From: Andrew Welch
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject: Chattooga River Project Comments
Date: 07/11/2008 05:14 PM

U.S. Forest Service
Chattooga River Project
4931 Broad River Road]
Columbia, SC 29212

July 11, 2008

RE: Chattooga River Environmental Assessment Comments

Dear Sumter National Forest:

I am an outdoors enthusiast from Dahlonega, GA. This project concerns me as a whitewater enthusiast. I feel that your proposed management plan discriminates unjustly against National Forest users which would choose to appreciate the river's excellent whitewater opportunities. After reviewing the proposed recreational management plan of the Headwaters of the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River I have the following comments:

- This plan does not "regulate" several more environmentally stressful recreational user groups nearly as much as boating.
- There seems no scientific reason to "regulate" boating so heavily. The river conditions will keep boating to an environmentally sustainable level.
- The Environmental Assessment offered as evidence for the need of these measures does not seem to corroborate this need.

I prefer an alternative management plan which allows floating the upper reaches of the Chattooga with limitations similar to those placed on the fishing and hiking user groups. Please use responsible, fair, and scientific reason to manage this wonderful resource so that everyone can enjoy and

help to preserve it.

Thank you for your time in considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Andrew Welch
34 Woods Drive
Dahlonega, GA 30533