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SCETV announces season 6 of *Coastal Kingdom*, exploring Lowcountry wildlife

COLUMBIA, S.C. – South Carolina ETV and Public Radio (SCETV) is proud to announce the return of *Coastal Kingdom*, the five-time Emmy Award-winning nature series and longtime favorite among outdoor and wildlife enthusiasts, for its sixth season. The half-hour program premieres March 18 at 7:30 p.m. on ETV.

Host Tony Mills, a naturalist and educator with The Spring Island Trust in Beaufort County, and cinematographer Rob Lewis guide viewers through the diverse ecosystems of the South Carolina Lowcountry. The show, which first aired in 2009, provides a unique perspective on the region's rich wildlife and habitats.

Throughout six episodes, this season explores how animals interact with their environments across freshwater wetlands, coastal shorelines and managed landscapes. Episodes will focus on seasonal changes in a single wetland, address common misconceptions about reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates, highlight responsible land stewardship practices and take a close look at life in the intertidal zone. Viewers will also experience a collection of remarkable wildlife encounters captured over the course of a year of filming.

Coastal Kingdom will air each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. on ETV beginning March 18. Here is a preview of what viewers can expect in season 6.

- **4 Seasons of a Wetland** - Host Tony Mills returns to one special freshwater wetland over the course of a full year to find out how the environment changes with the seasons, and how the animals that live there adapt.

- **Animal Myths Part 1**: **Reptiles and Amphibians** - Host Tony Mills explores and dispels common misconceptions surrounding this vital group of animals.

- **Animal Myths Part 2**: **Invertebrates** - Host Tony Mills explores surprising myths about bugs and insects while shedding light on these highly misunderstood animals.

- **Stewards of the Land** - Host Tony Mills discusses different land management techniques, and how being good stewards of our environment can lead to healthy ecosystems.

- **Life Between the Tides** - Host Tony Mills takes a close look at the animals living between the high and low tide lines, exploring the unique ways they adapt to life in harsh, ever-changing conditions.

- **Trail Mix** - Host Tony Mills unveils a handpicked collection of unforgettable moments captured over a year in the field — rare, surprising, and powerful encounters that didn't make it into the other episodes. From unexpected animal behavior to breathtaking close-ups, this special showcase reveals the wild stories that almost went untold.

Coastal Kingdom is a public television program produced in partnership by SCETV's regional studio at ETV Lowcountry and The Spring Island Trust. ETV Lowcountry in Beaufort is one of four regional studios located across the state of South Carolina. Other locations are Sumter, Rock Hill and Spartanburg. Production funding for *Coastal Kingdom* is provided by the ETV Endowment of South Carolina.

More information on *Coastal Kingdom* and episodes from seasons 1-5 can be viewed on the SCETV website. In addition to broadcast, *Coastal Kingdom* will be available for streaming at SCETV.org and PBS.org, as well as through the SCETV app and the PBS app.

QUOTES

"We are pleased to present *Coastal Kingdom* season 6, which continues to showcase the remarkable wildlife and habitats of the South Carolina Lowcountry. The series encourages viewers to better understand how ecosystems function and why they matter to our state." **–SCETV President and CEO Adrienne Fairwell**

"Season 6 explores how animals live within changing environments, from freshwater wetlands to the shifting shoreline, and clears up common myths along the way. My hope is that viewers come away with a deeper appreciation for the natural systems that surround us every day." **–*Coastal Kingdom* Host Tony Mills**

FAST FACTS

- Season 6 of the five-time Emmy Award-winning, half-hour nature series *Coastal Kingdom* premieres March 18 at 7:30 p.m. on ETV.
- Host Tony Mills and cinematographer Rob Lewis guide viewers through the diverse ecosystems of the South Carolina Lowcountry.
- The six-episode series builds on previous seasons and features some of the most well-known habitats and wildlife of the South Carolina Lowcountry.
- *Coastal Kingdom* is produced in partnership between SCETV and The Spring Island Trust.
- More information on *Coastal Kingdom* and episodes from seasons 1-5 can be viewed on the SCETV website.

About South Carolina ETV and Public Radio

South Carolina ETV and Public Radio (SCETV) is the state's public educational broadcasting network. SCETV amplifies South Carolina voices, provides educational experiences and strengthens communities, while working toward creating a stronger, more connected and informed South Carolina. In addition to airing local programs, such as *The Know Show, Making It Grow* and *This Week in South Carolina*, SCETV also presents multiple programs to regional and national audiences, including *Books By The River, After Action, Reconnecting Roots, Reel South* and *Southern Songwriters with Patrick Davis*.

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