

Rob Gowler
Prime Time Emmy award winning Cinematographer
FAA Licensed drone operator
Mountain Guide
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I am not your average cameraman...! My background is different!

I have worked extensively within the adventure TV industry since 2010, originally as additional camera, medic, and safety/rigger. I'm a full-time shooter, producer, drone operator, and Director of Photography with productions such as: *The Eco Challenge* (Amazon Prime/MGM Studios), BBC Worldwide Reality Productions on National Geographic's *Life Below Zero* (LBZ), *The Amazing Race*. In 2019, I filmed a documentary to the top of Mt Everest, with the first female above knee amputee to climb Everest.

On LBZ, we primarily work as a 2-3 person crew in some of the coldest and most remote mountains in the world (-56 Fahrenheit). We film, self-supported, often up to 60+ miles at a time, on foot, snowshoe, snow machine, and boats for weeks at a time. I am one of the only, if not the only, cameramen on the show that can meet the demands of many of the locations/episodes where we film. In 2016 we won an Emmy for outstanding cinematography, in 2017 we won any Emmy for best editing and in 2018, we won another Emmy for outstanding cinematography.

I have worked for networks and production companies shooting, rigging, testing stunts and managing production safety all over the world for companies such as: Amazon, National Geographic, BBC, Discovery Channel, CBS, History Channel, Disney Channel, TNT, Animal Planet, 60 Minutes Sports, MGM Studios, ITV/Left Field Entertainment, Propagate Content, World Race Productions, Four Corners Inc., Global Film Solutions, Light Hearted Entertainment, High Noon Entertainment, Whitecap Alpine, Sharp Entertainment...in places like: Arctic Alaska, Mt McKinley, Nepal (Mount Everest), Hawaii, Central and South America, Mongolia, Bahamas, Caribbean, Fiji, New Zealand, Mexico, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Germany, France, etc...

I am extremely fit and comfortable in any harsh, remote and technically challenging environment. I get great shots and keep up with all production needs. I'm an excellent critical thinker, fast learner, decision maker, and natural leader. I ride mountain bikes and road bikes at a competitive level. I've run over 100 miles in a day (Wasatch 100), and I regularly mountain bike and road bike over 100 miles in a day. I'm a photographer, climber, ultra runner, marathoner, expert navigator, excellent driver (on and off road, left hand and right hand drive, including dirt bikes and motorcycles), excellent swimmer, remote TV/film logistics expert (experienced with remote self supported film projects, helicopter support, small fixed wing plane support, etc), expert in mapping, GPS and other satellite tracking and communication devices, paraglider, surfer, camper, skier, kite surfer. I am at home in the mountains, sky, desert, ocean, surf, rivers, tropics/jungles and the extreme cold and heat. I can go the extra mile, regardless of the terrain.

Fulltime Mountain Guide since 1995 (Jackson Hole Mountain Guides, Alaska Mountaineering School, Telluride Helitrax Heliskiing, World Extreme Ski Championships). I've guided in some of the steepest, coldest, most extreme and remote ranges in the world. I've guided 40+ expeditions to the world's tallest mountains including Mt. Everest. I've guided over 25 expeditions on Denali (Mt. McKinley, 20,320') and over 15 expeditions to South America's tallest mountain (Aconcagua 22,841'). I was part of a team to be the first to ski the 3 tallest mountains in Ecuador. I've free soloed (no rope) some of the hardest rock and ice climbs in the country and skied technical lines where if you fall, you die. I've climbed many iconic mountains such as Mount Everest, Fitzroy, El Capitan, Half Dome, the Moose's Tooth, Ship Rock, etc etc.

TELEVISION CREDITS:

West End Economic Development Corporation, May, 2020 Cinematographer and photographer for a marketing/rebranding campaign for Western Colorado for outdoor recreation

-National Cowboy Poetry Gathering, 2020, Camera Operator, multi-cam live coverage event.

-Icon Health and Fitness, 2019, DP, content for iFit fitness training subscriptions, running

-Life Below Zero, the Next Generation, Director of Photography. February 2020

-Life Below Zero, the Next Generation, Director of Photography. November 2019

-Eco Challenge Fiji 2019, Director of Photography for the embedded camera department (15 camera operators). We were responsible for the majority of the overall story content captured during the race, since we were embedded with and raced with the teams. I was personally embedded with the 1st place team (ranked #1 in the world, we would run for over 50K at a time) for the duration of the race. This type of coverage had never happened before. I was in charge of hiring and training the operators. I was an integral part in putting together the camera equipment (and all equipment) for field teams. I also designed the camera and equipment logistics to support the embedded camera team. I put together a team of such a high athletic caliber and self-reliance that the likes of which had never been assembled before.

-Race to the Center of Earth 2019, National Geographic, Camera operator for a 4-week expedition race across South America...culminating in Hawaii. (running, climbing, boating, biking)

-Icon Health and Fitness, 2019 Solo camera operator, Audio, and Drone op, filming professional athletes mountain biking, trail running and road biking all over the world.

-Mt Everest April/May 2019, High altitude cameraman/Director of photography/guide filming Kirstie Ennis (an above the knee amputee) during her climb to the summit of Mt Everest.

-Life Below Zero, Iditarod sled dog race, March '19, DP/producer and aerial media. We traveled the entire length of the race-course (1000+ miles) on snow machine in winter conditions in Alaska for 2 weeks primarily sleeping in tents and open bivouacs with very little sleep.

-Life Below Zero, The Next Generation, '19, DP and drone-op, 9 sizzle episodes filmed all over the state of Alaska in conditions down to minus 45 Fahrenheit.

-Amazing Race S32, '18, World Race Productions/CBS, shooter/producer, 12 episodes

-Alone Season 6, '18, History Channel, shooter/producer, Northern Canada

-Wolves and Warriors, '18, ITV, Animal Planet, lead on site safety/medic, Drone operator

-Monster Tag, '18 Propagate Content, Discovery channel, 2nd shooter and media manager for a 3-episode *Shark Week* segment in San Diego/Mexico and the Bahamas. We were filming Aaron Rodgers of the Green Bay Packers, Rob Gronkowski of the New England Patriots and Olympic Skier Lindsey Vonn. Shooting on and from boats,

-Service to Summit, '18 Doc with Kirstie Ennis (amputee) attempting to climb Denali (Mt. McKinley 20,320'). I was the sole shooter, producer, director, audio on this 28 day self supported film project. I carried 100% of the camera(s) equipment, media, batteries, stabilizers, solar charging kit, etc. I shot in temps down to -25 deg F on exposed and technical terrain in all kinds of weather! Due to my fitness and experience as a mountain guide, I was able to get shots that no other camera operator would be able to get!

-Life Below Zero, '17/'18 BBC, National Geographic Channel, Season 6, DP/ Emmy Award

-Life Below Zero, '16/'17 BBC, National Geographic Channel, Season 5, Shooter/Producer

-Life Below Zero, '15/'16 BBC, National Geographic Channel, Season 4, Shooter/Producer

-Life Below Zero, BBC, National Geographic Channel, Season 3, Safety

-Alone Season 5, '17, ITV/Lefthand Entertainment/History Channel, I was the sole shooter/producer on a 1-month - 5000km b-roll/drone expedition in Mongolia.

-Darkness, '17 Electus, Discovery Channel, Safety, aerial camera/b-roll ep101, 102, 105

-Service to Summit, '17 documenting a group of female veterans on their quest to climb the highest mountain in North America, Shooter/producer/director/audio/safety etc

-American Tarzan, '16 Sharp Entertainment, Discovery Channel. 5 episodes, safety guide

-Extreme Rock Climbing, '15, 60 Minutes Sports,

-72 hours, '11, Lighthearted Entertainment, TNT, Season 1, 7 episodes

-Sarah Palin Alaska '13 head safety on mountaineering episode.

-Dude you're Screwed, '14 Discovery Channel, head of safety, Season 1

-Eel of Fortune, '14 on-site risk assessment and safety plan for Global Film Solutions.

-Ultimate Survivor '15 Alaska, S2, safety consultant

CERTIFICATIONS AND SKILLS:

FITNESS: I'm constantly in excellent shape! I ride a mountain bike at race pace 5-7 days/week as well as trail/mountain run 5-7 days/week. 50-75+ days of backcountry Skiing per Winter

FAA REMOTE PILOT IN COMMAND: Part 107 certified commercial drone operator

MEDICAL: Wilderness First Responder/C.P.R./Anaphylaxis, since 1992
Advanced course in Mountain Medicine for Mountain Guides, 2013

RESCUE: Rigging for Rescue – Technical rigging, systems analysis, critical thinking
as applied to rope rescue, 2013

-ICS-100 certified (Incident Command System), Emergency Management Institute
(EMI)/F.E.M.A., 2014

HELICOPTER EXPERIENCE: Very Extensive

WATER: Swiftwater rescue since 1994, comfortable in rivers and oceans

OTHER: Bear safety, Avalanche level 3

Personal camera equipment: Z Cam E2-F6 (Full Frame 6K Cinema Camera), A7iii, Canon glass, Sony G-Master lenses, GoPros, Zhiyun Crane 2 (3 axis gimbal, 7lb load), cinema camera slider, glidecam, tripods, motion control, specialty time-lapse equipment, professional audio equipment, Satellite phone, Delorme Inreach, Aviation radio, VHF radios, GPS's, MacBook Pro with Shotgun Pro, Davinci Resolve 16, DJI Phantom 4 Pro + and DJI Mavic Pro 2 drones

Substantial climbing equipment, rescue and first aid equipment
All camping gear, tents, sleeping bags, 12 gauge/44 mag (bear safety)
Packable raft(s) for self supported expeditions and river X'ing, wetsuits, drysuit, PFD's...
Honda EU2000i generator, complete solar/battery kit for remote film projects

References:

Lisa Hennessy, EP Eco Challenge, lisalhennessy@gmail.com

Michael Murray, DP Eco Challenge, Mike.Murray@adrenalinefilms.com

Matt Reccow, freelance TV Producer 949-981-2162, mattreccow@gmail.com

Nicholas Bunker, Supervising story producer, LBZ, nicholasbunker@hotmail.com

Joe Litzinger, Executive Producer, Life below Zero, joelitz@gmail.com

Dan Bree, Co-EP *Alone*, dan@nosh.org

Scott Flavelle, IFMGA, Technical Race Director Eco Challenge scottflavelle@me.com

Lars Andrews, Film safety consultant, (604) 862-9757, lars@whitecapalpine.ca

Bas Pot, safety director, Amazing Race, Eco Challenge, etc baspot@mac.com

Marla Mitchnick, Video Director, TED Talks/National Cowboy Poetry Gathering
mitchnickpictures@gmail.com

Testimonials:

“As a star of the Emmy award winning National Geographic series *Life Below Zero* I've had the privilege of working with a number of elite cameramen from around the world over the past 5 years. Rob Gowler stands out as exceptional among them. His abilities as a cameraman combined with a truly amazing level of physical fitness and stamina have made him indispensable when covering the most challenging stories in the remote wilderness of arctic Alaska. Rob is able to film while carrying a heavily loaded pack over difficult terrain, covering long distances at a pace that never slows me down. This allows us to operate more efficiently, with less outside support, than would otherwise be possible. Rob also possesses a wide range of invaluable skills and expertise from logistical organization to wilderness survival and safety in the harshest of environments. His very positive attitude and willingness to go the extra mile and do whatever is needed are appreciated by all who work with him. Whether the story involves climbing a high peak, crossing a swollen river, or trekking for days across trackless wilderness, Rob Gowler is a cameraman that I know I can count on being up to the task.” - Glenn Villeneuve, *Life Below Zero*

Whether it is 60 degrees above zero or 60 degrees below zero, Rob is the man you want working with you. He is very professional and creative even in the toughest conditions. He offers high quality shots and has a keen eye for framing. Match this with his vast experience as a mountain guide and endurance athlete and you have the perfect hybrid for all filming situations. It is quite impressive to see how much weight he carries in difficult terrain and never gets slowed down, this helps our production efficiency more than most people could ever imagine. All of the things that Rob does behind the scenes with a camera and remote production logistics are invaluable! - Simeon Houtman, Director of Photography

-Here is a note from an editor of *Life Below Zero* about an episode (sheep hunt) where I was the sole shooter/producer. We travelled 15-20 miles per day in the steep snowy Alaska mountains carrying a 50+ pound pack.

“I'm still watching it all, but this footage is incredible! Who shot this? I hate to oversell the story because I'm still early in the process, but damn does it look cool and dramatic. If this story ends up sucking it will probably be my fault.” – Emmy award winning LBZ editor

[Here's an example of an episode that I shot and produced 100% solo.](https://www.dropbox.com/s/ju4gan74on3ld32/0321_LBZ_516_Chandalar.mov?dl=0)

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[Here's an example of an episode that I co-DP'd and produced.](https://www.dropbox.com/s/z0z7r5bbt0n80po/0713_LBZ_610_IDITAROD_CONTENT.mov?dl=0)

https://www.dropbox.com/s/z0z7r5bbt0n80po/0713_LBZ_610_IDITAROD_CONTENT.mov?dl=0

[Trailer for Everest Film:](https://www.dropbox.com/s/6f1zz6dbv3vnwjb/OnSuffering_Trailer_COLORv2_SCORE_v2_MIX_02.mp4?dl=0)

https://www.dropbox.com/s/6f1zz6dbv3vnwjb/OnSuffering_Trailer_COLORv2_SCORE_v2_MIX_02.mp4?dl=0

The majority of the content that I produce is owned by major Television Networks and I do not have access to it.