From:	Doug and Eedee Adams
To:	DRAFT EA Comments
Subject:	Upper Chattooga River Project
Date:	08/07/2008 07:29 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I believe you did a very good job of involving all stakeholders in the analysis process. I have reviewed the draft EA and find it thorough and complete. You acknowledged that the North Fork is a special and unique place. You also found that boating has ruined the opportunities for solitude and brought user conflicts to the Lower Chattooga, displacing many backcountry visitors.

Traditional backcountry visitors such as hikers, hunters, naturalists, bird watchers, backpackers, swimmers and trout fishermen share the North Fork without conflict. The outstandingly remarkable values of solitude and remoteness are still intact in the backcountry there.

It is obvious that not all recreation activities are compatible. Stewardship encompasses far more than picking up litter; it includes the protection of the aesthetic values of natural resources such as remoteness and wildness, the proper regard for the rights of others to solitude, and the responsibility of preserving these values intact for future generations.

I prefer alternative 3 and believe it will preserve the backcountry values of this area for future generations. However, I can accept the Forest Service preferred alternative 4. I believe that it is a compromise that is fair to all stakeholders. If the zoning stipulations in alternative 4 are properly enforced, it will provide good protection for the backcountry's values. Both alternatives will protect and enhance the biophysical values.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Doug Adams – Rabun Gap

"Stewardship is not a popularity contest." G. W. Custer