

WHEREAS; located outside of Ontario in Vernon County, Wildcat Mountain State Park is a 3,643-acre state property that began as a 20-acre tract donated by Amos Theodore Saunders and became a state park in 1948; and

WHEREAS; found within Wildcat Mountain State Park are the Kickapoo River, Billings Creek, and Cheyenne Creek, which travel through steep-sided valleys made from Cambrian sandstone capped by dolomite; and

WHEREAS; the valleys, hills, and woods encapsulating Wildcat Mountain State Park include very rare and unique plants, such as the walking fern, found on the exposed bluffs observed only by river and provide an image of pre-Ice Age landscape; and

WHEREAS; Wildcat Mountain State Park includes Mt. Pisgah Hemlock-Hardwood State Natural Area, designated as a state natural area in 1952 for its native large pine and hemlock trees that were never grazed or harvested; and

WHEREAS; in addition to native plants, the park is a Watchable Wildlife site and is home to numerous mammals, birds, and reptiles, as well as picturesque and iconic views of the Kickapoo Valley from overlook and observation points that leave visitors breathless; and

WHEREAS; since the park's establishment, it has been used for picnicking, hiking, horseback riding, camping, birding, cross-country skiing, and paddling, and caretakers of Wildcat Mountain State Park seek to balance resource protection, recreation, history, interpretive opportunities, and careful development and preservation; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin celebrates the 75th anniversary of Wildcat Mountain State Park and its natural, geological, recreational, and economic significance to the people of Wisconsin and the beauty of the Kickapoo Valley;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 16 2023 as

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WILDCAT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 5th day of September 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State