From:	John Stephens
Reply To:	jdt4f@mindspring.com
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject:	Boating the Upper Chattooga River Comments
Date:	08/06/2008 10:55 AM

RE: Boating the Upper Chattooga River

It is good to know that you have about resolved the Chattooga River crisis.

Alternative # 4 seems to be a reasonable solution to the user conflict that is going to arise on the river when all activities collide as they most surely will. This #4 ALT seems to minimize that inevitable conflict. I am sure you have done all the analysis that is practical in concluding this study and recommendation. Avoiding boating overuse will minimize the damage to the river and its ecology. Now the test of enforcement to protect the existing quality of the river will be up to the resolve of the forest service.

I must say that on any given nice day from December thru March, I have and will continue to fish the river above Burrell Ford because of the quality of the trout fishing, the insect quantities available for trout, the habitat for trout, the solitude and the quiet remoteness that is there. I fear that these qualities will diminish once the boaters begin running through.

Thank you for you're your ernest effort to protect and preserve the best that Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina have in quality wilderness. Let us all hope that this is not a point of no return for the river.

Thank you,
John Stephens
TU Chapter 692

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