From: Marvin Thomas
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject: Chattooga River Access
Date: 08/07/2008 03:38 PM

US Forest Service
Chattooga River Project
4931 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29212

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a regular user of the Upper Chattooga River, I am writing again asking you to fully consider the negative impact that boating would have on this section of stream. Having just visited the area this last weekend, it is hard to believe there is even discussion about this potential use. None the less, I believe that there is a workable solution to this situation.

1. You must consider that the Upper Chattooga is fished at considerably higher levels than is being reported. I've done so myself.

2. It appears to me that the Assessment suggests the flow of the river is the same above Highway 28 as it is in lower reaches. The upper section is very narrow and in several places can be stepped across without wetting ones feet.

3. This is the only stream where one can go without being concerned with boaters. Can't your office see to it that anglers have at least some place to go and not be concerned with the noise, litter and potential danger this activity will surely bring?

I hope you will consider these issues and the impact they will have on one of the most beautiful areas in North Carolina. Allowing boating below Bull Pen Bridge is a viable alternative and one that I hope might satisfy the majority of users.

Sincerely,

Marvin Thomas