From:	Garth Brown
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us; akimbell@fs.fed.us
Subject:	Support for Boating in the Chattooga Headwaters
Date:	08/15/2008 09:51 AM

I would like to see the arbitrary boating ban the Chattooga headwaters overturned for several reasons, which I have outlined below.

- Alternative 4 limits no group other than boaters
- The headwaters is only boatable when the water levels are high, which means it is bad for fishing and the encounters will not happen
- This is an extremely technical section of rivers, so it will only be accessed by the highest level of boaters and will not become highly used like section II, III, or IV
- Reading comments by the fisherman, they tend to make no distinction between kayakers, tubers, and rafters
- On the water, kayaking has ZERO impact on the environment. Trash and litter problems are generally caused by locals who often are not concerned with the environment
- Fishermen have the stronger lobby, which is able to blame kayakers for every problem on the river and keep kayakers from enjoying public land
- With such an arbitrary decision, will fisherman then be able to stop all boating on public land?

For me, I will never boat such a hard area, but I have enjoyed hiking into this pristine area. I do not like the though of having one group with zero impact kept from using the national forests, where other groups, such as hunter & fishermen have no limitations.

Thank you,
Garth Brown

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Garth Brown