

Freya Short - Producer



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Bristol based

I have enjoyed a 15 year career developing and creating innovative and award winning natural history content for television channels such as BBC, National Geographic and Animal Planet. I have worked across a broad range of genres from blue-chip, presenter-led, children's and live productions, including well known series such as Planet Earth, Coast, Natural World, Springwatch and River Monsters. I have set up multiple shoots in both the UK and abroad, including to remote and extreme environments. From extensive global travel and months spent studying and filming wildlife in their natural habitat, I have obtained specialist knowledge of Southern African and South American wildlife, specifically cat species. I enjoy working across both Production and Development and am passionate about the natural world. I love writing and crafting stories and I excel in the development of ideas for factual documentaries. I am a creative, motivated and enthusiastic team member and thrive when communicating natural history content in an entertaining and innovative way.

PRODUCER / DIRECTOR / ASSISTANT PRODUCER:

***A Year on Planet Earth* (ITV) | Junior Producer | Plimsoll Productions | Feb '20 - Jul '20**

- Planned editorial content for a seasonal four part blue-chip series.

***Supernatural Planet* (National Geographic) | Producer/AP | Plimsoll Productions | Jul '19 - Dec '19**

- Produced one episode for a six part blue-chip series during the pre-production phase.

***Yellowstone Live II* (National Geographic) | Director/AP | Plimsoll Productions | Apr – Jun '19**

- Self-shooting PD for the Grand Teton National Park remote team for 4 x 60' live transmissions
- Wrote scripts for archive insert films; liaised with local wildlife organisations to generate series content

***Dian Fossey – Secrets in the Mist* (National Geographic) | AP | Tigress Productions | Oct '16**

- Compiled gorilla biographies and created potential storylines for the shoot in Rwanda.

***Predators Up Close with Joel Lambert* (Discovery International) & Davina McCall: *Life at the Extreme* (ITV) | AP | Plimsoll Productions | Jun '14 - Dec '14**

- Sourced filming locations and set up shoots to Zambia, Namibia, Svalbard, The Azores and Costa Rica.
- Developed ideas for a variety of Discovery International pitches.

***Colombia: Wild Magic* (Feature Film: EcoPlanet) | Director/AP | Off The Fence | Jan '14 - May '14**

- Set up shoots and directed on location for a 90-minute blue-chip feature film about the wildlife and habitats of Colombia, for cinema release in Colombia. This involved a lot of set work on location.

***Africa 2013: Countdown to the Rains* (BBC2) | AP | Tigress Productions | Oct '13 - Dec '13**

- Worked on location in Zambia producing 3 x 30' BBC Red Button programmes, *Rains Undercover*, to compliment the prime time BBC2 series.

***Betty and the Big Cats* (Nat Geo Wild) | AP | Icon Films | Mar '13 - Jul '13**

- Developed content and set up a shoot to California filming various cat species for a Nat Geo Wild 1-hour *Big Cat Week* special.

***Springwatch* (BBC2) | AP/Director | BBC Natural History Unit | Jan '12 - Jun '12**

- Developed story ideas for insert films, remote camera features and live content. Wrote, directed and edit produced insert films; self-shot for broadcast; coordinated specialist camera features.

***Barney's Latin America*, (CBBC & BBC2) | AP/Researcher | BBC NHU | Sept '09 - Jul '10**

- Planned programme content for 26 x 30' themed episodes. Wrote scripts, set up a shoot to Costa Rica, directed on location, shot 'behind the scenes' for online content, edit produced, directed comm. record sessions with the presenters, commissioned graphics/animations.

DEVELOPMENT:

Development | Assistant Producer | BBC NHU | Sept - Oct '18

- Wrote complete episode breakdowns for a new series proposal.

Development | Assistant Producer | Icon Films | Jan - Jun '17

- Generated programme ideas and wrote pitches for BBC, Nat Geo Wild, Discovery Channel, Animal Planet and Science Channel. Edit produced multiple taster tapes.

River Monsters Development | Assistant Producer | Icon Films | Nov '12 - Mar '13

- Developed ideas for Series 6 of Animal Planet's *River Monsters*.

Development | Senior Researcher | BBC NHU | Oct '12 - Nov '12

- Developed a BBC Worldwide scientific adventure series.

Development | Assistant Producer | Parthenon Entertainment | Bristol | Sept '11 - Dec '11

- Developed a range of productions for Animal Planet, National Geographic and ORF.

Development | Researcher | Ammonite | Jan '09

- Developed a programme idea to present to commissioners at WNET and BBC *Natural World*.

Development | Researcher | Halcyon Media, Bristol | Oct '06 - Feb '07 & July - Sept '05

- Worked with Charlie Hamilton-James & Philippa Forrester's company developing a whole range of content for BBC *Natural World*, Animal Planet, National Geographic and Discovery Channel.

In many of my production roles, I was also responsible for the development of content for future commissions.

RESEARCHER:

A Year in the Wild (BBC2) | Senior Researcher | BBC NHU | Jan '11 - Jul '11

3 x 60' about the Cairngorms, Snowdonia and New Forest National Parks.

Live 'n' Deadly Specials (CBBC) | Senior Researcher | BBC NHU | Oct '10 - Dec '10

3 x 60' specials for the Live 'n' Deadly roadshow with Steve Backshall.

The One Show (BBC1) | Researcher | Icon Films | Sept '10 - Oct '10

Coast - Series 5 (BBC2) | Wildlife Feature Researcher | BBC Birmingham (based in NHU) | Jun '09 - Sep '09

BBC Wildlife Finder | Online Digital Project | Researcher | BBC NHU | Mar '09 - May '09

The Secret Leopards - Natural World (BBC2) | Researcher | BBC NHU | Jan '09-Mar '09

Nature Shock: Zombie Alligators (Ch. 5 & Nat Geo) | Researcher | Tigress Productions | Jun '07 - Sep '07

Coast - Series 2 & 3 (BBC2) | Wildlife Feature Researcher | BBC Birmingham (based in NHU) | Mar - Sep '06

Austin Stevens: Snakemaster (Ch.5 & Animal Planet) | Researcher | Tigress Productions | Nov '04 - Jun '05

FIELD ASSISTANT:

Wild: Search For Mountain Lions (BBC2) | Field Assistant/Researcher | BBC NHU | Nov '05 - Mar '06

- Tracked pumas for a presenter led film featuring Gordon Buchanan, Torres Del Paine National Park, Chile.

Planet Earth - Mountains (BBC1) | Field Assistant | BBC NHU | Jul - Aug '04

- Located and tracked pumas to be filmed in Torres Del Paine National Park, Chile.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Sept '07- Sept '08

MSc Animal Behaviour (Distinction), Exeter University
Camera-trap study on activity patterns of nocturnal carnivores in South Africa.

Sept '05 - Jan '06

Studying Mammals, The Open University

1999 - 2002

BA (Hons) Multimedia Design (First Class Honours), Southampton Solent University

REFERENCES:

Matt Brandon | Series Producer | Plimsoll Productions

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James Smith | Executive Producer | Plimsoll Productions

James.Smith@plimsollproductions.com

Martha Holmes | Head of Wildlife and Executive Producer | Plimsoll Productions

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