was a park warden in Ivvavik National Park when he first encountered the herd. After

learning about their endangered calving grounds in Alaska, the pair decided to tell their story, from the caribou's perspective. Before setting out on that trip, Leanne took a film course and hit up a philanthropist for \$10,000 to invest in her first set of camera gear. The resulting film has become an NFB classic and won a Gemini award for best Nature Documentary in 2004.

### **Finding Farley** Documentary *Director, camera*

2006 - 2009 PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

#### [Finding Farley](#)

*Finding Farley* started with a letter from author Farley Mowat after he read Karsten Heuer's book, *Being Caribou*. Mowat loved the book so much that he called and invited Karsten, Leanne and their then two-year-old son to visit him at his summer home in Nova Scotia. 'We have so much to talk about,' he said. He was 86 years old. The pair realized this wasn't simply a chance to do a big trip, it was an opportunity to do an apprenticeship in storytelling with one of Canada's greatest authors.

#### [AWARDS](#)

**Bear 71** - Cannes Cyber Lion award for creativity, FWA website of the year, Word Press award for photo innovation, Webby award for best net art and others.

**Being Caribou**- Gemini for best science and nature documentary, Best Canadian Doc: VIFF and others.

**Finding Farley**- People's Choice and Grand Prize Banff Mountain Film Festival and others.

**Living with Wildlife**- Banff Mountain Film Festival, Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival, Trento Mountain Film Festival, Italy, Festival Gorniskega Filma, Slovenia, National Geographic- Short Film Showcase

### **Chasing a Trace** *Director, second camera, writer, editor* 2018-2019

Leanne was awarded a 50K award from Telus Storyhive to create a 20 min documentary on one woman's quest to study elusive wolverines in the high mountains of Canada's West. This film will be released in July 2019 and will be available on the VOD Telus Optik channel.

### **Living with Wildlife** 23 min film *Producer, director, camera* 2017-2019

The Bow Valley of Alberta, Canada, is the busiest place in the world where people and grizzly bears still coexist. *Living with Wildlife* is the story of how communities in the

Bow Valley have come together over the past 20 years to live with grizzly bears and other wildlife.

**Living with Wildlife Interactive Website Director** 2017-2019

The interactive version of [Living with Wildlife](#) helped draw a wider audience online. Directed by Leanne Allison, art direction and design by [Aubyn Freybe-Smith](#), illustration by [Jason Thompson](#), development, [Patrick Matte](#), writing, [Fraser Los](#), film editing by [Mike Quigley](#).