



MICHAEL HARRIS

*Network Television Producer, Interviewer, Photojournalist & Wildlife Specialist
Emmy Award-Winning Documentary Filmmaker & Environmental Advocate
Executive-Level Director & Global Spokesperson for Regional Eco-Tourism Industry
On-Air Wildlife Expert*

SKILLS

Award-Winning Short & Long-Format Writing – Multi-Platform Editing – Network-Level Photographer & Photojournalist – Executive-Level Administration & Management – Global Spokesperson for Causes, Companies & Corporations

EXPERIENCE



Producer, Photojournalist, Digital Journalist & Wildlife Specialist

ABC News (Disney) – *World News Tonight, Good Morning America, 20/20, Nightline* and Other Programs
2002 - Present

Currently ABC News's only Seattle-based producer. Produced & photographed 27 "Weekend Window" & "Weekend Adventure" features for *Good Morning America* between 2002 – 2011, including immersive pieces on great white sharks, grizzly bears, humpback & killer whales, Porcupine caribou & Arctic wolves. Worked out of ABC News Seattle Bureau on newsmagazine and general assignments, specializing in breaking news and disasters. Entrusted by network in our coverage of deadly tornados, wildfires, mudslides, train derailments, etc. & to date 15 mass shootings, including the Las Vegas massacre as part of *20/20's* October 2017 Special Documentary Presentation, "Heartbreak & Heroes."

Other TV & Radio Clients in Past include Seattle-based Producer/Interviewer for MTV News & VH1 (Viacom) – Producer, Photojournalist and Interviewer for CBS News, NBC News, BBC, ITV, ESPN & Other Networks – Award-winning Producer/Writer/Editor for 22 episodes of Discovery series, *Popular Science with Dean Stockwell*



Executive Director

Pacific Whale Watch Association 2011-2017 (*half-time position, with clients allowing priority for ABC News*)

Sole Administrator & Spokesperson for 38 operators in WA & BC conducting over 14,000 trips a year, taking out over a half-million passengers/year & generating an estimated \$200 million USD in annual regional economic impact – up from negative growth in 2010. Total reach of TV, radio & print media for PWWA of **2.4 billion worldwide in 2016 alone.** *Meltwater Group



Producer, Photojournalist, Writer, Editor & Voice Talent

Yahoo! 2009-10

Flown from Seattle to Yahoo!'s global headquarters in Silicon Valley each week (M-W) to produce original content for the company's platforms, which at that time reached an estimated **621 million unique users a month.** Part of a four-person "Digital Media Bureau," with assignments in Taiwan, the Tech Crunch Conference in New York, the Cellular Technology Association (CTIA) Conference in San Francisco & the Country Music Association (CMA) Awards in Nashville. Enterprised groundbreaking content relationship with ABC News, creating, producing, writing, shooting & editing "**Yahoo! Trends With Pamela Woon,**" three-minute segments broadcast every Friday on *ABC World News Now.* By the end of Michael's contract in 2011 "*Yahoo! Trends*" was seen on **383 stations** each week, reaching over **9.2 million people.** *Cision

Past Corporate/Non-Broadcast Clients have included Paul Allen's Experience Music Project (now MoPOP) & Flying Heritage Collection (now The Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum) – Craig McCaw's Keiko Project & OneWorld Challenge – Gates Center for Technology Access (now Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) – Tom Campion & Alaska Wilderness League – David Syre's Trillium Corporation & Lenga Patagonia (Chile/Argentina)

AWARDS & HONORS

Michael has made 31 films in his career, winning a wide range of prestigious industry awards & honors, including **11 Emmy Awards & 45 Nominations in 15 different categories**, from Producer, Photographer, Editor, Writer, Composer to Host; **three International Monitor Awards; three Telly Awards; two Broadcast Design Association Awards; & a CableACE Award Nomination** for "Outstanding Educational or Instructional Special or Series" / Elected to Board of Governors of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Northwest Chapter.



Clinical Legal Education Association Award of Excellence / 2007 Co-Recipient with the Kathy & Steve Berman Environmental Law Clinic at the University of Washington for the National Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) Award of Excellence in a Public Interest Case or Project, in providing legal assistance & help photo-document the successful campaign of 187 tribes in Native Alaska to recover lingering damages from *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. The resulting film was "**THIS IS INDIAN COUNTRY With Billy Frank Jr.: Native Alaska & The Big Spill**," which earned Mr. Frank an Emmy as "Outstanding Host or Moderator."

First network television producer to be invited to shoot on "**The Forbidden Island of Ni'ihau**" in Hawai'i, for ABC News *Good Morning America* / **Produced & Directed Olivia Newton-John** in The Galapagos Islands, **Dan Rather** in Prince William Sound & **Jean-Michel Cousteau** in his first-ever special on killer whales / Exclusive MTV/VH1 interviews including Bob Dylan, Carlos Santana, Kurt Cobain, Pearl Jam, Sir Mix-a-Lot & Soundgarden.



In 2015 branded & launched first-ever twice-daily whale watch service from Seattle market, as Managing Partner with Puget Sound Express Whale Watching. Net profit of \$516,000 in first seven months of operations.

Conservation & Non-Profit Highlights – Producer, Writer & Voice Talent since 2015 for "**The Whale Report**," 60-second radio reports on whale & wildlife news, features & current sightings airing every Thursday during morning drive time on KOMO 1000 Newsradio, Star 101.5 FM & other Sinclair Broadcast Group properties; **Successful litigant in 2004 U.S. District Court** case to get Southern Resident orcas listed under U.S. Endangered Species Act; lead advocate & fundraiser/post-release team for 2002-04 **Springer Project**, the first-ever successful rescue & repatriation of a wild killer whale; **Northwest Spokesperson for Keiko Project** in the last two years of his life (2002-2003); lead advocate & fundraiser in 2002-04 **Luna Project** (orca rescue effort); in 2010 documented & helped stop multi-billion-dollar titanium mining project in the jungles of **Cambodia**; produced 2014's "**KISS THE SKY! The Orca Freedom Concert**," at Seattle's EMP Museum with Heart, Graham Nash, Joan Jett & The Blackhearts & others, raising critical funds for wild orca research & advocacy.

EDUCATION – BS University of Washington, Political Science / International Studies / Politics & Mass Communications - University of California, Irvine, School of Social Studies - Ohio University, Athens, School of Journalism (*Crawford Hall Award for Academic Excellence*)

PERSONAL – Michael is third-generation TV/radio – his mother is the former Barbara Rettig, *Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout*-winner working with CBS in New York when Edward R. Murrow was there, & his father is University of Dayton Hall of Famer & radio "Voice of the Flyers," Chris Harris. He lives in Seattle with his two kids, Vianne (6) & William (9).

REVIEWS and ENDORSEMENTS

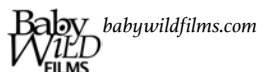
"Always so thorough and smart no matter the assignment." - *Neal Karlinsky, ABC News Correspondent 2000-2017, currently Storyteller for Amazon*

"Michael helped to right the ship with the Pacific Whale Watch Association. Under his leadership and the positive, engaging global media work he did, he really helped turn the industry around in his five years as our Executive Director. Today PWWA is considered a model for sustainable wildlife viewing throughout the world." - *Capt. Dan Kukut, Owner, SpringTide Whale Watch and Eco-Tours*

"Michael has shown great leadership in the Pacific Northwest, particularly as a conservationist and during his tenure directing the whale watch industry. Former Secretary of State Ralph Munro first introduced us during my time as the Commander of the U.S. Navy Region Northwest, and since then we've worked together on a number of promising ideas to mitigate potential impacts to sensitive marine life from military operations. His respectful engagement has already led to several cases where military personnel have stood down and halted exercises with endangered orcas in the area." - *Len Hering, RADM, USN (ret), Executive Director, Center for Sustainable Energy*

"Michael rocks!" – *Ann and Nancy Wilson, Heart*

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Harris_\(producer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Harris_(producer))