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Subject:	Alternative #4 preferred
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Esteemed Forest Service Officials: July 16, 2008

I want to thank the Forest Service for designing the preferred alternative (#4) with zoning stipulations to minimize conflict between anglers and boaters, avoiding the overuse and user conflicts that have plagued the lower Chattooga for decades.

> Zoning is a time tested, fair, and legal land and water management practice.

> Zoning of conflicting activities is good stewardship.

The preferred alternative (#4): Allows boating from December 1 through March 1 from County Line Trail Road in NC to Burrell's Ford Bridge on days when the mean daily flow is 450 cfs or more as measured by the Burrell's Ford gauge.

> Will limit camping and parking, which are needed to protect and enhance the biophysical riparian resources for future generations.

> Will enhance water quality by reducing erosion and sedimentation from visitor overuse and abuse.

> Prohibits the removal of large woody debris to accommodate boating. Large woody debris (LWD) has incredible ecological importance in river systems.

> Provides protection and enhancement of the aesthetic values of the upper Chattooga such as remoteness and wildness.

> Prevents in-stream conflict and interference in the Rock Gorge segment, which will protect and actually enhance its backcountry values of solitude and remoteness for present and future generations as required by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act:

> Prevents in-stream conflict and interference in the popular Delayed Harvest segment, which will preserve economic value. DH regulations attract more specialized trout anglers coming from hundreds of miles away.

> Will enhance the quality of experience for all visitors and protects riparian resources.

> Has the proper regard for the rights of others to solitude.

> Preserves backcountry values intact for future generations.

> Is a compromise that is fair to all stakeholders.

Zoning ensures that different and conflicting types of users are physically separated and that as population increases with the inevitable problem of over-use, this area will be protected and its aesthetic values enhanced. Human beings will increasingly need this as we increasingly live closer together in stifling cities everywhere.

Thank you for the opportunity to give input on these important matters.

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