From:	Ray
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject:	Upper Chattooga Boating Ban
Date:	08/15/2008 07:32 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my belief that the national forests of this country are a treasure for everyone to be able to enjoy. This is especially true when the forests provide for a recreational opprotunity, such as kayaking, that strengthens one's appreciation and bond for nature.

I understand that some may be concerned with the impact on the environment due to the presence of kayaking. Those who are concerned are not familiar with kayaking and its true principles. Kayakers are some of the best stewards of the land you will ever find. We dislike the negative impact on the rivers of this country as much as anyone else. The advanced kayakers who would use this section of river are not rafters or once a year river vistors. They are lovers of the water and just wish to appreciate the Chattooga, the whole Chattooga. One must also consider that the presence of kayakers would be somewhat limited, as this upper section is heavily rain dependent. Surely everyone could come together and share this section of river the handful of days in the year when it is runnable.

I ask you to please reconsider the boating ban on the upper Chattooga. It is too much of a national treasure to not be fully utilized.

Sincerely,

Raymond Brugger