

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/18/2024 6:00:00 AM

First name: Anon

Last name: Anon

Organization: The Chickasaw Nation Historic Preservation Division

Title:

Comments: Dear Mr. Christy:

Thank you for the email notification, letter, and Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Blanchard Springs Caverns Facility Renovation Project (PALS#58732) in the Sylamore Ranger District of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest. We understand a Memorandum of Agreement is still in progress and you are providing the draft EA which was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to see if we have any concerns or comments regarding the effects of the project on resources not covered by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Section 106 process. The Chickasaw Nation Historic Preservation Division does not complete reviews under NEPA; our office does complete reviews under NHPA. However, this specific project is outside of our area of interest. Therefore, we do not request government-to-government consultation on this project. While the Chickasaw Nation has no objection to the undertaking, we respectfully defer to the federally recognized First American tribe(s) that have identified a connection to the project area. We appreciate your efforts to preserve and protect significant historic properties.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Karen Brunso, tribal historic preservation officer by email

Sincerely,

Kirk Perry, Executive Officer Division of Historic Preservation