

Rivers of Life

the rivers the world calls persons

A group at a turbulent point in their relationships sets out to visit a river the law now calls a person — and returns having learned to speak her language. *Rivers of Life* is a poetic documentary movement that follows the rivers the world has granted legal personhood, one chapter at a time: weaving science, mythology, spirituality, Indigenous wisdom and limnology into a case for a new relationship with the living world.

CHAPTER STATUS

CHAPTER I · COMPLETE

The Magpie River — Muteshekau-Shipu

Quebec, Canada. The first river in Canada granted legal personhood (2021). Feature documentary complete — trailer live. A caravan voyage from Toronto to the Côte-Nord, in reciprocal community with the Innu of Ekuanitshit.

CHAPTER II · IN DEVELOPMENT

The Wabigoon River

Ontario, Canada. A river poisoned by mercury at Grassy Narrows — and a growing legal case for the same rights won by the Magpie. Research complete; production seeking finance.

KEY THEMES

Interconnectedness — humans, nature, rivers

Personhood — rights of nature, in law

Two-Eyed Seeing — science & Indigenous knowing

Limnology — freshwater as relationship

Transformation — the voyage, the self

THE WORLD HAS ALREADY DECIDED — RIVERS GRANTED PERSONHOOD

Whanganui · Aotearoa New Zealand · 2017 — first river on Earth | **Ganga & Yamuna** · India · 2017 | **Atrato** · Colombia · 2016
| **Vilcabamba** · Ecuador · 2011 | **Klamath** · USA · 2019 | **Turag** · Bangladesh · 2019 | **Magpie** · Canada · 2021 — filmed