From: Perry, Steve
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject: Chattooga Boating
Date: 07/24/2008 12:20 PM

I rarely respond to such comment requests. However, as a fly fisherman who thinks the BEST time to be fishing is when no one else is on the water-especially late fall and winter- and who has encountered illegal boating on the Upper Chattooga, as well as legal kayaking on the Nantahala, I am still perplexed that this Alternative #4 is a low impact possibility. First, I have been overrun by boaters on both above rivers while fishing. Also, I have also seen the impact of LIMITED camping- trash, fires, vegetation loss and erosion. Finally, if there is going to be a granting of boating rights, in addition to continued fishing, I would strongly recommend the expansion of parking, especially at the Burrells Ford Bridge, as it is overcrowded, in poor repair, and is not maintained as far as trash pick-up- all of which will continue toward further deterioration with increased usage. Finally, WHO is going to patrol the areas, maintain the vigilance as to times and places of LEGAL usage and equipment, and maintain an area we are so fortunate to have?

Thank you for hearing my concerns and questions. I look forward to a response.

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