From:	Douglas Liu - QIAGEN
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject:	Chattooga River Project Comments
Date:	07/14/2008 01:24 PM

Dear Sumter National Forest

I am a business executive living in Bethesda, MD working in the biotechnology field. I am also an avid outdoorsmen who enjoys hiking, fishing, camping and boating. I am deeply concerned about how our countries beautiful natural resources are used and maintained for current and future generations. I have visited the Sumter National Forest on several occasions an enjoy its scenic beauty as well as the unique river actives. I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) regarding the recreational management of the Chattooga River. I disagree with your analysis and your proposal. Both treat me and my community of river enthusiasts unfairly and your proposal would not meet my interests. Please consider the following concerns I have regarding this issue:

- The EA offers no basis for the boating bans and limits.
- The EA and preferred alternative are not equitable or protective of the river because they considers boating to be the only management variable, while other larger more impactful uses are not seriously considered for limits.
- The public should have the right to float on public Wild and Scenic Rivers regardless of who owns the land along the river.
- All aspects of the “Outstanding Remarkable Values” of Wild and Scenic Rivers should be protected on the entire river, not just in some areas

Thank you for considering these comments. Please consider conducting a real user capacity analysis and immediately allowing boating in the same numbers, places, and seasons that you allow existing users. Paddling should be allowed in a similar manner to your alternative number 8, except on the *entire* Upper Chattooga River and its tributaries.

Sincerely,

Douglas Liu
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Member of the Executive Committee
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