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## San Francisco Green Film Festival Announces Finalists for Green Fire Award 2017

- **Four finalists will be in competition for the Green Fire Award, a new juried award for Best Bay Area Environmental Feature with \$5,000 cash prize.**
- **Jury to announce the winner at Green Film Fest Closing Night on April 26.**

**SAN FRANCISCO, Wednesday Mar. 22** - San Francisco Green Film Festival is pleased to announce the finalists of the Green Fire Award for Best Bay Area Environmental Feature as part of Green Film Fest 2017, April 20-26.

This new award will include a \$5,000 cash prize for the filmmaker and the final winner be decided by an expert Jury, including leaders in the film and environmental fields. The Green Fire Award recognizes the best of Independent documentary filmmaking in the San Francisco Bay Area by honoring innovative storytelling and new perspectives on environmental topics.

**Rachel Caplan, Founder and CEO, San Francisco Green Film Festival, said:**

“We’ve created this award to champion incredible and bold environmental filmmaking here in our home, the San Francisco Bay Area. We’re excited to have such a wide range of stories from the finalists for the first Green Fire Award at Green Film Fest 2017.”

The winner will be announced at Green Film Fest Closing Night on April 26, 8:30pm, Castro Theatre.

### **Green Fire Award Finalists**

#### **4 WHEEL BOB**

Tal Skloot, USA, 2017, 82 mins

*Roxie, 4/22 @ 3:15pm*

USA Premiere // Get on the trail with intrepid adventurer Bob Coomber, who sets out to be the first wheelchair hiker to cross the 11,845 foot peak of Kearsarge Pass in the Sierra Nevada. Despite the

ups and downs, Bob's energy and enthusiasm to get everyone to enjoy California's great outdoors is infectious.

### **EVOLUTION OF ORGANIC**

Mark Kitchell, USA, 2017, 82 mins

*Castro Theatre, 4/20 @ 7:30pm*

World Premiere // It started with a motley crew of back-to-the-landers rejecting industrial farming. It went on to spawn a renewed connection with our food and land. Filmmaker Mark Kitchell (BERKELEY IN THE SIXTIES; A FIERCE GREEN FIRE) presents a celebration of Californian organic farming told by the people that started it all thru to a new generation who continue to reinvent the food system.

### **TIDEWATER**

Roger Sorkin, USA, 2017, 50 mins

*Little Roxie, 4/23 @ 2:45pm*

West Coast Premiere // Sea level rise is happening and Hampton Roads, Virginia, is on the frontline. Home to the world's largest naval base and 2 million citizens, the rising waters and sinking land could have a devastating effect on U.S. national security. **TIDEWATER** shows a community coming together to create a new approach to building a resilient America.

### **TWELVE PIANOS**

Dean Mermell, USA, 2017, 64 mins

*Castro Theatre, 4/26 @ 8:30pm*

World Premiere // Mauro fortissimo's piano installations draw world-class musicians, enthusiasts, and novices to come and play in unusual surroundings, from the cliffs of Half Moon Bay to the streets of San Francisco. Filmmaker Dean Mermell captures the incredible sights and sounds of this unusual passion project. These pianos want to save the world.

## **Green Fire Award Jury**

**Mark Decena**, Founder/Director, Kontent Films (WATERSHED; NOT WITHOUT US)

**Maribel Guevara**, Director, Ecuadorian Green Film Festival; Program Consultant, Cinema Planeta, Mexico

**Anastasia Laukkanen**, Founder & Director, ECOCUP Green Film Festival, Russia

**Steve Michelson**, Executive Director, Fund for Sustainable Tomorrows; Owner, Lobitos Creek Ranch/Specialty Studios

**Louie Psihoyos**, Executive Director, Oceanic Preservation Society (THE COVE; RACING EXTINCTION)

**Flo Stone**, Founder, Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital