From:	Nancy Gilbert
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject:	Chattooga River Project
Date:	08/05/2008 09:36 AM

I'm a long time whitewater kayak paddler from Raleigh, NC. I'm recently retired but still paddle as often as I can. In addition my sons and my 2 grandsons have become avid boaters.

We have been following the Chattooga access issue for some time and frequently discuss the discrimination that seems so blatant. Try as we might, we can't find out what this discrimination is based on. It seems to be a totally arbitrary decision.

We were waiting for the capacity analysis to be completed as we were certain this would support our view. To our surprise, an appropriate analysis was never even started let alone completed.

After all these years of boating and volunteering to clean up after fishermen and other river users, I can't imagine what the ban on boating is based on. I can clean up a trash bag full of fishing trash in about 10 - 15 minutes then come back in a month and do it all over again. Boaters not only clean up trash left by other groups while we wait at riverside for our shuttle drivers to get back, we strictly adhere to a policy of "pack it in - pack it out" for any of our own trash, of which there is very little.

We strongly believe that this section of the Chattooga be regulated for boaters in the same manner as it is for any other user group. To do anything else would be totally unfair.