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The Rights of Nature: A Global Movement

Goeckeritz, Issac, Hal Crimmel, and María Valeria Berros.

Goeckeritz, Issac, Hal Crimmel, and María Valeria Berros, dirs. *The Rights of Nature: A Global Movement*. 2018. 52 min.

> Western views and the legal system tend to view nature as property, and as a resource from which wealth is extracted, a commodity whose only value is to provide for human needs. But for millennia indigenous communities have viewed themselves as part of nature. As pressures on ecosystems mount and as conventional laws seem increasingly inadequate to address environmental degradation, communities, cities, regions and countries around the world are turning to a new legal strategy known as The Rights of Nature. This film takes viewers on a journey that explores the more recent origins of this legal concept, and its application and implementation in Ecuador, New Zealand, and the United States. Learn how constitutional reforms adopted in Ecuador have helped recognize nature as a legal entity, and how partnerships between the Māori and the government of New Zealand have led to personhood status for rivers, lakes and forests, and a renewed sense of balance between people and nature. See how the Rights of Nature function in the urban setting of Santa Monica, California. The film explores the successes and challenges inherent in creating new legal structures that have the potential to maintain and restore ecosystems while achieving a balance between humans and nature. (Source: YouTube)

This film was produced by filmmaker Issac Goeckeritz and the former Rachel Carson Center fellows Hal Crimmel and María Valeria Berros . The movie is also available with Spanish subtitles .

Related links:

- *The Rights of Nature* with Spanish subtitles
  https://www.youtube.com/watch
- *Arcadia* collection: "Rights of Nature Recognition"
  https://www.environmentandsociety.org/arcadia/collection/rights-nature-recognition

- María Valeria Berros, "The Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador: Pachamama Has Rights," *Arcadia*, 2015. https://doi.org/10.5282/rcc/7131
- María Valeria Berros, "Defending Rivers: Vilcabamba in the South of Ecuador," *RCC Perspectives*, no. 6 (2017) http://doi.org/10.5282/rcc/8213
- "Can Nature Have Rights? Legal and Political Insights," *RCC Perspectives*, 2017. https://doi.org/10.5282/rcc/8164

Websites linked in this text:

- https://youtu.be/kuFNmH7lVTA
- https://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/fellows/sof/members/former_fellows/crimmel_hal/index.html
- https://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/staff_fellows/carson_fellows/mariavaleria_berros/index.html
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RupkZM8dV14