



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

July 26, 2024

Dan Olsen Forest Supervisor, Ouachita National Forest  
c/o: Mena/Oden District Ranger  
Attention: Mena Trails  
1603 Hwy 71 North Mena, AR 71935

Dear Mr. Olson,

As the Director of the Arkansas Heritage Division of the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism, I would like to extend our support to 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.

These proposed trails promise to be a major addition to promoting Arkansas as a major tourist destination, while protecting, and respecting our environment and natural outdoor beauty.

At Arkansas Heritage we manage over 74,000 acres in 79 natural areas around the state that protect many plant, animal, aquatic and other endangered species. All of our areas have public access and are open for public use. We always ensure that a balance is maintained between recreation and protecting our environment. In addition to Arkansas Natural Heritage, we house Section 106 and the State Historic Preservation Office. Our duty is to ensure that our states cultural, natural and historic fibers remain intact. We are fully confident in this proposed plan for the Mena Trails, that it will meet any standards we would have in place in our natural areas and will be of tremendous value to the many visitors it promises to attract. Visitors that in turn will have great appreciation for the places we protect.

Please add my name to the long list of enthusiastic supporters of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Ryall", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Marty Ryall  
Director, Division of Arkansas Heritage