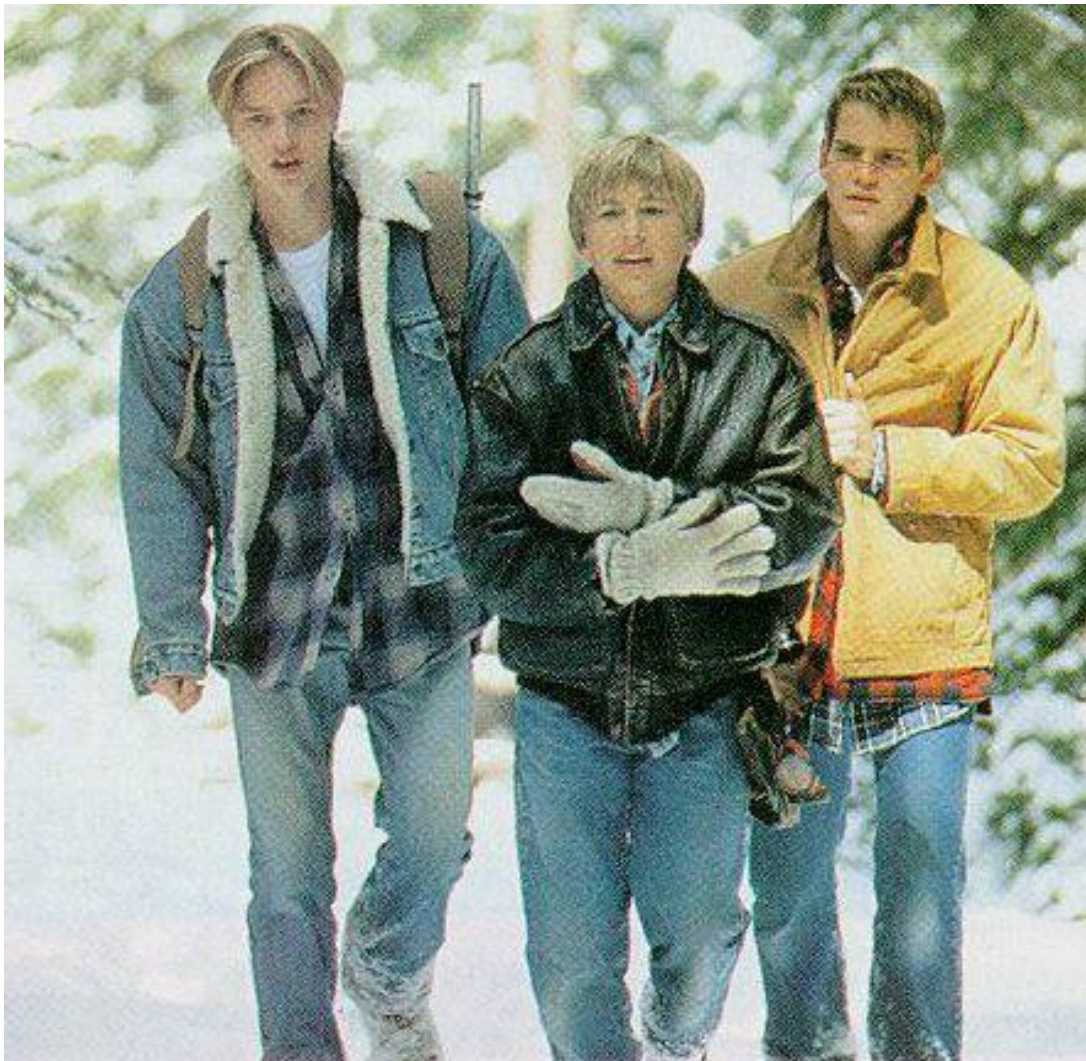


Wild America

US : 1997 : dir. William Dear : : 116 min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Jonathan Taylor Thomas](#)
 Devon Sawa; Scott Bairstow; Frances Fisher; Jamey Sheridan; Tracey Walter; Don Stroud,
 Danny Glover

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	□	≠	Z	⊗	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5452	6	2	9	431	3	-	-	-	-	No	unseen



Source: indeterminate website

Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide
 2001 review:

"Ho-hum based-on-fact account of the three adventurous Stouffer brothers, who trek across America in 1967 to film wild animals in their natural habitats. The clichéd sub-plots do this

one in, but it's harmless enough fare for kids. The eldest brother, Marty Stouffer (Bairstow), grew up to become a noted wildlife documentary film-maker. Danny Glover appears unbilled. Shot in Clairmont-Scope. **"



Period accuracy – a perennial bugbear with American films. The setting here is **1967**, but do those fashions and hairstyles reflect the dress sense of the late 60's? Or the late 90's? And if the film-makers can't even get the **costumes** right for their own very recent past, what hope is there that subtler distinctions of mood and manners will be correctly observed?

Source: indeterminate website



Scott Bairstow does the big brother thing with Jonathon Taylor Thomas

Source: indeterminate website

Radio Times review:

"Teen heart-throbs Devon Sawa and Jonathan Taylor Thomas star in this clunky eco-tale about three children [*whaat??*] who trek across America to photograph their country's fast-disappearing wildlife. This undeniably has its heart in the right place, but director William Dear relies a little too much on a series of obviously staged encounters with overly cute

furry animals. Edited [*sic*] for some of its language, and contains violence. ** "

"Children's adventure, based on a true story, about three Arkansas brothers whose dreams of becoming naturalists lead them to take a trip around America photographing animals in the wild. ** "

No further information currently available. It's not a children's film, of course, it's not about three children either, and Sawa and Thomas are teen **sex symbols** (if anything) and not "heart-throbs". Even the implicit *preserve our native wild species* agenda seems more at home in the 1990s than the period of Woodstock, Watergate and Vietnam. Discarding the usual "based on a true story" twaddle, it seems what we have here is a male "bonding" yarn in the Great Outdoors (males traditionally like to do their bondage outdoors), and as such is a close cousin of "**STAND BY ME**" or the Leif Garrett TV series "**Three for the Road**". The radiant J.T.T., formerly a fashion model, attracted a large fan-base in the sitcom "**Home Improvements**", and was seen (all too briefly) at the end of "**THE ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO**". He also played Tom Sawyer in a dismal and "remodelled for the nineties" Disney version called "**TOM AND HUCK**" (95). His date of birth is not known to me as yet.

See subject index under **ANIMALS, ECOLOGY / ENVIRONMENTALISM, EPIC JOURNEYS** and **ROAD FILMS**.

