From: Jim F. Kelley
Reply To: jamesfkelley@bellsouth.net
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject: Upper Chattooga River environmental assessment
Date: 08/18/2008 03:42 PM

Gentlemen,

I write to urge the Service not to adopt Alternative 8 proposed in your Environmental Assessment for the Upper Chattooga. Allowing boats on this stretch of the river will ruin one of the few real wilderness areas left in the Southeast, degrading banks and fragile fish spawning habitat, and resulting in unsightly litter as boaters typically discard everything from clothes too food wrappers. Allowing boats will also fundamentally change the character of this great wild fishery, and the wildlife in the surrounding biosphere.

Those of us who love this river urge you to adopt Alternative 3, or at worst Alternative 4 in your Assessment, including all the enforcement and monitoring proposals included in it.

James F. Kelley
Cashiers, NC