From: ian.foley@shell.com
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject: Chattooga Boating Restrictions
Date: 07/17/2008 10:57 AM

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my complete disagreement with Alternative 4 and the recent analysis that the Forest Service has performed on the Chattooga River. The alternative limits one user group, boaters, but allows other user groups access. This is unfair and discriminatory and there is not basis or justification for this. There is no user capacity analysis that demonstrates a negative impact that boaters would have. In essence the government is refusing access to public lands to a group of users who have every right to be there.

Kayaking is a popular and low impact way for enthusiasts to enjoy our nations most beautiful scenery. Kayaking is also an olympic sport and is practiced worldwide. Kayaking is a well recognized activity on many of the nations most famous and most protected waterways including the colorado river though the grand canyon, the middle fork of the salmon river in a large wilderness section of Idaho and many others.

In short, kayaking is a respectable sport practiced worldwide and has a history of using leave no trace ethics that are compatible with wilderness areas and wild and scenic rivers. To limit kayaking while no limiting other users is unacceptable.

Sincerely,
Ian Foley