

Upper Chattooga River
Primary Desired Recreation Opportunities & Desired Conditions

TYPES OF USERS	ACTIVITIES	WHERE	WHEN	DESIRED EXPERIENCE	DESIRED CONDITIONS
Day Hiking	Hiking, picnicking, swimming, wildlife viewing, birding, nature study, wading, fishing, research, photography	Chattooga River Trail parking area on Whiteside Cove Road to Hwy 28 bridge (Burrells Ford, Walhalla Fish Hatchery, Big Bend Falls, Rock Gorge, Bull Pen Bridge)	Spring and fall best, winter is good too, will hike year-round	Remote, spectacular settings. Forested ridges, rock outcrops, clear water crashing over boulders, old growth trees, waterfalls, wildlife, birds, wildflowers, historic sites, fall color.	Trails, river banks, campsites, parking areas, & access roads in good condition & facilities in appropriate locations. No litter. No new development. Solitude.
Backpacking	Backpacking, camping, fishing, photography, nature study, wildlife viewing, wildflower viewing, plant identification	Chattooga River Trail parking area on Whiteside Cove Road to Hwy 28 (Ellicott Rock Wilderness Area, Chattooga River Trail, Shattooga Cliffs, Earl's Ford)	Spring, summer, & fall most popular but occurs year-round	Remote, spectacular settings. Forested ridges, rock outcrops, clear water crashing over boulders, old growth trees, waterfalls, wildlife, birds, wildflowers, historic sites, fall color.	Solitude. Trails, river banks, campsites, fire rings, & parking areas free from litter & facilities in appropriate locations. No new development.
Frontcountry General Recreation	Relax, swim, picnic, fish, visit attractions, appreciate nature within 1/4-mile of roads	Burrells Ford, Walhalla Fish Hatchery, Bull Pen Bridge	Best between May and Sept, but use year-round	Trails, river banks, parking areas, and access roads in good condition, free of litter, and facilities in appropriate locations.	Privacy at selected attraction destinations along the river
Adventure Boating	Use kayaks, canoes, & high performance inflatable crafts on river to negotiate drops, waterfalls, "tight & technical" water, & at least one Class IV rapid	Grimshawes Bridge to Hwy 28 (Grimshawes to Bull Pen, Burrells Ford to Hwy 28, Bull Pen to Burrells Ford)	Best would be in summer & fall after heavy rains but most likely to occur during Dec-May	Experience a remote and spectacular natural setting while tackling challenging and extreme whitewater.	Clean water, outstanding scenery, river access sites in good condition, in appropriate locations, and free of litter. No new development. Solitude not critical but an added value.
Scenery Focused Boating	Boating, camping, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, picnicking, nature study, photography.	All river segments above Hwy 28.	Best time would be during warmer months in good weather but would boat year-round if flow was high enough.	Enjoy remote and spectacular natural settings, the thrill of going through rapids, and seeing pure, unpolluted water. No required skill level for boating.	Clean water, outstanding scenery, and river access sites in good condition, at appropriate locations, and free from litter. Minimal development. Solitude is important.
Backcountry Angling	Highly skilled angling (dry and wet fly, rod and reel), hiking, backpacking, camping, nature study, wildlife observations, photography.	Entire river from just above Norton Mill Creek to Highway 28. Most popular stretch is Burrells Ford to Hwy 28.	Throughout the year but best times are Mar, Apr, May, Oct, and Nov because fish are most active then.	Enjoy solitary, remote, and spectacular natural settings composed of forested ridges, rock outcrops, groves of white pine and hemlock, boulders, and rushing, clear water.	Outstanding scenery; clean water; wild, naturalized large trout; trails, campsites, and parking areas in good condition, appropriate locations, and free from litter. No new development. Solitude is very important to the experience.
Frontcountry Angling	Angling, camping, picnicking, swimming, wading.	Access areas (specifically put-and-take areas around Bull Pen Bridge, Burrells Ford, and Hwy 28 bridges).	Year-round but especially while trout stocking is occurring.	Successful fishing within 1/4 mile of roads and bridges.	Need access roads, facilities, parking, trails. Not as concerned about solitude.