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NorCal Public Media Receives 2025 Emmy® Award Nomination for *Climate California*

Northern California Public Media (NorCal Public Media) has received a 2025 nomination from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences regional Emmy® Awards for ***Climate California 102: The Songs of Strangers***, in the category of Environment/Science – News or Long Form Content.



Named in the nomination are producers Jeremy Jue, Hannah Lee, executive producers Darren LaShelle, Paul Swensen, director Charles Loi and editor William Meese. Original music for the show was composed by Miguel Brierley.





Climate California is a new original docuseries from NorCal Public Media which debuted on KRCB-PBS and KPJK public television in the San Francisco Bay Area in October 2024, with an emphasis on narrative storytelling as a fresh way to present information on climate, where we find ourselves now, and solutions for climate change through the stories of people who remind us of the beauty of the world and the power we already have. Episode 2, *The Songs of Strangers* was first broadcast in November 2024.



The episode starts with sound, featuring soundscape ecologist Jack Hines and fellow sound ecologist Bernie Krause showing how to connect with the natural world by listening. From there, the producers met with conservation scientist Tiffany Yap from the Center for Biological Diversity to learn how some of the smallest creatures—newts—are impacted by human activity and what we can do to help them.

Sound under the sea serves the work of Whale Safe in Santa Barbara, harnessing AI and data to help shipping companies avoid whale collisions. And the episode concludes with conservation economist John Reid offering realistic economic pathways for society to use in preserving vital ecosystems such as forests, as well as thoughts on how to build cities that allow for nature to flourish by renowned author Kim Stanley Robinson.

“We’ve traveled all over the state for *Climate California* and met with scientists, activists, thought leaders and those fighting to build a new story of climate change — one that is innovative, hopeful and empowering,” producer Hannah Lee explains.





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Producers Charles Loi, Hannah Lee and Jeremy Jue
on location filming Climate California.

“What we set out to do was find stories of climate hope all across California that resonate not just with the public, but within ourselves, to be honest. And we found them - we’re lucky to have met such amazing guests - but they also raised hard questions. How do we get people to put aside their differences - or is that naive? How do you confront your fears? Is having too much fun... a bad thing? Hopefully the show sparks something powerful in viewers - it did in us,” says writer, director and series narrator Charles Loi. “What a wild ride Climate California has been, and we’re so grateful for the recognition.”

Climate California is the most recent of numerous projects under the Center for Environmental Reporting at NorCal Public Media– a multi-year, multi-platform ongoing project, offering informative, engaging and educational content across all television, radio, news, podcasts, digital and streaming platforms offered by the organization.





“Our work within the Center for Environmental Reporting has been challenging, enlightening, and so rewarding,” says president and CEO Darren LaShelle. “The vision of our passionate producing team on *Climate California* has given us a visually beautiful, moving and hopeful show, and it makes us proud as an organization not only to present such important television but to be recognized by the Academy for it.”

Climate California airs on Bay Area local broadcast, streaming and on PBS Passport and will have national distribution on PBS Plus in 2026.

The 54th Annual Northern California Area Emmy® Awards will be presented on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center in Sacramento.

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More information and links:

[Climate California website and episodes](#)

[National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences 2025 Emmy® Awards web page](#)

[The Center for Environmental Reporting at NorCal Public Media](#)

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