From:	ron miller
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject:	let boaters in, please
Date:	07/29/2008 10:55 PM

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i am an avid kayaker and have been for over 15 years. in those 15 years i have made a point while paddling to pick up litter and trash at the putins and takeouts while waiting for shuttles to complete, etc. you should know that the majority of the trash and litter we pick up are put there by fishermen! not only do we find styrofoam bait containers, we also find (sometimes by less than favorable circumstance) fishing lures, lines, hooks, LEAD sinkers, plastic bobbers, the list is long. i should also mention that boaters who have had even the most basic instruction (which the vast majority of us have, either though individual instruction or by clinics put on by the clubs and associations involved in the sport which most serious boaters are affiliated with) know of the dangers of alcohol consumption while paddling. please note that most of these fishing castoffs are found among their beer or liquor bottles cluttering the shore. our only fossil-fuel contribution occurs when we drive to the beginning and finishing accesses of our runs. how do the fishermen get there? same way, often with atv's or jetskis in tow

with this firsthand knowledge of what FISHERMEN bring to our rivers and streams, i find it both ASTOUNDING and ABSURD that anyone in the realm of conservation or stewardship of our tax-supported public lands would seem to think that kayakers or canoeists could possibly do more harm than the fishermen. if anything, we should be give MORE access to the rivers. we actually help them and leave the least footprint among the users of these valuable resources. please consider these points and make your decisions accordingly.

h. r. miller

Internal Virus Database is out of date.
Checked by AVG - http://www.avg.com
Version: 8.0.138 / Virus Database: 270.5.5/1571 - Release Date: 7/24/2008 5:42 PM