From: Michelle Burnett
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@FSNOTES
Subject: Fw: Upper Chattooga; Fraud by the Camo Coalition
Date: 08/18/2008 07:41 AM

<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><>

Michelle Burnett
Public Affairs Officer
Francis Marion & Sumter
National Forests (South Carolina)
4931 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29212-3530

Phone: (803) 561-4091
Fax: (803) 561-4004
Cell: (803) 920-6167
E-mail: michelleburnett@fs.fed.us
Website: http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms

----- Forwarded by Michelle Burnett/R8/USDAFS on 08/18/2008 07:41 AM -----

Jeff Ennis
<beardawg61@hotmail.com>

08/14/2008 10:42 PM

To <michelleburnett@fs.fed.us>
cc
Subject Upper Chattooga; Fraud by the Camo Coalition

Dear Michelle, I am writing to you because of a disturbing development. I discovered that the Camo Coalition had posted an opportunity to voice my concerns regarding the Upper Chattooga in the form of an e-mail submission form. They had already filled in a form letter that supported Alternative 1. I changed the subject line and wrote my own letter in support of Alternative 8. I filled in my name and address and submitted the letter which I carbon copied to myself. I found that it replaced my letter with the one support Alternative 1. This amounts to fraud by the Camo Coalition and your inbox may very well be swamped with messages people didn't intend to send.

In addition to being one of the dreaded "boaters" that the Camo Coalition and Trout Unlimited fear so much, I'm also an EMT and a volounteer in my community. I have stopped half a dozen times this year to help people with medical emergencies while I was either on the river, or on my way to the river including one woman with a brain hemmorhage whose heart stopped. My emergency care kept her alive until we were able to fly her from the scene and she lived to recover. I am not a rowdy or a miscreant. I am a resource to my community and a tax-paying American and it is unconscionable that the Upper Chattooga remain a publicly funded private sanctuary for a few well-connected and well-funded fishermen. They are so concerned with the effect I have on the river by floating through it yet they have no concern regarding the practice of filling streams with hathery suported non-native species of fish. Are they interested in protecting coyotes in out forests as well?

Most kayakers I know are highly environmentally conscious people. I don't litter and I don't try to dictate to others how they should choose to enjoy our public lands. One other thing that the fishermen don't seem to realize but is apparent to me because I'm both a kayaker and a fishermen. A river like the Upper Chattooga is only viable for kayaking during high flow events such as after heavy rains. Most fishermen will tell you this isn't the best time to go fishing. So in fact there is likely to be very little overlap in stream usage between the two groups.

Please do the right thing and open this public resource for all of us to enjoy in our own chosen sport.

Sincerely, thanks. - Jeff Ennis

2770 Harshaw Rd.
Murphy, NC 28906

Your PC, mobile phone, and online services work together like never before. See how Windows® fits your life