



# NATURE



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## **THIRTEEN's *Nature* sits ringside as Yellowstone's top predators face off in *Clash: Encounters of Bears and Wolves*, January 17, 2010 on PBS**

***Nature Online*** ([pbs.org/nature](http://pbs.org/nature)) features full-length streaming episodes and The Bear Blog.

What happens when grizzly bears and wolves come face to face in Yellowstone? When available food is at stake, a battle of wills and skills always comes next. The two powerful predators couldn't be more different. The mighty grizzly is a loner, ranging far and wide in search of a meal. Wolves are pack animals that hunt together, relying on speed and teamwork to survive. Which would hold its ground in a face-off, and win the prize? ***Nature*** captures the heat of the moment when it's grizzly versus wolves in ***Clash: Encounters of Bears and Wolves***, premiering Sunday, January 17, 2010 at 8 p.m. (ET) on PBS (check local listings). The film offers arresting showdowns between the two rivals and reveals details of their social lives and survival strategies, as well as those of other animals in Yellowstone, from elks to otters. Academy Award-winning actor F. Murray Abraham narrates. ***Clash: Encounters of Bears and Wolves*** will be available for streaming on ***Nature Online*** ([pbs.org/nature](http://pbs.org/nature)), along with more than 30 other full-length programs.

***Nature*** is a production of THIRTEEN in association with WNET.ORG – one of America's most prolific and respected public media providers.

"Talk about rumble in the mountains," said Fred Kaufman, Series Executive Producer. "The confrontation of bears and wolves is a sight to behold. Viewers will be surprised to learn that, like any good athletes, these two apex predators must recalibrate their strengths and limitations in every encounter. It's the wild sports of nature on PBS."

Yellowstone National Park is a world of predators, scavengers, and opportunists. Until the recent resurgence of wolves, bears rule this wilderness. But nothing is static in nature. The two formidable opponents now engage in an ongoing struggle to be masters of this realm. Grizzly bears may dominate from spring through autumn, but during the winter months when the bears hibernate, the wolves swing into action and do their best to take control.

Competition for food is the primary reason for battle between these two rivals, and the driving force of conflict among all of Yellowstone's other denizens. The program shows an elk's strategy to protect her calf from wolves, and a sly coyote's scavenging technique. Wolves are champion hunters in the snow, working together to kill prey that cannot move as well when the snow is deep and deadly. A bear, on the other hand, sometimes relies solely on sheer strength for a meal. In one scene, a hungry grizzly fresh from his den, is the only animal able to drag a heavy frozen carcass from an icy pond. The wolves and coyotes can only wait and watch. But muscle power doesn't always prevail. Sometimes, a pack of wolves can outmaneuver a greedy lone bear trying to snatch their prey. Luckily, bears do not rely entirely on meat. They are omnivores, and can also feast on a banquet of nuts, dandelions, insects or fish.

In this tale of two titans, each succeeds according to its nature. With their contrasting skills and tactics, the bears and the wolves are both victors in this Yellowstone kingdom.

Visit **Nature Online** ([pbs.org/nature](http://pbs.org/nature)) to watch previous programs and get updates about the series. Viewers can sound off about issues explored on **Nature**, take polls, and share animal photos with the **Nature** community.

**Nature** has won nearly 600 honors from the television industry, the international wildlife film communities, and environmental organizations – including 10 Emmys, three Peabodys and the first award given to a television program by the Sierra Club. Most recently, the series won a Peabody Award for *Silence of the Bees* and received two Emmy nominations for *Crash: A Tale of Two Species* and *White Falcon, White Wolf*.

**Nature's Clash: Encounters of Bear and Wolves** is a production of THIRTEEN and National Geographic Television in association with WNET.ORG. Produced by Bob Landis and Janet Hess. **Nature** is a production of THIRTEEN in association with WNET.ORG for PBS. Fred Kaufman is Executive Producer. William Grant is Executive-in-Charge. Major corporate support for **Nature** is provided by Canon U.S.A., Inc. Additional support is provided by the nation's public television stations.

**Nature Online** ([pbs.org/nature](http://pbs.org/nature)) is the award-winning web companion to the broadcast series and is spearheading **Nature's** distribution to new media platforms. At **Nature Online**, visitors can stream full episodes of **Nature** programs, watch behind-the-scenes video exclusives with filmmakers and producers (also available at iTunes), view program excerpts (also available on YouTube), and find fun interactive content, teacher lesson plans, and more. Join **Nature** on Facebook ([Facebook.com/PBSNature](http://Facebook.com/PBSNature)) and follow the series on Twitter ([Twitter.com/PBSNature](http://Twitter.com/PBSNature)) to keep up with the latest videos, photos, program alerts and more.

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