



**Sarah Huckabee Sanders**  
Governor  
**Shea Lewis**  
Secretary

July 26, 2024

Mena/Oden Ranger District  
Atten: Mena Trails  
1603 Hwy 71  
North Mena Arkansas 71935

Re: Polk County: City of Mena/Queen Wilhelmina State Park – Trails at Mena Project EA

To Mena/Oden District Ranger:

I am writing in support of the Trails at Mena #63649 Special Use Permit (EA). This undertaking involves Forest Service lands in Mena Arkansas between Queen Wilhelmina State Park and Ward Lake.

The potential impact of this project is significant for outdoor recreation in Arkansas. Outdoor recreation is a significant driver of tourism which fosters economic development for not only the region around Mena, but for the entire state. This undertaking will also be an outward and visible representation of the state's commitment to foster a healthy Arkansas for everyone.

This undertaking will most likely require a Section 106 review from our staff. I have already briefed them about this project, and they are ready to begin once we officially receive the notice.

Mena is already well on its way to becoming a new destination point; I know the addition of new trails will be visited by national and international enthusiasts. I think the timing is right to bring this project to fruition to put Mena on the map as a must-see destination point.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Kaufman".

Scott Kaufman  
Director Arkansas Historic Preservation Program &  
State Historic Preservation Officer for Arkansas (SHPO)