

Broadcast

Commissioning News

Tigress set for survival challenge

BY ALEX FARBER

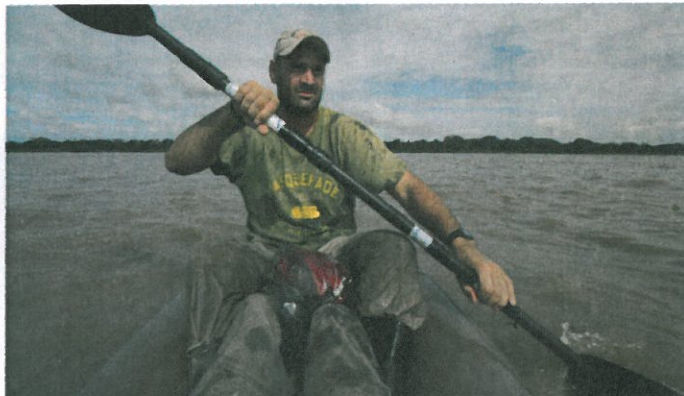
Explorer Ed Stafford is to attempt to stay alive for 60 days on a remote island without supplies in an extreme survival series for Discovery Channel.

Tigress Productions has been commissioned to produce the 3 x 60-minute *Naked And Marooned*, in which the former soldier is dropped from a plane onto a desert island in the South Pacific Ocean without clothes or food.

Stafford, who is currently on the island ahead of a 2013 broadcast, will spend two months self-shooting as he bids to establish a sustainable system in which he can produce food and water.

He will make use of his cameras, as the only resource available to him, for activities such as tracking the movements of predators or measuring tidal patterns.

Survival experts will watch Stafford's exploits remotely and offer analysis as his physical, mental



Stafford: explorer will spend two months marooned on a desert island

and emotional state changes. Context will be added by including interviews with people who have survived similar situations.

Discovery vice-president of production for Western Europe Elizabeth McIntyre, who is executive producing the series, said it was a genuine experiment.

"Seeing if he can survive in a situation like this has been a lifelong dream of Ed's, and it has authen-

ticity because it is in no way a contrived format," she said. "If we turned the cameras off, the talent we work with would still want to do things like this."

The series, which was ordered by head of programming Dan Korn, will also be executive produced by Helen Hawken, with Tigress' Dick Colthurst and Steve Rankin.

Discovery has previously worked with the explorer on Ginger Pro-

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Elizabeth McIntyre, Discovery

ductions' *Walking The Amazon*, which saw him become the first man to travel the entire length of the South American river on foot.

Tigress Productions previously produced Discovery's celebrity survival series *Alone In The Wild*, which saw stars including Freddie Flintoff and Joe Pasquale abandoned in extreme environments.

For full credits of all shows, see



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