From:	Ellis Cucksey
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject:	Chattooga River Access comment
Date:	08/18/2008 06:54 PM

August 18, 2008

RE: Chattooga River Project Comments

Dear Sumter National Forest,

I am an outdoor enthusiast from Idaho, and have been made aware of the ongoing and baseless exclusion of whitewater kayakers and canoeists from the Wild and Scenic upper reaches of the Chattooga River. I am writing this short letter to voice my displeasure with this situation. You are allowing certain user groups unlimited access to this public area while banning other, equally deserving user groups. This is useless, wasteful policy, and sets a precedent that I fear one day may affect river and wilderness access in my own state in the near future.

I do not support any USFS management decision that includes any inequitable access restrictions to non-motorized boaters. Hikers, boaters and anglers should all be allowed the same standards of access on Forest Service land, and each group should be expected to respect the rights of each other group to enjoy these public areas. Boaters should be allowed access in a similar manner to your alternative number 8, except on the *entire* Upper Chattooga River and its tributaries.

Thank you,
Ellis Cucksey
Moscow, ID