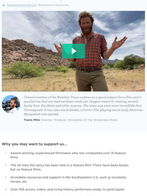
The Wilderness Road

Updated: Jan 2019

A film about one of the bloodiest and most incredible times in American history

Created by Kim Ellis and Jeff Mills



Visceral mastery of the Hatchet Theory makes us so grazed spectors for a film and it is a testament to the power of the story and the skill of the filmmakers to transport us back from the ahistoric and rather anyone. The story was even more incredible that it's integrated. It was also much shorter, a better film playing out in early America. Kentucky Film Critic

Travis Mills, Director, Producer, Storyteller of The Wilderness Road

Why you may want to support us...

- Award-winning, experienced filmmaker who has completed over 15 feature films
- The story to the film has been told in a feature film! There have been book deals and TV series in development
- Incredible resources and support in the Southeastern U.S. such as Hollywood, Tennessee, etc.
- Over 100 actors, riders, and living history performers ready to participate!
- Completion and public release before the end of 2021.

Why Investors ♥ us

Why investors love this opportunity

I am investing in The Wilderness Road to help bring this true story of the Shawnee Brothers, soldiers and fellow of resource creators on the Hatchet Theory to the box (ents) in an audience. Director/Producer Travis Mills is an experienced filmmaker who has made over 15 feature films, including the Emmy Award winning Cherokee Rose. His dedication and professionalism in film making sets him apart from other filmmakers. His ability to find great talent, and his ability to make a film on time and on budget, sets him apart from other filmmakers. This will be my fifth feature film in such with Travis and I look forward to his talents and abilities.

James Barbre
Investor, Producer, Storyteller

Has excellent vocal talent and a strong work ethic.

Teresa Hefley
Vocalist

He is hard worker and has strong passion for production. I'm willing to support him.

Matt Gianello
Investor

Show more

Our team

Meet the people behind this project

Travis Mills
Director / Producer / Storyteller
Over the last 10 years, Mills has produced and directed over Fifteen Feature Films, including all proceed from commedy to drama to documentary. Mills is the Director.

Damian Burks
Producer / Storyteller
Burks has been on the staff of the Dallas, Kill Film Festival as Documentary Coordinator for the past 3 years. Burks is also an Actor and Producer.

Kerry Plantel
Producer / Cinematographer
Cinematographer, DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY, Cherokee Rose (2018), Award winning Cinematography, Cinematography operating Film, Mobile/Handheld, & Steadicam(Steadicam)

Tony Gauch
Key Grip

Joseph Percy
Lighting Tech

William Shannon Williams
Photographer

John Sparks
Historical consultant

Cindi Wilson
Make Up Artist

Jeremy N. Carson
Sound Technician/Editor

In the news

The Hatchet Theory: Hollywood plans to make it Western in next two years
Hollywood producers are in talks to turn the 1-in-3 Hatchet Theory into a movie set in Tennessee's Great Smoky Mountains. Over the last 10 years, Kentucky-born producer Travis Mills has produced and directed over Fifteen Feature Films, including the Emmy Award winning Cherokee Rose.
Herald-Leader, Lexington, Kentucky · Jan 2, 2019

Local Filmmaker Travis Mills brings movie industry to Phoenix
At a small town in Phoenix, Travis Mills, 35, stars in his first television director. He doesn't have air conditioning so TV like this keeps him and his crew from sweating in the Arizona heat.
Herald-Leader, Lexington, Kentucky · Jan 2, 2019

Phoenix Filmmaker Travis Mills Will Graduate
Mills, who has produced and directed over Fifteen Feature Films, will be one of the graduates in front of the Lexington Center, a place you can see the images of his work about Phoenix days, when grabbing film footage.
Herald-Leader, Lexington, Kentucky · Jan 2, 2019

Downloads

Download Video Clip

The Wilderness Road: An Amazing Untold True Story

We are driving down the road to make a Feature length Western Film in 10 months. As of May, I am in relationship with this film is like one. The most ambitious of all Shawn Williams, Cindi Wilson, Jeff Mills, and Kim Ellis. Our mission is to make the ultimate Hatchet Film without using the only crude tools in America.

Even more amazing than the story itself is that it has never been told in a feature length film or television series. Hollywood has made movies about the Hatchet Theory and Kentucky is its ultimate film the first time. Why this and a Western about Daniel Boone's Conduct Scheme? Of all great true pioneers but no one has ever tackled the subject in its entirety. That is until now!

A depiction of the Southern Allegheny Mountains in Kentucky

Reading the history of the Hatfie Brothers and Samuel Mason (the first main characters in our film), it's like reading stories of a Western by Zane Grey. When first researching the tales of these outlaws, I was immediately reminded of Zeniform The Devil's Raiss and other ghastly Grey Western Stories. The reason that I have an on-line account just a Western and the nearly pioneering days of America but also a dark Horror tale about the return of the Hatfie Brothers and Mason. Will Smith or Jeffrey Dean Morgan are as close as we can come to casting an actor for this.

The Wilderness Road follows Boy and Little Bear (who some consider America's first movie Indian) on their roads the law and the power on their trail, robbing and killing through Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi. Meanwhile, Revolutionary War hero Daniel Boone is being hunted by the Hatfie Brothers and Mason for his Conduct Scheme. Along with a series of violent events, these two forces will converge in a brutal battle that put against bad guy. In truth, our movie is now where the villains are the heroes.

Other depictions of the true story, from Lexington's Kentucky Theater

Pre-Production, Casting, and Location Scouting

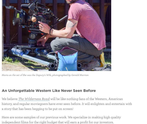
Scheduled for production in October/November of this year, The Wilderness Road is a Western Feature Film set in the Southern Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky and Tennessee. Its audience through Action-Comedy. Character actor Cindi Wilson has signed on to play Sarah Mason.

Cindi Wilson as Sarah Mason, from the Hatfie Challenge

Every week, we are announcing a new cast member for The Wilderness Road as we add the final pieces to our production team. Interested in a cameo or a speaking role? Click here to join our Facebook group for weekly updates!

We are actively location scouting for the film which features historic structures, forest scenes, rivers and caves. One of the highlights of our production process has been the authenticity and autenticiness of the locations we've found. The Wilderness Road will be shot in the Southern Appalachians of the most unique area of the Southeastern United States for these scenes.

Here is a look at our budget breakdown for the production:



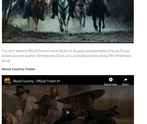
As pre-production continues, we are working hard on everything from cross lines to wardrobe to weapons to set dressing. Our production team is working with the talented cinematography Martin Marshall Mellin in consultancy. The Spotsylvania Armor and has ordered an 18 in numerous projects. Earlier this year, he got his feet wet in the Western world as he worked on the movie Abe and the Vampire Slayer. We are excited to have him back to covers the historicating this world of The Wilderness Road.

Martin on the set of the movie Bigfoot's Wife, photographed by Arnold Harvey

An Unforgettable Western Like Never Seen Before

Will Smith? The Wilderness Road will be the ending day of the Western. American history and regular moviegoers have seen some fashion. It will englishes and westerns with Hatfie that has been begging to be put on screen.

Here are some samples of our previous work. We specialize in making high quality Independent Film for the right budget that will earn a profit for our investors.



A still from Bearwalk Crossing, one of our in Montana, which shows the kinds of scenery Montana and our design we will be using in The Wilderness Road

These stills from Texas Red also one of our in Montana, shows our eye of aesthetic in the Southwestern United States Locations will be a big highlight in The Wilderness Road and the use of skilled riders.

Our story Western Blood Country was a big hit on Amazon and generates revenue for our investors every quarter. We hope to offer you an investment opportunity in our Western. Blood

Blood Country Trailer

Behind the Scenes of our Mississippi Gaming Film

Investor Q&A

What does your company do?

This is a production company responsible for making a new feature film titled The Wilderness Road, a historical adventure and Western. The film follows Samuel Mason and the Hatfie Brothers as they terrorize the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Mason is also chased by the law and vigilante citizens in the form of Boss Lewis Hatfie, leading to vicious confrontations. Our story is part history, part horror, a Western like you has never seen before.

Where will your company be in 5 years?

Our goal is to be a leader in Western film and outdoor or outdoor (sky and you know what I mean) in the Southeastern United States. We are a group of Boss Lewis Hatfie (actual) and so amazing series covering the mysterious history of the Hatfie Clans, a subject where we are the leaders in production and research. We are the experts in the Hatfie Clans and plan series will that multiple narratives could be spun from this material.

Why did you choose this idea?

Shared history of the Hatfie Clans outlaws as a good subject for a film and it yielded no results. Hollywood has made movies about the Hatfie Brothers and Mason, but not a series of movies. The story was even more incredible that it's integrated. It was also much shorter, a better film playing out in early America.

How far along are you? What's your biggest obstacle?

Our production is scheduled for October and December of 2019. We are currently casting and scouting locations. Our biggest obstacle is securing the funds to roll this company out.

Who competes with you? What do you understand that they don't?

You could say that Hollywood and big streaming services (stream) companies will do so twice. Our competitors are Independent Production companies. We understand the logistics and accuracy of our films, made to the place where these stories took place and not with regional actors who provide authenticity to the scenes.

How will you make money?

This film will make revenue through a theatrical run at select theater venues, merchandise sales at those venues, streaming through Amazon and other VOD channels, along with other revenue of distribution. Our previous Western Blood Country has been streamed on Amazon Prime and has earned over $1,000 in revenue. We believe this film will generate a non linear release. Our following and distribution reach has with grown since then. Please remember that any projection is no guarantee of return on investment.

What are the biggest risks? If you fail, what would be the reason? What has to go right for you to succeed?

The biggest risks: 1. To succeed, we have historical characters while creating an entertaining film that audiences who both know about them and don't know about them will enjoy. Securing the authenticity of the period in terms of locations, costumes, weapons, and horses.