From:	Hughett Aviation, LLC
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject:	Chattoga Headwaters Comments
Date:	08/17/2008 10:48 PM

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my comments on the Chattooga Headwater issues. I am an aviation professional in Knoxville, Tennessee who operates two flight schools and an aircraft brokering company. When I am not working, I am in the woods whitewater kayaking enjoying the time I have in the wilderness. Like most that participate in all forms of recreation in the woods, I kayak to get away from the busy life of cities.

As a whitewater kayaker, I am concerned about the path that the forestry service is proposing to manage the Chattooga Headwaters. I feel the proposal is very bias and only proposes restrictions for boaters and no one else. In a country of so many opportunities, that angers me to think that I, as a whitewater boater, am being discriminated against.

The proposal suggested by the forestry service also includes proposed water level or flow restrictions for boaters that are unreasonable. As a weekend boater, it will be difficult for me to get the opportunity to paddle since the flow will be estimated in the future. That is many times impossible to forecast. The proposal also included provisions to only allow boating on a small section of the headwaters. Again that is discrimination against boaters.

I urge you to reconsider the proposal to be more like alternative 8 which allows unrestricted boating on the headwaters like the fisherman and other recreation users have unrestricted access. And remember, if you're going to restrict boater participant numbers, you must restrict fisherman participant numbers and other participants.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my comments with you. I hope to paddle the Chattooga Headwaters soon.

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