From:	Nannette Curran
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
cc:	info@gafw.org
Subject:	Upper Chattooga River
Date:	07/31/2008 10:09 AM

To the Forest Service:

As a native of Rabun County and as a member of the Georgia Forest Watch I am asking that boaters not be allowed in waters of the Wild and Scenic Upper Chattooga River. As a child I picnicked and swam in this river. As I have grown older I have watched the numbers of visitors to the river increase steadily over the years. While all of my family- me, my husband, my children and grandchildren- love to enjoy rafting on the river in the lower reaches we feel that preserving the Upper Chattooga in its present state is far more important than any enjoyment we might have in traversing it by boat, raft, or kayak. Even my son-in-law who has worked as a guide for rafting groups on the Chattooga and who is an avid kayaker does not want to see the upper reaches made open to boaters.

If this part of the river is opened to boaters, the forest and the river will suffer losses that cannot be recovered. In addition opening the area to boaters does not make sense in terms of the expense to taxpayers of more extensive policing of the area. Keeping this area as it is not expensive and is an example of our government protecting a gift to present and future constituents.

Nannette Carter Curran, Candidate for Rabun County Board of Commissioners