

“Franklin”
Feature length documentary

Post-production Script
30 March 2022
Duration: 91mins

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
00:00	Screen Australia Logo	
00:10	MIFF Premiere Fund Logo	
00:20	Film Victoria Logo	
00:28	Super: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Viewers are advised that this film contains images of people who have died	
00:40	00:40 Aerial shot of Gordon River 00:50 Oliver’s hand writing in his diary 00:54: Oliver’s face 00:59: Oliver standing atop a hill looking down into the valley where the Franklin flows 01:08: Oliver closes his eyes 01:15: drone shot following the river	OLIVER VO: It’s taken me 7 years to get here, to the epic country you fought to save. I can hear the river far below, just a trickle. It sounds tame but I know it’s wild. There’s a part of me that’s afraid, that wants to stay up here where it’s safe and dry. But as you always said, there’s no turning back on the Franklin. Only one way home.
01:20	01:20 Archive footage of Anti-Dam street protest in Melbourne 01:25 Archive of woman yelling the protest chant at Pro-Dam march 01:27 Long shot of anti-dam street protest in Melbourne 01:29 Faces of chanting and clapping anti- dam protestors	Sound of crowd chanting “No Dams, No Dams” and “No More Dams. No More Dams” 01:25 News Anchor VO: “It was the biggest environmental rally in the country’s history”
01:30	01:30 SUPER: Screen Australia presents 01:35 Pro-Dam protestors holding a sign “This Dam Will Be Built” 01:36 Anti Dam protestors hold a banner at Warner’s Landing on Gordon River “Vandalism of World Heritage National Shame”	01:30 News Anchor VO: “The plan to dam the Franklin has caused bitter and divisive protests that have drawn world attention to the region”

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01:39	<p>01:39 Archive shot of Hydro Electric Commission (HEC) building</p> <p>01:42 protestor holding a sign "Tasmania has created a monster HEC"</p> <p>01:44 protestor holding a sign "We Support H.E.C."</p> <p>01:45 Zoom in on map of Tasmania, and map of South West Wilderness and Franklin River</p>	<p>01:39 VO "Tasmania's Hydro Electric Commission dominated an era of hydro industrialisation"</p> <p>01:44 VO "The Hyrdo had built dams on every major river in Tasmania, except the Franklin and now, it wanted one there too"</p>
01:56	<p>01:56 Spokesperson being interviewed</p> <p>02:00 Anti-dam protestor holding a sign "Gone means forever"</p>	<p>Ecologically it's very important for our survival that parts of the Earth are left undisturbed</p>
02:01	<p>Pro-dam protestor holds a sign "Dam the Franklin. Damn the Greenies!"</p> <p>02:22 HEC spokesperson interviewed at desk</p> <p>02:04 Archive of dynamite exploding.</p>	<p>Well this is part of life isn't it, that if we're going to live as human beings we've got to order things</p>
02:05	<p>Archive of politician at pro-dam rally</p>	<p>The economics of this scheme have been proven</p>
02:08	<p>Archive of Gordon River.</p> <p>02:11 Archive of protestor holding a sign and trying to get out of the way of a work vehicles caterpillar tracks</p>	<p>VO: But who can put a value to the world's last remaining natural areas</p>
02:12	<p>SUPER: in association with the Melbourne International Film Festival Premiere Fund</p> <p>02:16 Archive footage of United Nations meeting</p> <p>02:17 Tasmanian Premier, Robin Gray, at rally</p>	<p>VO: The United Nations have put SW Tasmania on the world heritage list.</p> <p>Robin Gray: We've made up our minds and we're going to get on with the job</p>
02:19	<p>SUPER: Screen Tasmania, Film Victoria</p> <p>02:21 Home movie footage of Mike Cassidy</p> <p>02:25: Home movie footage of bushwalking</p> <p>02:30 Home movie footage of bushwalkers crossing shallow feast flowing river</p>	<p>Oliver VO: In the summer of 1983, my Dad embarked on a 14-day epic journey down Tasmania's last wild Franklin River. He knew that this might be the last opportunity to experience the river untouched</p>

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02:34	<p>Bob Brown interviewed at an anti-dam protest</p> <p>02:37 Anti-dam protesters march with a banner "Stop this dam-ness"</p> <p>02:39 Aerial shot of protest</p>	<p>Bob Brown: "Millions of Australians including Tasmanians want to stop the dam and stop it now before there's any more destruction"</p>
02:40	<p>SUPER: And 791 Crowdfunding Supporters</p> <p>02:43 Archive of protestors climbing a structure while a police officer grabs at their clothing to stop them</p> <p>02:46 Archive of police dragging a limp arrestee along the sand</p>	<p>Oliver VO: Dad had never broken the law before, never tempted time in prison, but this trip would change all that.</p>
02:52	<p>Archive aerial footage of Franklin River</p>	<p>Oliver VO: I was born only days after my Dad's return. Somehow the Franklin River exists in myth for me now</p>
02:58	<p>SUPER: FRANKLIN</p>	
03:05	<p>Drone shot of Oliver's car driving along Lyell Highway on Tasmania's West Coast</p>	
03:30	<p>Oliver parks and gets out of his car surrounded by forest, and walks to a small shelter</p> <p>03:35 Oliver signs the national parks rafter registration</p>	<p>Oliver VO: almost 40 years ago my father was one of the protestors who took part in the fight to keep the wild Franklin River flowing free to the sea</p>
03:41	<p>Home movie footage of Mike Cassidy and friends climbing through a fence at a dam wall with paddles and hiking pack</p>	<p>Oliver VO: at the height of the campaign he embarked on a 14 day epic journey to support the cause</p>
03:55	<p>Oliver pulls his raft and paddle from the boot of his car.</p> <p>03:58 Oliver carries paddle and raft to the water's edge</p> <p>04:05 Oliver washes his face with the fresh river water</p>	<p>Oliver VO: Something Dad said that stayed with me was 'being out there in the wilderness, detaching from city experience, that's where life really happens.</p> <p>I don't know how you would be more close than Dad and I were</p>
04:16	<p>Home movie footage of Mike Cassidy holding and swinging baby Oliver</p> <p>04:19 Home movie footage of baby Oliver riding on Mike's shoulders</p> <p>04:27 Home movie footage of Mike playing with a ball with toddler Oliver in their backyard</p>	<p>Oliver VO: He was very calm and thoughtful kind of person. And he would just sort of make you feel safe I guess.</p>

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04:30	Home movie footage of Oliver and his brother watching the raging torrent of Cataract Gorge Photo of Mike Cassidy holding his baby	Oliver VO: Dad imbued a respect and love of nature in me right from the beginning
04:40	Home movie footage of Mike Cassidy and young son playing in a kayak in calm shallow water. 04:45 Home movie footage of young son approaching a horse in a paddock.	Oliver VO: spending time with Dad out in the bush, you absorb it, it kind of becomes part of you
04:48	Home movie footage of the two young Cassidy boys playing in the snow in matching red snow suits.	
04:52	Home movie footage of Mike Cassidy walking in zig zags with his toddler sons following in his wake. Home movie footage of Mike sitting on a yacht	Oliver VO: If I was to ask anything of him he would always turn it into a teaching moment. You know, he was a school teacher so I guess that holds up
05:00	Home movie footage looking down on Mike kayaking through a rapid. Home movie footage of Mike riding a BMX bike, climbing a rock wall, climbing a tree, climbing a yacht mast, holding a stay on a boat. Walking with life jacket on, paddling through a rapid in a rubber ducky. On cross country skis pulling toddler Oliver along on a toboggan behind. On a wind surfer	Oliver VO: He was an adventurer. He would totally plan out to the nth degree so that he could push himself to the next degree after that. He had some epic stories that I grew up listening to about getting out in the bush, multiway hikes and rafting trips and skiing trips. You name it.
05:28	Oliver reading Mike's diary	Oliver VO: on all of Dad's adventures he would keep a diary. Mostly perfunctory notes. The one that did have the most detail was about the Franklin River
05:36	Home movie footage of a rubber ducky approaching rapids on a river. Handwriting crosses the screen. A billy fills with water, sleet falls, water cascades down a river. The river flooding. The Lea tree	Mike Cassidy VO: Our expectations are for a 14-day epic. Rain, snow, floods, violent water, at the end of which I'll hopefully see the Lea tree and join the blockade.
05:51	Oliver at home with his cat on his lap	Dad was so fit and healthy and capable. It was a real shock when he was diagnosed with bile duct cancer
06:05	Home video of Mike Cassidy standing on the banks of a New Zealand river, blue with glacial minerals. Sitting making his lunch.	Oliver VO: He watched me watching him get sicker and sicker

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06:14	Oliver looking through photos of Mike in hospital setting. Oliver in interview	He'd be sitting up in a hospital bed asking 'what are you learning from all this?' And at the same time from that hospital bed looking out the window at the mountains talking about the next adventure.
06:38	Oliver's hands on a paddle. 06:44 Oliver sitting on the floor amongst a map, ice pick, paddle and rafting helmet.	Oliver VO: Just before Dad died he gave me his paddle. Definitely handing down a challenge
06:47	Photo of Mike sitting in a rubber duckie raft blow up on the back lawn.	Oliver: Yeah, I, held his hand and told him that I loved him. I love him. And he said 'I lo-' I said 'I know'
07:18	SUPER: Oliver's family home Oliver's car parked in front of the house with the Tamar River in the background	Jill Cassidy VO: So when do you head down on the river?
07:20	Oliver with his mum Jill in her kitchen	Oliver: Sunday. Jill: Sunday, three days away? Oliver: Yeah. Jill: Right! Oliver: It's fine, it's fine. Both laugh Jill: Seeming a bit close? Oliver: Yeah, I guess, I don't know. I'll hopefully feel ready for it when I'm in it maybe.
07:50	Oliver with his mum Jill in her kitchen	Jill: So I've got a few things out of Mike's that might be handy. I mean most of them - this doesn't even work - but I just thought you'd like to see his old compass. Oliver: I'm pretty sure I used to play with this as a kid. Jill: That's probably why it doesn't work.
08:03	Oliver with his mum Jill in her kitchen looking at a photo of Mike ready for a trip. Oliver tries on the hat. 08:13 home footage of Mike Cassidy standing in the green house door wearing the hat with his name knitted into the design. 08:16 Oliver in the kitchen wearing the hat, laughing with his mum.	Jill: So these are a few photos of Mike from the trip. And here's one of Dad's hats. Oliver: Can you imagine going around with your name on your head?
08:18	Jill hugs Oliver	Jill: stay safe
08:25	Misty river shot	Oliver VO: Dads paddle that has been sitting under the stair for about seven years. I think he definitely wanted me to use it, but I haven't been ready. Till now.

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08:40	Oliver	VO: The way in which my father impacted the world has left a space that is Dad sized and shaped. And I guess I am trying to follow his ghost a little bit. Shape that out, keep a bit of him alive.
		VO: The Franklin River is one of the wildest white water rafting adventures you can do. And there are so many ways that the dark and dangerous waters of that place can kill you. And they have! They have killed people, like people have died on this trip for sure. I'm not sure if I'm ready to be honest.
09:25		Mike VO: There are two ways to get to the lower Franklin blockade. Four hours from Strahan across Macquarie Harbour in a comfortable boat. Or 14 days of heaven and hell down the Franklin on a piece of rubber that is scarcely thicker than my own skin.
		VO: The preparations for this trip have been extensive. There is so much to consider and so much danger to mitigate against. Bob has given me his river notes which should help keep us alive.
		Bob Brown: Your dad was a good friend to me and I value that greatly. And I think talking over, why we should be standing up against the seemingly impossible odds of saving the Franklin, incredibly important for me and he was such an accommodating, easy going fellow to talk with about that. He had the courage to get involved. Oliver: Yeah Bob Brown: That was the core of the Franklin Campaign.
10:30		Bob Brown: As you're going down the river there isn't, I don't think, a rock or cave or a waterfall or a canyon there that I haven't seen, but more importantly Michael Cassidy didn't see. And you'll be able to be viewing that through the same eyes essentially, getting close to what it was that motivated him.
1055	Oliver paddling	
1115		Bob Brown VO: I arrived in Tasmania and I went down the river. This was long before the protest activities for the campaign. That first trip, it was transformative.

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1128	Bob Brown in interview	It was the best fortnight of my life. No sign of the impact, the destructive impact of modern materialism is having on the planet. A real rejoinder with the wild planet, which makes us all we are.
		As a young doctor working in a busy practice in Launceston, where more than half the people who came in were suffering from stress. It seemed to me after that crazy to be building a dam to provide electricity for tranquilizer factories when the best answer to human anxiety is re-engagement with nature and the Franklin offered that forever and a day if only we looked after it.
12:22	Oliver at work	Oliver VO: The city and my job seem far away. A distant memory. Another life. Being a conservationist from behind a computer screen sometimes feels like the harder I work to conserve nature, the more divorced I am from experiencing it.
12:44		Oliver VO: Out here, immersed in nature, its like my thoughts have spread. Parts of my mind and body stretching. As if everything before was a long constricted slumber.
13:02	Oliver prepares and eats a meal beside the river	
13:26	Misty river shot	
13:33		Oliver VO: Do you remember telling me it would be tempting to believe in heaven after you died, but not to worry because none of that exists? well I'm still talking to you. When I'm dreaming of you, the fact that you are even there has become our in-joke
13:58	Candle light at campsite	Oliver VO: I wish I could still talk to you in the flesh. I wish you could know me now. Especially now.
14:08	Archive footage of Oliver with Mike	Oliver VO: Its been many years and a lot has changed. I wonder what you would have said
14:20	Archive footage of Oliver with laden bushwalking pack.	Mike VO: Yeah, there's the daughter
	Archive home movie	Oliver VO: I don't think you ever treated my brother and I any differently. Gender wasn't important. But integrity was. Integrity was your favourite word. To live with integrity was perhaps the highest accomplishment you could think of. And so I think you'd be proud of me

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14:53	Jill Cassidy in interview	I think Oliver took a long time to figure out precisely who he was meant to be. And it's always hard to see your children in pain
15:10		<p>OLIVER VO: When I worked out that I'm transgender, I didn't know if I would be supported finding out about myself, or folks like me. It seemed there was a high chance I'd come across violence and rejection.</p> <p>But in the end the choice is do you keep living the lie? Do you face up to those fears and try to live anyway. Or do you call life quits?</p> <p>So, compared to dying, here I am, still living. Still writing. Still paddling</p>
16:05	Bob Brown in archive, paddling through the Irenabys	<p>Bob Brown VO: First time I saw the masterpiece we were leaving the Great Ravine. Very swiftly down on the current and here on the left in this great chasm is this large rounded sculptured rock set back in an alcove. It made me think of all that is immutable and unchangeable. That big rounded rock sits there from year to year with the floods of winter coming by and the suns of summer shining on the front of it. The water here representing all the things that do change and change quickly and in particular the passage of human life. These bubbles beginning one second and washing past the next second.</p>
	Bob Brown in interview	<p>It was a relationship with a beautiful place. That preceded me not just by thousands but millions of years. Had human history going back beyond a time I could imagine.</p>
17:12	Aunty Patsy Cameron	<p>AUNTY PATSY CAMERON VO: "The people sat in those places at the beginning of the dawn of human history, they watched the first human sunrise.</p> <p>They were the most southerly living people on earth in a landscape that had glaciers above floating down the valleys, ice sheets above. A place we can only imagine today because it's being so different."</p>

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17:47	Paddling into the Irenabys	<p>Oliver VO: I've arrived at the Irenabyss - the serene abyss. Called that first by Bob Brown. Etched in my imagination by your stories and slides. It is both everything and nothing like I expected.</p> <p>The calmness belies the power that is here. It's easy to imagine the brothers, the ancestral beings, Moinee and Dromerdene (or Pompahowli and Pinaturina) coming down from the stars to cut this river into being with the dragging of their spears</p>
19:00	Ochre with Aunty Patsy	<p>Auntie Patsy Cameron VO: Tasmania is a living landscape that was spiritually created by our ancestral beings. It's a very powerful place. Remarkable that they hold the memory of our ancestors.</p>
19:20		<p>BOB BROWN VO: "And yet it was going to be destroyed within a couple of years to make a tittle of electricity..."</p> <p>BOB BROWN VO: "The hydro ran Tasmania and wanted to make Tasmania the industrial megalopolis, if you like, of the south."</p>
19:35		<p>RICHARD FLANAGAN VO: "Central to that was the idea of the natural world being entirely subservient to man and being transformed into these heavy industrial forms. And that the dams they were symbols, before they were of any economic use, they were symbols of what we might be if we'd only dream large.</p>
19:55	Archive of Hydro executives looking over a three dimensional map of Tasmania's south west	<p>JIM VO: "They didn't see the value of living with this country in a different way to exploiting it. So they destroyed it. What they need to do is learn... learn to understand. But they didn't. I think it's an ongoing failure of white Australia."</p>
20:14		<p>JILL VO: "I think for everybody who got involved in the campaign, it was the failure of the save Lake Pedder [campaign] that got them really fired up."</p>
20:24	Archive of protestors interviewed	<p>Well we're staying here until we win. Not til we lose. Yes, til we win</p>

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20:27		Someone said it was Wagnerian opera. I don't think they were wrong, it was a splendid place.
20:36	Archive footage of Lake Pedder	Newsreader VO: but in 1972 they lost their fight to stop a hydroelectric dam there. NEWS READER #2 VO: "With it disappeared eighteen species of endemic flora and fauna."
		AUNTY PATSY CAMERON VO: "And I know that there's Aboriginigal sights under Lake Pedder. They were absolutely determined that wasn't going to happen to the Franklin river.
		Mike Cassidy VO: The river is starting to take its toll on our bodies. And today is our first big portage, which I'm dreading. It's a cliff climb with a sheer drop into turbulent waters.
21:21		Robin Gray VO: You've either gotta be mentally ill to go rafting down there, you know, at any time of the year it's the most dangerous occupation. The environmental significance of the area has been grossly overstated. For 11 months of the year the Franklin River is nothing but a brown leech ridden ditch.
21:44		BOB BROWN: That was the prevailing political wisdom of the day. It encapsulated the plight of a humanity that wasn't in control of itself.
		Oliver VO: the last thing that you want when you get tipped out of the boat is to let go of your paddle. I knew that. But a moment is all the difference between being in and out of control. It was a stupid mistake. I remember this happened to you too.
22:18		Oliver VO: I'm imagining what it would mean if I was completely adrift. Is it weird that brings a strange sense of relief? At the thought I could just stop. Be taken. Stop fighting. Stop hurting. Just for now.

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22:47		<p>BOB BROWN VO: "If we want to look after ourselves we got to look after our planet. And if we couldn't look after the Franklin. Here in one of the wealthiest places on the planet what could we look after.</p> <p>So, in this room sixteen greenies in beanies, all of us huddled in the cold, decided The Wilderness Society - two dollars membership - was under way. And because it was action oriented against the threat of dams on the Franklin it grew very very rapidly. Teachers, lawyers, doctors and adventurers. They were feisty people. Very bright, they knew what the odds were.</p>
23:26		<p>Geoff Law VO: Well the Franklin River empowered a whole generation of people to become involved. And this group enjoyed such amazing camaraderie.</p>
23:36	Tim Morris in interview	<p>TIM MORRIS VO: "The mood of it was just unbelievable. This was what really inspired me.</p>
23:40		<p>JILL CASSIDY VO: "And Mike was certainly wanting to be involved in that. Just to, to make a stand. So he was a convener in the north for The Wilderness Society. Arranged rallies and meetings and the like. It was just the very essence of him that you don't want to spoil all the natural beauty of the world.</p>
23:59		<p>BOB BROWN VO: "We knew the river had to be able to speak for itself. Well we've gotta make a film.</p> <p>So we bought a second hand Bolex 16mm wind it up yourself movie camera and we went back down the river. This time Paul Smith, Peter, and Rick and Sam Stark</p>
24:22	Amanda (Sam) Stark in interview	<p>I was a little apprehensive. I'd never done any kayaking or river rafting or anything before, but I was up for an adventure. Does something to your very inner being to be flying with that sort of running water, racing towards the ocean.</p> <p>Really it's having places like the Franklin river for a lot of people like me, it is vital to their lives.</p>

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25:03		BOB BROWN VO: "We approached the two commercial stations. There was one in Hobart and one in Launceston and said: "how much would it cost to run this half an hour film? So Saturday night prime viewing hour, Tatts lotto draw in the middle of it, we showed the Franklin film.
25:21		VOICE OF VOICE ON TV: "It's a wild and wondrous river and in the next few years we may see it utterly destroyed.
25:28		Bob Brown VO: And the change was palpable.
25:31		GEOFF LAW VO: "You know I was one of many hundreds of young people being drawn into this campaign by the charisma of the river and the sense that here was something that we could make a difference.
25:43		Karen Alexander VO: We were very emotionally very concerned about the whole thing. So we set up this office
25:50	Karen Alexander answers the phone	Tasmanian Wilderness Society
25:52	Karen Alexander in interview	Our first public meeting which was May the 1st 1980. We hired a big hall and I remember a Tasmanian friend of mine saying "you'll never fill this, what's the Franklin to Melbourne?" And by half past seven the place was packed. You had absolute standing room
26:06	Archive of Bob Brown addressing a crowd from a podium at Hobart Town Hall	The feeling around this nation is verging strong indeed.
26:11		Karen Alexander VO: And it just grew from there.
26:12	Archive of money being collected in a bucket at an anti-dam rally	Bob Brown VO: I find it hard to believe myself that The Wilderness Society has got a turnover approaching, or maybe more this year than, a million dollars.
26:21		New reader VO: Many Tasmanians openly despise the greenies, and recently a group calling themselves Tasmanians For The Future articulated where they thought the movement got its money.
26:31	Spokesperson for Tasmanians For the Future	Gaddafi might be, who knows.

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26:34		<p>News Reader VO: The unmistakable No Dams sign is the biggest selling sticker in Australia.</p> <p>News Reader #2 VO: Everyone in Australia now knows about</p>
26:41		<p>Bob Brown VO: There's a sense of national identity that is emerging with this feeling of protection towards the last of our great wild places.</p>
26:50	Geoff Law in interview	<p>The whole idea of these big rallies was to put pressure on the federal government. The government had a responsibility. An international responsibility to protect this wild country and protect that river. To protect that World Heritage Property</p>
27:08	Bob Brown	<p>By 1979 and 1980, people were coming out in their thousands at meetings in Melbourne and Sydney and Canberra, and elsewhere in their hundreds</p>
27:18	Super: Manning Clark, Historian	<p>We know that river help us to understand the truth about life. It is in that South West of Tasmania that you have a chance to sense the mystery at the heart of things. Deep down as a people, we know a great truth that we go to the waters to drink because we believe that in seeing those waters our souls will live.</p> <p>Crowds singing: Long live the Franklin, who'll come a-rafting the Franklin with me, as he sang as he watched..</p>
28:00		<p>OLIVER VO: The drizzle has set in, everything wet, slippery. Every step a little more dangerous. The chill has been working its way into my bones. I can fight it with exertion, but at a point I'm trading between cold and hunger, hunger and cold. And the river doesn't care.</p> <p>In the rain today I said out loud, "I want to be home"</p> <p>I can only imagine what it must have been like for those campaigners, coming from everywhere around Australia being away from home for so long.</p>
28:44	Archive of chanting pro-dam crowd	<p>No more greenies! No more greenies!</p> <p>Protestor: Take your stinking flowers with ya</p>

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29:02	Bob Brown in interview	There was a lot of tension, particularly people on the west coast. But for many Tasmanians — but for people everywhere — it was such a divisive issue.
29:14 29:18	Super: Kevin Bailey, Franklin Dam Contractor	Because one part of the population wanted to build the dam and work for the Hydro which was employment, and the other side didn't want the dam to be built because they believed it was going to effect the flow of the beautiful river that is it.
29:32	Super: Benny Zable, Upriver Activist	BENNY ZABLE: I mean we were shot at. This car went by with guns out and they shot us, we hit the turf.
29:40		BOB: Three or four guys came over and said 'Here's Bob Brown' and started belting into me. I knew quite likely I could be killed here.
29:50	Archive interview with Kevin Bailey	Journalist: Are you saying that you would physically assault one of them? Kevin Bailey: She's survival of the fittest so far as I'm concerned
29:54	Kevin Bailey in interview	KEVIN BAILEY: Yeah you wouldn't want to kill them or do any damage to them, but people in many quarters did refer to them as 'Bloody greenies'.
30:04	Bob Brown	Sandal footed do gooders, they're huon pine condom makers. They're nothing but jam-makers and basket weavers
30:10	Kevin Bailey	And a lot worse
30:14	Pro Dam Politician	You know they want to get out and get their hands dirty instead of being philosophers and dreamers. there's more to life than looking back in the past and this type of thing
30:25	Archive of Bob Brown in interview	It appears that there's a very conservative attitude in general in Tasmania
30:30	Archive interview of two Tasmanian women on the street in Hobart	Woman #1: Thats right Woman #2: It has nothing to do with the rest of Australia. Both: Its a Tasmanian issue
30:33		NEWS REPORTER: Parochial is not an ugly word in Tasmania. It's always been us versus the mainlanders.
30:39	Pro Dam protestors carry a banner reading "Tasmania For Tasmanians. Our State Our Vote"	ROBIN GRAY: I see Tasmanian's standing up and saying this is our state, we'll make the decisions. We want these developments to proceed.

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30:49		NEWS REPORTER: The majority of Tasmanian's are lining up behind Robin Gray
30:51	Bob Brown	May 1982
30:55	Geoff Law	Bob Brown stood for parliament and was not elected. I mean this was a huge defeat.
31:02	Tasmanian man interviewed	Bob Brown? Not worth tuppence
31:05	Tasmanian man interviewed	No good. Not worth two bob
31:07	Bob Brown	Robin Gray roared in
31:11	Archive of Robin Gray shaking hands with Tasmanian Governor Sir James Plimsoll	NEWS REPORTER: Dams. This is the issue which brought him to the premiership. This is the issue he hopes will keep him there.
31:19	Bob Brown	The Liberal Party and the Labor Party and the upper house in Tasmania were pro dam. All three newspapers were pro dam. The churches were largely silent, so were the unions, all the big industries. The Prime Minister had said 'No I won't, it's a state issue, go back down there...'
31:36	Archive of Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser	Constitutionally a matter for the states. I believe that there needs to be a sensible balance between the objectives of conservation and other human objectives.
31:51	Bob Brown	We had no political avenue. I had one mother say 'Bob, at this stage you should give up. This is just leading people into a despairing end.' And that worried me, I walked up the again on the mountain and spent a couple of days here thinking about, that you've gotta have a common sense about this.
32:18	Oliver writes in his diary. Archive of Mike Cassidy rock climbing towards a waterfall	VO: Saving the Franklin seemed a near impossible task, but you persevered.
32:30		Oliver VO: I've been in places like this before. You and I did bush walks on cold mountain tops in the pouring rain. But home was never as far away as this.
32:44		Oliver VO: back then you said Mike Cassidy VO: Just think of the stories you'll be able to tell the other kids at school.
32:53		Oliver VO: Am I here just to prove I don't need you?

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33:02		Oliver VO: When I stop and take a breath and settle into the mental calm of calculating the risk in front of me, of testing myself, checking in with how I am being tested. Thats when it feels the most like you are present. I can hear your voice.
33:23		Mike VO: This is good stuff. Character building. It'll put hairs on your chest.
33:37	Newsreader with No Dams graphic behind	Conservationist have been mobilising their now considerable resources with the single aim of saving the Franklin River
33:45	Sam Stark in interview on river edge	We decided to have what we called a blockade.
33:50	Bob Brown	<p>The blockade came at the end of seven years of campaigning. I called everybody together in a room in the Tasmanian Wilderness Society and said we've got to now seriously plan direct action.</p> <p>The logic of nonviolent action is that you can't win against the power of the state. It has the police, it has the army, it has the bulldozers, it has the guns.</p>
34:14	Geoff Law	Marting Luther King, Mahatma Gandhi, they had been the proponents and practitioners of nonviolent action training. We saw that as being absolutely essential when it came to confronting what was inevitably going to be the hostility of those workers on those worksites when we went to disrupt progress on the building of that dam.
34:40	Archive of non violent action trainer	For the blockade we'll probably all be putting ourselves in fairly high risk situations involving arrest and jail and possibly fines.
34:48	Lisa Yeates	All over the country, there were nonviolent training workshops. And people were encouraged to create affinity groups to come already bonded as a group to keep people safe and they had to practice how to make decisions quickly. Role play, so they'd be given a scenario
35:06	Non violent action training archive	<p>Man off camera: Do we lie or sit?</p> <p>Woman: I think we'll be standing.</p> <p>Man: I think kneeling is probably a better way.</p> <p>Person off camera: Well its coming!</p>

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
35:16	Non violent action training archive	Person off camera: Are people happy with this? Person off camera #2: If somebody has a camera..
35:18		Lisa Yeates VO: These dear, intense, well-meaning, motivated, committed people. It was our bodies, that's all we had.
35:28	Non violent action training archive	Trainee protestor singing: "No dams, no dams, no dams we say.
35:32	Lisa Yeates	We already knew how important it was not to introduce violence.
35:42	Oliver portaging high up above the river along a cliff face	Oliver VO: Seven days in and I've broken the halfway point. My knee is still giving me grief. Your voice encourages me forward. Mike Cassidy VO: Come on m'boy. One foot in front of the other.
36:01	Oliver paddling	Oliver VO: The physical challenges are all consuming. I have to remind myself to take in the beauty of this place which moved so many to action.
36:21	Lisa Yeates	The Wilderness Society had envisaged this whole blockade being a water-based action. We realised that we needed to know the lie of the lands, so we sent out scouts.
36:33	Tim Morris	Our job was to do reconnaissance of the transects that were being cut in preparation for the dam. So we went upriver and got to know the area from the river and the land
36:45	Lisa Yeates	So that we could move people on land to different sites where were the workers
36:51	Archive of protestors travelling across Macquarie Harbour on the J-Lee-M	Singing: Just let it be/ Let the Gordon and Franklin wild rivers run free/
36:57	Denison Star cruise boat carrying protestors	NEWS REPORTER: The Wilderness Society has been moving people up the Gordon river for weeks. They kept what the society has called a vigil camp on the river near Butler Island and have been training for months in nonviolent action techniques. In other words they'll be forcing police to deal with limp bodies and at the same time will offer no resistance or aggression

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
37:17	Protestors interviewed	<p>Person #1: We're going on and on with this.</p> <p>Person #2: Its not just one day, no, weeks and weeks and weeks</p> <p>Person #3: Months, years, we've got a lot of</p> <p>Person #4: In this situation the ball is in their court. We're here, we're threatening them, and its up to them now ready to make the next move. We've made our move, we're here.</p>
37:36	Geoff Law	Well the upriver base camp was an extraordinary institution I suppose. It was set in the rainforest on the Gordon river.
37:47	Lisa Yeates	<p>There were issue in the beginning. Surviving. Literally surviving, not dying, not getting hypothermia.</p> <p>Tim Morris VO: It was soggy.</p> <p>Lisa Yeates VO: It was wet.</p> <p>Tim Morris: We had a camp to look after and run, meals to cook. And it just rained and rained. So we put our tents up and put tarps over them and put tarps over them and then put the fire in the middle of all that just to try and stop ourselves from rotting.</p> <p>Lisa Yeates VO: There was sphagnum moss everywhere, everything was dripping with lichen and mosses and the- It just was wet. We were wet. Everything was wet."</p>
38:32	Benny Zable	I didn't notice the the rain or the cold. My focus was in the creation for the blockade. Painting banners, installations. It was busy, that's all I can say, very busy for me.
38:51	Geoff Law	Geoff Law VO: Well the upriver base camp was not threatened by being dammed. It was not part of the country which had been designated Hydro Electric Commission land.
39:12	Map sketching out the territories on the Gordon River	<p>Tim Morris VO: There was enemy territory, there was neutral territory and there was our territory. And then you could run like buggery or you could hide.</p> <p>It was a war without guns. In order to get arrested you had to go into enemy territory.</p>
39:16		Lisa Yeates VO: The major strategy in the beginning was for people to be arrested. The intent being to fill up all the prisons.

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39:22		Tim Morris VO: So my instructions in the morning were 'here's your group that are going get arrested, your job is to make sure you have them at the adit by nine o'clock'. And of course it had to be carefully coordinated with the media. No point getting arrested if there wasn't a camera looking at you.
39:36	Bob Brown	And so the rivers again, through the magic of now colour television could speak to the people of Australia.
39:43	Tim Morris	The first group I took was those three who got arrested on day one.
39:46	Archive of three people sitting on a rock slide with a no dams flag. Same protestors hold a banner which reads "Damn the billion dollar dam"	Person #1: Well we believe that most of the people in Australia support us in believing that this should be a national park, it shouldn't be H.E.C. land. This is the actual dam site. We don't believe there should be a dam here.
40:00		Police officer: You're under arrest, you're under arrest, you're under arrest
40:04	Archive of workers with chainsaws cutting down trees	New reader VO: This is the only nominated world heritage area in any country owned by an authority which wants to flood it, protected by a government which arrests people who go see it.
40:17		News reader VO: Their Tasmanian holiday became an arresting experience
40:23		Bob Brown VO: And so people went to jail in their hundreds. Lisa Yeates VO: The jails literally got clogged up. Canon fodder. Thats what we had
40:33	Bob Brown	Took a lot of courage for those that went there. It's expressing to the rest of the country a strength of feeling which echoed the feeling of many people couldn't get there. People were frightened they were going to lose their jobs, lose their passports. They'd be branded as criminals.

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40:53	Lisa Yeates	<p>These poor souls. By the time they'd flown there, done their four days NVA training, got arrested, taken down the river, go to prison, go through the court case, get their bail conditions, sign off on that and then get back to Hobart to fly back home. They were just eurg about the whole thing.</p> <p>Where as we were at home. That was how attached we became. I mean we were in isolation. We were four hours from the most bottom end of the world. We lived and breathed that place and it's magic imbued us all.</p>
41:34		<p>Oliver VO: I have a sense that this place is crackling and scouring my protective armour ... opening me up, to a light breeze, tender rain, the light.</p> <p>Here, away from the city eyes life is uninterrupted by humanity.</p>
41:57	A leech crosses Oliver's arm	Don't take too much blood little leach
42:00		<p>Oliver VO: The things that mattered, don't. New things inform my sense of self. I am part of an even more complex diversity here. Just one type of being among thousands, together in the same place.</p> <p>Here on the river I am just me.</p>
42:33	Oliver picks up an insect	<p>Hey little guy. How cool are you? I'm a human and my name is Oliver. It's nice to meet you.</p> <p>Would you like to be my river companion. We've got a bit of a journey ahead of us.</p>
43:19	Bob Brown	I called it the Lea Tree. And it was innocently standing there in the forest as a testimony to the ancient living power of those forests.
43:31	Archive of protestors standing around the Lea Tree with Bob Brown describing it.	This tree is twenty-two feet in girth so it's between two, possibly three thousand years old. Maybe the oldest living thing in Australia. It was a fully grown tree at the time of Christ. It really is just amazing. I can't, being right here believe it.

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
43:50	Protestor read's from their diary	<p>So, I'm just trying to write how I feel and what's going on.</p> <p>Camera operator: "Can you read out a bit?"</p> <p>Yeah, um, "today up early 5 o'clock. Left the camp at 6am, to the Butler's Rivulet track. Then to Perch Ponds and an old Huon pine tree down the track towards the river. The Huon pine was wonderful. We stood around in a circle silent for a minute just as the tree had been for thousands of years.</p>
44:22	Bob Brown in archive	<p>It's just such a pity that those people out there in the rest of Australia, we can't press a button and get them to see something like this here.</p> <p>Roger Scholes off camera: I'm doing it now</p>
44:39	Bob Brown	<p>There were quite a lot of pictures taken offend around the lea tree and being arrested and people out in rubber ducks. Great pictures of the Franklin but they weren't world-beating.</p> <p>But we did have a world top wilderness photographer in Peter Dombrovskis. So I went and saw him. And Peter said yes he'd go down and take pictures of the Franklin. He called me up to look at his transparencies coming out of his Hasselblad and there were great pictures of the Great Ravine in particular. Theres a vertical there that would have been fabulous.</p> <p>And then he put up this picture of Rock Island Bend and I jumped up and said "Peter! That's is!</p>
45:23	Aunty Patsy Cameron	<p>When I saw that, I'm going to be put into tears, when I saw that it drew me to that place. I felt like I was there.</p>
45:34		<p>Mike Cassidy VO: came to Rock Island Bend today. An ancient rock sentinel with a commanding presence. We ate our lunch in silence</p>
45:47		<p>Oliver VO: Here on the river where you stood all those years ago I feel the weight of eternity, there is an effortless and commanding grandeur. I've seen the photos, but somehow I am seeing this place for the first time.</p>

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46:08	Kevin Bailey	Back in those days when we was building the Franklin infrastructure Morning Mist certainly pointed out to me the beauty and the tranquillity and that we've got something that we'd never be able to recreate in the river.
46:26	Bob Brown	And that was going to be entirely destroyed by the first dam, the Gordon below Franklin dam. So there it was. The river speaking for itself. And so it did through more than a million reproductions during the Franklin campaign
46:44	Aunty Patsy Cameron	In many lounge rooms around Australia, people could look at that imagine and feel connected to that place. So that is the power of art.
46:54	Bob Brown	Its wonderful at augmenting environmental campaigns and it comes naturally. But the power of artists to embellish it and make it a show really makes a campaign come alive.
47:08	Benny Zable	Its a spiritual quest to me. Our connection with nature has been lost. Work, Consume, Be Silent, Die that I have on my costume actually comes from sacrificing our environment for our creature comforts. I wanted to grab media attention and wake people up to the destruction that being created on this planet.
47:29		Lisa Yeates singing: We are here for the river/ here for the river/ here for the forest/ the place of our birth/ we are here for the children/ we are not an illusion/
47:44	Lisa Yeates	I sang on the river so many times and occasionally it was quiet, and to be able to sing in that place with the most perfect acoustics, it gave me voice. It gave my voice power.
48:03		Oliver singing
48:24		Mike Cassidy VO: The recorder is light and easy to stow. A good fit for trips like this. I can bring to mind a range of songs to play. Paddling today I could hear the river's own music. And it was mesmerising.
48:51	Lisa Yeates	It was the most exquisite experience. I was so empowered when I came away from there, it was frightening. It certainly changed my life.

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49:01	Uncle Jim Everett	I've been through all sorts of life changing places I can tell you, and it's one of them. Until you actually go down it, you don't realise just how beautiful that river is...
49:27	Uncle Jim Everett	When you got down to the end of the Franklin, of course there's all the colour. Big signs up and about the Franklin and the Aboriginal flag flying there and all that sort of thing. It had a lot of people who were part of that campaign from the Aboriginal community, our own campaign for the protection of Aboriginal heritage.
49:50	Bob Brown	Theres just no separation between environmentalism and the indigenous spirit of saving this planet.
50:04		Oliver VO: arriving at this part of the river I knew straight away that the Old People had been here. I felt the pull of the cave. The welcoming of the landscape
50:19		Aunty Patsy VO: When you paddle down that amazing place and you come to Kutikina Cave you're senses will tell you what you should do.
50:31	Uncle Jim Everett	Uncle Jim Everett VO: In the very early 80s when it first was known they were going to do a Gordon below Franklin dam, we immediately were concerned because we knew we had Aboriginal heritage down there. To me it was just a really exciting journey to look at Aboriginal cultural heritage that had been hidden away for so long that nobody had known about it.
50:57	Bob Brown	The Aboriginal people had been the southern most human beings on the planet when they lived in that cave 15 000 years before. And their descendants came back to defend it.
51:12		Uncle Jim VO: The cave is quite cool, but when I walked in it I felt like the whole place warmed up as I was there. Quite an amazing feeling.
51:23		Aunty Patsy VO: it's almost like it embraces you. You feel like part of it. And then to have that other connection, feeling that you are in the presence of the ancestors

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51:34		Uncle Jim VO: So I put my back up against it and I was sitting there with my legs spread out, and then I noticed there was all these stone flakes and I was sitting in a place where an old Aboriginal person, ancestor way back who sat there, chipping away making stone tools.
51:50		Aunty Patsy VO: there is evidence of our people on the floor of that cave, where our people lived for millennia. It's where our people ate and slept and had babies and made love and buried their dead. They are timeless places. Remarkable that they hold the memory of our ancestors.
52:15		Oliver VO: if I understand what Aunty Patsy has told me, Kutikina — the spirit this cave has been named for — protects by scaring you away for places you shouldn't go. So with that in mind, I decided not to invite myself in
52:37		Bob Brown VO: the Aboriginal people, they were taken off to gaol for defending their country, their heritage, their place.
53:00	Machinery ominously being ferried up Macquarie Harbour	
53:12		Geoff Law VO: when that first bulldozer arrived things suddenly got very very serious.
53:16	Benny Zable	That was action stations. That was the critical moment in time for us all up river.
53:22	Tim Morris	The day the dozer came in was the first day that we tried a physical blockade of humans in their duckies floating across the water, tied, so we had a barrier. The determination was so strong. Someone knew that they were going to cop a boat into their duckie.
53:41		Bob Brown VO: don't forget it was wet, it was cold, those waters are dark and deep. And we were facing, all of us, the drama of the bull dozers invading the cathedral
53:54	Benny Zable	I was right in the centre of that line. We were just flesh and bone against these huge engines of metal and steel. It was total chaos. Full speed ahead.
54:11		Lisa Yeates VO: that skipper broke all maritime law

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54:15		Geoff Law VO: the government and the H.E.C. meant business. They were going to do whatever it was going to take to dam that river. If that meant breaking the law, by the authorities and police themselves breaking the law, then they would do it.
54:29		Tim Morris VO: our blockade had been totally breached. The cops just stood there and said "we don't give a shit. We're here to protect the dozer."
54:36		Benny Zable VO: they had no care for us beings, being there, trying to get a message across, 'hey wait! We are about to destroy something sacred! Something important for all of humanity, for all of life on earth.
54:49	Lisa Yeates in tears	That bull dozer landing..
55:06	Super: Voice of Alice Hungerford Upriver Activist	That was the beginning of the real war if you like because suddenly this monstrous machine came and started murdering the forest
55:15	Bob Brown	There were invading this world important wilderness. And we were losing.
55:23	Lisa Yeates	Lisa Yeates VO: That was when we personally lost this magical magical place that was the home of the Lea Tree. Ancient, ancient evolution, was never going to be the same again. And that's why we are crying. And it still makes me cry.
55:45	Aunty Patsy Cameron	Yeah, the land would cry.
55:48	Benny Zable	We stopped in horror. Shock horror. I felt it. In my whole being. It really grieved me. To this day.
55:59	Bob Brown	It was heart wrenching. But it built a defiance into the camp as well.
56:05	Archive of Lisa Yeates	Singing: by the waters, the waters of the Gordon/ we broke down and wept/
56:15	Tim Morris	Tim Morris VO: It actually has the impact to go, 'No. I'm not giving up. I am actually even stronger because of it. You know another tree down, I'm even less inclined to give up and go away."

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
56:27		Mike Cassidy VO: it rained all day today and the river has risen by three metres. Making it far too dangerous to paddle. It's a bit of blow. Fear is now an unwelcome guest in our camp. But we are as committed as ever. We just have to be strategic about this and patient. Now is not the time to be reckless.
56:59	Geoff Law	The campaign was canny enough to realise that that was the moment to galvanise support. David Bellamy a British botanist who ran a very very popular television program about the botanical wonders of the world.
57:19	David Bellamy	...and this rainforest reasserted itself and life round here became just too difficult.
57:26	Bob Brown	So I rang him up and said, "David, could you possibly come down and make an ad for The Wilderness Society." Incredibly he did!
57:35	David Bellamy	I do apologise, I am a pom who is down here poking his nose in. [crowd cheering] The only law that I and you are breaking is a law of convenience set up here by the local government, and I hope by me getting arrested on Monday, that will bring just a little bit attention across the world to what you're doing
57:57	Tim Morris	Our well known artist in residence just pointed at me and said, "You will do,"
58:02	Benny Zable	Yeah I picked him out. I was looking around for who could be the double.
58:06	Tim Morris	And I said "okay, what for?" "Oh, don't worry about that," and pulled out his crayons which he carried everywhere and immediately proceeded to turn me into David Bellamy.
58:16	Benny Zable	Just look there ... that was it!
58:21	Tim Morris	I knew this was going to be an interesting day.
58:25	David Bellamy	Let me introduce another David Bellamy, my look alike twin. Now all you've got to do is learn to talk like me, always use your hands. Okay? He's going to be the decoy when we go it.

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
58:37	Tim Morris	I was out in the water with all the focus deliberately being put on me, and then all of a sudden David Bellamy appears more or less amongst the cops. And they just realised they'd been done over completely, and it was just hilarious.
58:52	Benny Zable	Fun!
58:53	David Bellamy is arrested	Police officer: You are under arrest. David Bellamy: Thank you
58:55	David Bellamy	601 people have been arrested
59:00	News reader	He got to spend his birthday behind bars.
59:03		David Bellamy VO: and was gaoled along with 32 other blockaders who had all trespassed on a World Heritage site.
59:10	Celebrating crowd	Singing: for he's a jolly good greenie, and so say all of us
59:12	Tim Morris	Tim Morris VO: That was probably one of the most successful days in terms of generating publicity. That went world wide and gave us new momentum and really brought a whole lot more people on board.
59:24	Protestor interviews on the street in Paris	We see an area like this area you have in Tasmania which is completely virgin natural land and we are very worried that you are going to destroy it before it can be properly protected.
19:34		News reader VO: and the conservation publicity machine made the most of it all. One of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society's best known members, the electronics millionaire, Dick Smith. He flew in to Strahan with a plane load of interstate journalists and celebrities.
59:52	Dick Smith	I hired this aircraft, I could have hired a jumbo jet and filled it up to bring down here. Now if I was a business man here I'd say, "Crikey, lets develop what we've got"
59:59	Bob Brown	Dick flew a really important communications component from down on the river up on to the mountain top. So that we could relay message to Strahan and to Hobart

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
1:00:13		<p>Dick Smith VO: what Bob didn't realise is that I was a damned inexperienced helicopter pilot in those days. But I couldn't say no, Bob Brown needs you to do a secret mission. I didn't have a winch or a hook on the helicopter. So some very brave intrepid supporters of the campaign - you don't know how close you went to dying - [laughter] sat in the back of the helicopter with the doors off, while I hovered over a mountain peak and we dropped all the radio equipment off. This was cooperation. Everyone was working together. That's what the world could be like, it really opened up my eyes.</p>
1:00:47	Bob Brown	<p>That was a really important contribution. It meant so much to saving the river.</p>
1:00:52	Archive of new radio room at Up River camp	<p>Radio operator: okay I'll pass that message on to the person involved over. Voice through radio: yeah, thanks Peter, echo out.</p>
1:00:58		<p>Dick Smith: it belongs to Australia, in fact it belongs to the world and I believe that if we destroy it now for the sake of 10 or 15 years of power, well we've destroyed it for thousands of years. We can never return it again. Reporter: John, with the greatest respect,, you're blind, what is your interest in preserving this area of South West Tasmania? John: well, I believe that I would like my children to see it in the future, just like all other Australians. And I believe it to be the handiwork of God.</p>
1:01:31		<p>[music playing from cassette] Mike Cassidy VO: after three days our patience was rewarded. The river finally dropped and we've made good progress on serene waters. Tonight we went to an ancient water worn rock and played Beethoven's Emperor Concerto. It was beautiful. Like hearing it for the first time with the river's spectacular acoustics. Afterwards we returned to the fire for a cup of tea and went to bed. I dreamt of walking through the forest.</p>

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
01:02:14		Oliver VO: I followed your ghost here, to the end of the world. Mike and Oliver VO: A mirrored journey, I'm in your wake, the same river, the same blood. Oliver VO: there are parts of me that you never knew, and parts I never knew, although I do now. If you are here, which you are, you can finally meet me. And I know you're here, because our handwriting is the same.
01:03:07		[sounds of machinery and helicopters slowly intrude on the ser
1:03:09		Geoff Law VO: despite all the arrests, Dick Smith and Professor Bellamy, that first bull dozer was followed by a second and then a third, and then by prefabricated buildings. And the scale of destruction increased exponentially
1:03:42		Bob Brown VO: it was shocking to hear the premiere of Tasmania turning down a \$500 million dollar offer by Malcolm Fraser to stop the dam
1:03:52	Woman interviewed	The premier is just crazy, why he doesn't just pick up the cheque and run, I do not know
1:03:57	Premiere Robin Gray	The message is quite clear, our responsibility is to get on with the job of building this dam for Tasmania
1:04:05		Geoff Law VO: The blockade provided this drum beat of defiance, day in day out. More arrests brining this spectacle into people's living rooms.
1:04:18		News reader VO: A carefully staged television, newspaper and radio circus. A protest to save a river in which the protest and its coverage became far more important than the river itself.
1:04:34	Premier Robin Gray	This obstruction, this law breaking group of people, its costing ordinary Tasmanian's \$37 000 a day. And its about time they called it off.

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
1:04:42		<p>News reader VO: about 90% of them have refused the terms of bail which was to promise not to return to the blockade. They're presenting in Hobart's Risdon Gaol and will stay there until they appear in court next week. One of the last to go was the man who's week it had been. Dr Bob Brown, director of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society and architect of the blockade. For the conservationists it had been a week of triumph, they'd made their point in the most conspicuous manner.</p>
1:05:15	Bob Brown	<p>My old dad was a Liberal voter and a police man, and my mother said, "He saw you being arrested on TV, Bob, and he just got up and said 'that's it'". He wrote to Malcolm Fraser and he said 'Dear Prime Minister, I voted Liberal all my life but nobody puts a hand on a son of mine. I won't be voting for you," and signed it Jack Brown and off it went to Canberra.</p> <p>And I'm in gaol, really aware of the pressure this is putting on him and my mum and everybody else.</p>
1:05:53		<p>Mike Cassidy VO: our general mood is somewhat sombre. More punctures. Another rafter told us that Bob has been arrested. Things are getting serious down stream. A helicopter circled overhead this morning. My guess is that they are mapping the position of the rafters up and down the river. Its like a giant game of strategy.. Only a few days til we enter the fray.</p>
1:06:31		<p>[News bulletin music] News reader VO: good evening. And in a sensational day in Australian politics the Prime Minister announces a general election of March 5th</p>
1:06:36	Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser	<p>I recommended to his Excellency that there should be a double dissolution of the parliament. That has been agreed. The election will be on the 5th of March.</p>
1:06:26		<p>New reader VO: the flooding of the Franklin River is being touted by some as not just an issue but <i>the</i> issue. Not the state of the economy, not soaring unemployment, but this: an undeniably beautiful but nevertheless remote, and until now, little known expanse of bush.</p> <p>It's voter's feelings on this we are told will determine who governs Australia.</p>

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
1:07:09	News reader	So conservationists this election are determined to be more than just a voice in the wilderness.
1:07:14		Oliver VO: cooeeee
1:07:23		Bob Brown VO: It was desperate days but
1:07:26	Lisa Yeates	We knew what we were doing, that it was pivotal that Labor got in.
1:07:30	Karen Alexander takes to the podium	At this time, for this election, and on this particular issue to do with the South West wilderness, we would cease to be apolitical, and not support a party, but to move in and say we've got to do it now or we lose that river and that area. [applause] I'd like you to give a very warm welcome to Bob Hawke, who with your help, will be the next Prime Minister of Australia.
1:07:55		Tim Morris VO: having a potential Prime Minister who would be prepared to commit himself over an issue that I'd been involved with in the arse end of Tasmania! You know, these things were quite momentous at a time that you really couldn't see happening today.
1:08:10	Bob Hawke	My friends, thank you very very much for being here in such vast numbers and for the enthusiasm of your welcome. It's great to be here on the platform with such people as Bob Brown, who I say to you unequivocally, I regard as one of the great Australians. [applause] I put it to you, that if you look at the dam it is at one and the same time an environmental obscenity and an economic absurdity. And it shouldn't proceed on either the grounds of environment or of economics.
1:08:46	Bob Brown	Wow
1:08:49	Benny Zable	That was a great moment for us.
1:08:53	Bob Brown on the podium	A vote for the government is a vote to destroy the Franklin. A vote for the Democrats and the Labor Party is a vote to save it. Its a simples that, and it is a vote that we are hoping will enable to Franklin River to be kept in it's natural state forever. [applause and cheers]

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
1:09:26		Mike Cassidy VO: the river is a living thing in constant motion. Changing, absorbing, shaping the landscape, shaping me. There are moments are moments when I feel entirely at one with the water. Almost as though it were flowing within my own veins. This feeling can lull you into a false sense of security. But a rude awakening is never far away.
1:10:00		Mike Cassidy VO: Today the rapids threw me into a wall of rock and the whole boat flipped in a flash. The water is cold. I feel the river sucking me down. A thought flashes across my mind. Our baby, I want so much to meet them, to know who they are. I decide I'm not going to die. Bang! Out. And floating down stream. Mike and Oliver VO: I live to raft another day.
1:11:01		Geoff Law VO: G-Day was a means of refocusing attention on the rivers and to bring that protest and to bring that protest into people's living rooms in the days just before the federal election of 1983.
1:11:20	Benny Zable	G-Day was to let the world know, we're still here and we're still doing it and we're not going away.
1:11:27	Bob Brown	So we put everything we could into it.
1:11:29	Lisa Yeates	Now that was a great day. There was actions all over the world, all over Australia
1:11:40	City street rally to save the river	News reader VO: it was the biggest show of civil disobedience Australia has ever seen. News reader #2 VO: the march stretched for 8 city blocks and took 25 minutes to pass any one point
1:11:51	Lisa Yeates	We were at war
1:11:53	Benny Zable	In a war zone
1:11:54	Tim Morris	And they're trying to take us out, no doubt about that.
1:12:04	Lisa Yeates	We were in battle. We went to fight, non violently, against the most enormous resources.

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
1:12:136		New reader VO: Green Day became in the early hours of the morning as the protestors hid themselves in the bush waiting to emerge later in the day. Their main target was remote Warner's Landing where the Hydro Electric Commission unloads bull dozers and other heavy machinery for the dam site. After sun up, more conservationist arrived on the river in craft ranging from inflatable rafts to cruise boats. And any mid morning the battle was on
1:12:34		Mike VO: finally we'd arrived, unprepared for all this mayhem. A boat took us across to Warners. Noisy whistles, chainsaws, screaming. It was time. Woman screaming: somebody jump in front of the chainsaw! Mike VO: its hard not to feel like you're in a Shakespearean epic, complete with forces of darkness and light. This feels deadly serious. The fate of this place hangs precariously in the balance.
1:13:08		Crowd signing: hear our cry/ don't let the wilderness die
1:13:22		Police loudspeaker: the land you are on is under the control of the Hydro electric Commission, and your presence here makes you trespassers on their land. A representative of the Hydro Electric Commission has requested assistance to remove trespassers on their land. I direct you to leave their land
1:13:49		[Sounds of machinery, loudspeaker, music, signing, clapping, screaming come to a crescendo] Chanting: No more dams! No more dams! No more dams!
1:14:01		Mike Cassidy VO: I walk quickly through the undergrowth. All the noises around me. There was a feeling of expectancy and commitment. It had to be done. I spot a policeman chasing a greenie ten yards away, retreat behind a log, wait. Bang! "You're under arrest"
1:14:18	Bob Brown	Michael Cassidy and people from all over this country were arrested in a huge statement to body politic of Australia
1:14:37		News reader VO: Gaol authorities have run out of beds and uniforms and many of the greenies are sleeping on mattresses on the floor.

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1:14:42	Benny Zable	The G-Day campaign was very successful in getting attention, media attention.
1:14:50		Upriver camp resident: there's a few of us staying along here. We're clearing out all the visible parts and maintaining a vigil camp now. We've got a media blackout on at the moment so there's not much use doing any actions with the election coming up on Saturday. We've probably achieved what we set out to achieve.
1:15:07		Mike Cassidy VO: mission accomplished. After a stomach-churning boat trip to Strahan and an even worse trip in the back of a packed paddy wagon to Queenstown, we were thrown into a cell. Cold and pretty bleak but the sound of the rain on the tin roof is comforting. Court tomorrow and then home at last. A happily convicted criminal. Only one regret, didn't make it as far as the Lea Tree.
1:15:47		Oliver VO: its a relief to have finally made it through the most challenging sections of the river. And now I'm oscillating between the desire to stay here forever and the desire to be home and done. The river is never the same twice, and for that reason the parts that make it fearful are always changing. Which has reminded me, it's that fear that tells you what's important. There is no point desperately holding on to what you know because what you know will change. So you may as well face the fear, and do it anyway.
1:16:39		Mike Cassidy whispers: I love you
1:16:49	Election tally room commentator	Well, welcome to the national tally room in Canberra. Things are progressing very interestingly here this evening
1:16:58	Reporter	The faces of Liberal party supporters are getting longer by the minute
1:17:01	Karen Alexander	One way or another, I don't think it matters who gets in, we'll either have to think a lot about what the hell we are doing or we'll be celebrating.
1:17:12	Super: Pro Dam Supporter	We are going to win. Theres not chance of us losing. Off camera: we'll know in a few minutes. So they tell me, yes. Its very unusual that I drink at this hour of the morning, but I've started my celebrations early.

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
1:17:23		News reader VO: Bob Hawke won in a landslide.
1:17:24		[crowd cheers] Tally room commentator: here in the tally room in Canberra.. Crowd chanting: we want Bob! We want Bob!
1:17:34	Super: bullshit	Bullshit
1:17:35		Bob Hawke VO: my government will honour the promises that we have made in respect to Tasmania. The dam will not go ahead.
1:17:43		Geoff Law VO: We were ecstatic about it.
1:17:45		Lisa Yeates VO: it was the biggest relief.
1:17:50	Geoff Law	But, bit by bit the realisation sunk in that this issue had not been resolved.
1:17:57		News reader VO: it was as if the Gordon below Franklin power development had never been stopped.
1:18:00	Robin Gray	We've made up our mind, we're going to get on with the job.
1:18:04	Hydro employee	We are very please to see that the state government has taken the initiative
1:18:16	Hydro CEO	Thats the only authority we need to be able to proceed with the works and so we are proceeding.
1:18:11	Women interviewed	We all voted for the dam, and we don't think they should come over here and say it's not going ahead. It should go ahead.
1:18:17	Bob Brown	Under our constitution the states have the power to dam rivers, but the federal government has the power to protect World Heritage properties
1:18:25	Geoff Law	This was going to have to go to the High Court
1:18:28		Reporter: the High Court has set aside up to 6 days to hear the case before the full bench.
1:18:32	Geoff Law	We had become bystanders in a case that was to be decided on arcane constitutional grounds in the High Court.
1:18:41		News reader VO: to decide whether the areas ecological, archeological and geological features merit protection for future generations.

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1:18:48		Bob Brown: and then the court was on and it was packed.
1:18:53		News reader VO: they started drifting in to the Wilderness Society at around half past nine. Tense and nervous.
1:18:58	Geoff Law	It was just a sense of absolutely sickening anxiety
1:19:03		News reader VO: by ten o'clock they'd gone to the pub and bought two bottles of champaign. No sense wasting the money on more until they were sure. [crowd murmurs in nervous conversation] Then at 10:22am came the news.
1:19:22		News reader over radio: the High Court in Brisbane has ruled that the Gordon below Franklin dam can not be built [Cheers]
1:19:30	Lisa Yeates	Whoo Haaa! Ta-Da! It was mayhem
1:19:33	Bob Brown	And I knew we'd won! It was such a marvellous moment
1:19:36	Tim Morris	That really gave me heart
1:19:38		News reader VO: conservationists are viewing the creation of the wild rivers national park as their first ever victory over the planning proposals of the Hydro Electric Commission. Its also the first the state government of the day has ever overturned the major recommendation of the state's power authority. Singing: let the Gordon and Franklin wild rivers run free Crowd: hip hip, hooray! Hip hip, hooray!
1:20:16	Super: Voice fo Bob Hawke, former Prime Minister of Australia	Bob Hawke VO: no what we are witnessing tonight. What we are celebrating, the dimensions of it should not be forgotten. This was an extraordinary display of citizens taking their concern about an issue as far as they possibly could.
1:20:43	Bob Brown	I felt that maybe Australia here was touching on a new age of environmental common sense. How wrong I was.
1:20:55	Angry dam supporter	Australia is finished. It's not just Tasmania that this decision was important to, it was the whole of Australia. Democracy is now down the drain.
1:12:02	Super: Kevin Bailey, Franklin dam contractor	We was distraught. We did think that there was going to be economic devastation.

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
1:21:08		Reporter: How do you feel? Pub patron: Bloody upset. Pub patron #2: Now I think this is the biggest blunder of the century.
1:21:14		Reporter: Whats going to happen now? Dam supporter: well I think there will be murder in the town tonight
1:21:18	Bob Brown	There was of course anger, and a lot of it engendered by Robin Gray
1:21:23	Robin Gray	Mr Hawke thought that he had an obligation to stop that power scheme down there and he stopped it, against our will and against your will
1:21:32	Bob Brown	In such a case mob actions can get out of hand. A group of men went down and drilled into the Lea Tree and poured diesel in and chain sawed niches around it. Then set that afire.
1:21:49	Super: The Lea Tree, 1983	The grandeur of that great tree and, what it means for we human beings, was destroyed in that moment of absurd vandalism. It was everything that's wrong with our human power to destroy
1:22:30		[sound of a motor starting]
1:22:35	Kevin Bailey	After the dam was closed we found other work with the Hydro. The Hydro moved forward other dams to build. But I think that my relationship to nature has changed quite a lot of the years. Before I thought you just go and build a road, build a dam, and everything will fall back into place. But there's going to be repercussions in other people's life time. Our son, eldest son, said to me 'Dad, if they were going to build the dam now I'd be on the protestors side'.
1:23:24	Super: Voice of Richard Flanagan, Author	How bloody marvellous this is. It's not the new Tasmania, it's the true Tasmania. One of the truly great places on this earth. Here's to all the unsung heroes, the living and the dead. For it was not just a river you saved. Tasmania changed, Australia altered. It liberated me as it liberated so many. It was more than a river then, and it is far more than a river now. It is a vast and ever growing delta of destinies. So when people say it is just a moment in the past, they're wrong. Because the river began to run through all of us. And it continues to flow ever stronger.

TIME CODE	VISION	SOUND
1:24:18	Bob Brown	I was so happy that we human beings, collectively together, nobody can do this on their own, had responded to the call of the wilds.
1:24:31	Aunty Patsy Cameron	It struck me then that, hey, just a small group of people made such a difference
1:24:38	Benny Zable	It's about the epiphany of individuals who want to get it out, you are part of the healing process rather than part of the destructive process.
1:24:46		Bob Brown VO: The Franklin is a sign of optimism for all the other things besetting humanity in the 21st century.
1:25:09		Oliver VO: its taken me seven years to get here. Seven years since you said goodbye, I've arrived at the end of my journey. And yet, it feels just like the beginning.
1:25:28	Bob Brown	Some years after the Lea Tree vandalism I went back there and sought it out. I've had a dread about coming back to that great old tree and seeing what the worst of human nature can do. But there out of the top of it was this live green sprig, still looking out over the river. And I thought, aww that's such endurance, that's such fortitude. Thats defiance. Nature will be there long after we human beings have done our worst. Wont it be great if we do our best and we're there with it.
1:27:03	Super: Michael Cassidy was arrested with 1271 other blockaders.	
1:27:07	Super: Tens of thousands took action across the nation and the world to protect the Franklin	
1:27:12	Super This film is dedicated to them.	