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Comments: This letter is in response to your correspondence dated April 13, 2021, regarding the Fishlake National Forest proposed Forest-Wide Prescribed Fire restoration Project. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office appreciates the Fishlake National Forest's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties, and we consider the archaeological sites of our ancestors to be "footprints" and Traditional Cultural Properties.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office requests consultation on any proposal on the Forest with the potential to adversely affect prehistoric cultural resources. We have reviewed the enclosed Proposed Action for Scoping and note the pre-implementation steps for cultural resources. If cultural resource surveys of the areas of potential effect identify prehistoric sites that may be adversely affected by project activities, please provide with copies of the cultural resources survey report and any proposed treatment plans for review and comment.

In addition, we recommend that if any cultural features or deposits are encountered during project activities, these activities must be discontinued in the immediate area of the remains, and the State Historic Preservation office must be consulted to evaluate their nature and significance, and if any Native immediately reports as required by law.