MARS SEASON TWO PREMIERES NOVEMBER 12 AT 9/8C ON NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

AThe Battle for the AMCICAN



IN THE

WIDE OPEN

PROTECTED SPACES

OF THE

WEST, THE

QUESTION

ENDURES:

WHOSE

LAND IS IT

ANYWAY?

"It is a diverse, iconic, some say spiritual landscape. MATT REDD

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On the Cover

The Nature Conservancy bought Dugout Ranch, the largest private landholding within Utah's Bears Ears National Monument, to keep it from developers. Matt Redd, who directs a Conservancy research center, also tends the ranch's cattle. AARON HUEY

PROOF



A Sun-Powered Sail Into Space

A solar-sail spacecraft, set for a fall launch, is the stuff of astronomers' dreams-and a glimpse of the future. BY BILL NYE

CAPTURED

As the Worm Turns

An intestinal parasite can actually be beneficial.

BY LORI CUTHBERT



Crow Funeral Rites Flu Virus Genetics

EXPLORE



THROUGH THE LENS

When a Friend **Defies Death**

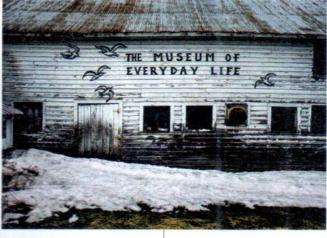
A photographer documents his buddy's ropeless climb of Yosemite's El Capitan. BY PETER GWIN

DECODER

Taking Mars's Pulse Late this month, the Mars lander InSight is set to start gathering data on the red planet. BY JASON TREAT

MARS

The second season of the National Geographic series premieres at 9/8c on November 12.



Uncommon Kingdom

A Vermonter describes the state's northeast corner as a realm apart, a kingdom whose subjects are independent and eccentric. BY ARCHER MAYOR PHOTOGRAPHS BY STÉPHANE LAVOUÉ



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Who gets to choose how the land is used? BY HANNAH NORDHAUS PHOTOGRAPHS BY AARON HUEY

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It's a symbol in debates about land use versus conservation. It's also a bird species in decline. BY HANNAH NORDHAUS PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHARLIE HAMILTON JAMES

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Coming to your table: dishes featuring grass, insects, and algae.
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