

## Wildcat Falls Community Forest Updates    June 15, 2021

The 160-acre public treasure near Watersmeet Michigan, named Wildcat Falls Community Forest has only had permanent protection under the USFS Community Forest Program for a mere eight and a half months, and is already being expanded.

The Northwoods Alliance Inc. is the non-profit conservation group to have undertaken a forty-acre expansion of the 160-acre community forest to provide further public access and protect the water quality flowing to the waterfall. This expansion required yet another round of fundraising and the support of the community has been instrumental to achieve this goal. “Without the luxury of time to apply for another USFS Community Forest grant, we reached out to the community for support in achieving the required funds. The large donations of a few generous individuals started the off the fund-raising effort, but in the end over three dozen individuals contributed to making this acquisition a reality. We are very grateful to all current and past contributors who made this special place available to future generations” were the words from Northwoods Alliance president Casey Clark.

Following the creation of the Wildcat Falls Community Forest near Watersmeet Michigan in September of 2020, the Northwoods Alliance has been active in protecting the future for this public educational forest. The organization has established an endowment fund with the Community Foundation of the Upper Peninsula, has completed the community forest management plan, and is currently making signage to assist visitors.

You can see more about visiting Wildcat Falls and experiencing the splendor of nature at its best; with old growth trees, waterfalls, rock outcrops and rare flora and fauna at [www.northwoodalliance.org](http://www.northwoodalliance.org) For further information on this project or Northwoods Alliance and their mission of conserving native habitat please call 715-479-8528 or email [nwa@nnex.net](mailto:nwa@nnex.net).

The Wildcat Falls Community Forest was created with widespread community support and a grant from the USFS Community Forest & Open Space Conservation Program. The forest is managed by Northwoods Alliance Inc. and community partners.