

**CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA****Date:** _____**RESOLUTION NO. _____ (2016)**

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Regional Office Branch of Forestry and Wildland Fire Management has provided funding to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) to cover the cost of the revision of the EBCI's Forest Management Plan (FMP); and

WHEREAS, it is a federal requirement for tribal trust lands to conduct all timber management and harvesting activities under an approved FMP (CFR 163.11); and

WHEREAS, the EBCI is in the process of revising the most recently approved FMP which was scheduled to expire on December 31st, 2015; and

WHEREAS, input from tribal leadership, including but not limited to the Timber and Natural Resource Committee, and the community is still needed to complete the revision process

WHEREAS, The EBCI's Office of Environment and Natural Resources is requesting an additional 6 month time extension on the EBCI FMP to allow enough time to collect stakeholder input and complete the FMP's revision and approval process.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians assembled, at which a quorum is present, that the Tribal Council approves extending the FMP's operational period an additional 6 months and setting a new expiration date of June 30th, 2016 thus allowing adequate time to complete the revision and approval of the EBCI's FMP

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution shall become effective upon ratification by the Principal Chief

Submitted by EBCI Office of Environment and Natural Resources