From: J & J Carney
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject: FS Proposal for Chatooga River Use
Date: 07/24/2008 11:03 AM

I wish to register my comments regarding the Chatooga River proposals.

As a fisherman and outdoor enthusiast I have visited the Chatooga corridor many times. In particular I have enjoyed the area above Burrells Ford from both the fishing and hiking aspects. The uninterrupted solitude is a key factor in enjoyment, especially during the winter and spring months. While I sympathize with the boaters that feel the need to take their equipment through any body of water, regardless of dangers or pristine status, I feel that the current opportunities are sufficient to their purposes of conquering the waters rather than enjoying them. I would also believe that the Preferred Alternative will result in escalated cost and enforcement problems if implemented.
I fear that once boating is allowed in any form, this will open the door to further and continuing encroachment and damage to this wilderness area. Look no further than what has and is continuing to happen in areas opened to off-road vehicles. This should serve as a lesson learned.

If changes need to be made, I would vote in favor of Alternative 3.

Thank you,

John Carney
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