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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Leaf Peeping becomes magical this weekend in the mountains
Wild Bear Nature Center's 17th Annual Enchanted Forest**

NEDERLAND, CO (September 18, 2017): The mountains of Nederland will be especially filled with magic and wonder on Saturday, September 23rd at the 17th Annual Enchanted Forest, where creatures of the forest tell stories on the trail and give goodies to all who visit. Mountain leaf peepers are in for a real treat this weekend as the aspens transform and Wild Bear Nature Center celebrates the Autumnal Equinox in an extraordinary way.

The Enchanted Forest will take place this year at Wild Bear Nature Center in Downtown Nederland. Take a tour on the creek trail and meet friendly animals (actors in hand-crafted costumes) who will talk to you about their lives in the forest and fill your goody bag with special gifts. Meet magical fairies and pixies, get your face painted and create your own costume and crafts. Listen for the bugling elk and take part in the festivities, including the bluegrass pick and community bake sale. The last tour will take place at 5pm when you can enjoy a magnificent performance in Wild Bear's Eco-Arts Lounge by professional magician Doc Murdock.

"This is one of our favorite times of year in our community as we acknowledge the mystery of nature's transitions," says Executive Director Jill Dreves. "Enchanted Forest celebrates the wildlife who are preparing for the long, harsh mountain winter. It's magical."

Ride the bus, walk, run, ride your bike or carpool to Wild Bear Nature Center, the only all ages non-profit nature center in Boulder County, open 7 days a week to the public.

Previous years' Enchanted Forests occurred on Wild Bear's property within Mud Lake Open Space. The organization is currently in the midst of swapping its five acres at Mud Lake, which experienced a sink hole, in exchange for a buildable site for the development of the permanent nature center facility. This year, Enchanted Forest will take place from Wild Bear Nature Center in downtown Nederland.

All proceeds support Wild Bear's mission—fostering a life-long appreciation of the environment and promoting an environmentally aware, responsible and ecologically sound

community. For more information about Wild Bear and the Enchanted Forest or to purchase tickets see www.wildbear.org.

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