From: Jennifer Dawson
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Cc: info@gafw.org
Subject: No Boating on Upper Chattooga
Date: 08/13/2008 11:29 AM

I'm writing to ask you to oppose Alternative 4 which would open the Upper Chattooga to boating. Alternative 2 or 3 are viable options that do not allow boating.

Alternative 4 does not take into the account the needs of people who visit the Upper Chattooga for traditional pastimes such as swimming, hiking, camping, and the opportunity to experience the beautiful solitude of this location. Further the Forest Service proposal for boating does not commit the law enforcement and resource protection personnel necessary to regulate this new, intrusive form of recreation or to education that public about new rules in this part of the river corridor.

I'm also concerned that the proposal does not protect the various native plant species found in this corridor.

Whitewater enthusiasts and "creek boaters" who want Alternative 4 already have miles and miles of challenging white water nearby on the 36 miles of the lower Chattooga, on Overflow and Holcomb Creeks and on the West Fork, where boating is already legal and permitted.

We need to protect the Upper Chattooga and say no to Alternative 4.

Jennifer M. Dawson