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## Wild and Scenic Film Festival coming to Plymouth

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PLYMOUTH — After voting in the Primary Election, nature lovers can make their way to the Flying Monkey where they will be able to view a collection of films focused on the environment.

The event is called “Wild and Scenic Film Festival On Tour,” and is being put on by the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center in conjunction with Plymouth State University’s Office of Environmental Sustainability and other various university sponsors. These include the university’s theater and dance departments, social science department, adventure education and the Student Marketing Association.

The film festival is in its 14<sup>th</sup> year and takes place during the third week of January in Nevada City, California. It was started by the South Yuba River Citizens League in 2003, and the festival’s name is due to the celebration of SYRCL receiving “Wild and Scenic” status for its 39 miles of the South Yuba River.

The event in California lasts for four days and involves 100 award winning movies, more than 100 guest speakers, celebrities and activists. There are national partners that help reach a larger audience including Patagonia, CLIF Bar, Sierra Nevada Brewing, Orion Magazine, Klean Kanteen, Earthjustice and Barefoot Wine and Bubbly. The international tour spans over 150 communities including Plymouth.

In Plymouth there will be 11 films shown, which includes Osprey: Marine Sentinel. The Squam Lakes

Natural Science Center is one of the leaders in osprey research, as they have several birds tagged to track their migration and other aspects. Executive Director Iain MacLeod will be on-hand as a speaker, where he will discuss this and other aspects of what the Science Center does.

Science Center Marketing and Visitor Services Manager Amanda Gillen said the hope is for the general community of the Lakes Region, as well as students and faculty at the university, will get involved. She said there will be tables set up for people to ask questions and chat with members of the Science Center.

“We will be there offering information about us, as well as some other internal PSU sponsors,” said Gillen. “There will also be some raffles and giveaways. It should be a fun time.”

This is the first time that there has been a viewing in Plymouth, and Brian Eisenhauer, the PSU director of the Office of Environmental Sustainability, said he is hoping it will be a success so they can make it a tradition. Eisenhauer will also be speaking at the event.

Eisenhauer said the main focus is to show films that celebrate peoples’ connection with the outdoors and also inspire people to make changes for the better. He said it fits in well with the overall vision of PSU, saying that they see it as another way to help grow that identity, get people involved and integrate with their many partners.

“Our university has the commitment to reduce our carbon footprint and address the challenge of climate change,” Eisenhauer explained. “We recognize that doing that not only involves hard work, but also involves inspiration and community. That’s what inspired us to put together this community event.”

Gillen said they received a grant from Patagonia which will help with the costs for the event. All of the proceeds and money cleared from the event will go to the PSU Student Scholarship Fund.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the event begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 9 Tickets are still available and are being sold online through [www.flyingmonkeynh.com](http://www.flyingmonkeynh.com) or at the door for \$10 or \$5 for PSU students. Tickets can also be bought over the phone at 536-2551.

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## Poll

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- Jessica Jones
- Orange is the New Black

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