

Tides of Change

★ WINNER · BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT · SPOTLIGHT DOCUMENTARY AWARDS, 2025

On a wild, windswept barrier island nearly forgotten by time, a dedicated team of conservationists fights a high-stakes battle against invasive predators to save the ancient lineage of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle.

SYNOPSIS

Ossabaw Island is a 25,000-acre barrier wilderness off the coast of Georgia, accessible only by boat, untouched by paved roads, and held in trust as the state's first Heritage Preserve.

Tides of Change follows the Georgia DNR team as they navigate the delicate balance of protecting vulnerable Loggerhead Sea Turtle nests from destructive feral hogs while honoring the legacy of the island's late matriarch, Eleanor “Sandy” Torrey West, who in 1978 sold the island to the State of Georgia on the condition it would remain forever wild.

Through coordinated daytime survey work and nighttime predator management, the team has reduced nest predation from a historic 40 percent to a current annual average of 7 percent — one of the most measurable conservation wins on the southeastern coast.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

“Coming to Ossabaw, I realized conservation isn't just about protection. It's about intervention. It's the uncomfortable, tireless work of humans trying to balance a scale we helped tip.”

— Andrew Seals, Director

AWARD

Best Documentary Short

Spotlight Documentary Awards, 2025

FILM FACTS

Title

Tides of Change

Runtime

40 minutes

Genre

Nature / Conservation

Director

Andrew Seals

Year

2024

Location

Ossabaw Island, GA

Language

English

Format

4K · 16:9 · 5.1 Surround

CREDITS

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