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February 9, 2023

Kayla Wiedau
United States Forest Service
Mark Twain National Forest
108 South Sam Houston Boulevard
Houston, MO 65483

Re: Corn Creek

Ms. Kayla Wiedau:

The Cherokee Nation (Nation) is in receipt of your correspondence about the proposed **Corn Creek** project, and appreciates the opportunity to provide comment upon this project. Please allow this letter to serve as the Nation's interest in acting as a consulting party to this proposed project.

The Nation maintains databases and records of cultural, historic, and pre-historic resources in this area. Our Historic Preservation Office (Office) reviewed this project, cross referenced the project's legal description against our information, and found instances where this project intersects or adjoins such resources, including the CHEROKEE TRAIL OF TEARS. Thus, the Nation recommends that a cultural resources survey is conducted for this project, and requests a copy of the related report. The Nation requires that cultural resources survey personnel and reports meet the Secretary of the Interior's standards and guidelines.

However, the Nation requests that the United States Forest Service (USFS) halt all survey activities immediately and re-contact our Office for further consultation if items of cultural significance are discovered during the course of this survey. Additionally, the Nation requests that the USFS conduct appropriate inquiries with other pertinent Historic Preservation Offices regarding historic and prehistoric resources not included in the Nation's databases or records.

If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at your convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Wado,

Elizabeth Toombs, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Cherokee Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office
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