From: Michelle Burnett
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@FSNOTES
Subject: Fw: Upper Chattooga comment
Date: 08/18/2008 03:43 PM

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----- Forwarded by Michelle Burnett/R8/USDAFS on 08/18/2008 03:43 PM -----

Carol L Forney/R8/USDAFS
08/18/2008 01:02 PM

To: Michelle Burnett/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES
cc:
Subject: Fw: Upper Chattooga comment

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----- Forwarded by Carol L Forney/R8/USDAFS on 08/18/2008 01:01 PM -----

"Sarah A. Brewer" <sdbrewer@alltel.net>
08/18/2008 12:26 PM

To: <cforney@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Fw: Upper Chattooga comment

----- Original Message -----
From: Sarah A. Brewer
To: sumter@fs.fed.us
Sent: Saturday, August 16, 2008 3:43 PM
Subject: Upper Chattooga comment

As a life-long native of Rabun County Georgia, whose family dates back to some of the first white settlers hundreds of years ago, I would like to see the Upper Chattooga left to the hikers and fishermen.

The boaters have access to the rest of the river. I think the upper part should be off limits to the boaters. It's just common sense that with boating allowed, there will be more traffic, destruction to the environment, and less solitude.

I read several of the comments sent by some from California, Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Idaho, Tennessee, etc, who will likely never set foot on the banks of the river. I believe these individuals don't have much of a "dog in this fight" as the people who call this place home do.

I believe, in order to keep this place protected as "one of the very last chunks of true wilderness left in this area, a true American treasure," to be left alone as pristine and undisturbed as when the native American Indians lived here, hikers and fishermen are enough visitors to this area. We should keep an area for our future generations to behold and enjoy God's creation without the boaters on this section of the river.

I see where a lot of the "pro-boater" writers say they think they should have access to the river because they "pay taxes". Guess what - the people who live in Rabun County Georgia, Oconee County South Carolina, and Macon County North Carolina do too. These people and their children have more to lose in this debate.

Thank you for giving everyone a chance to comment,

Sarah Alley Brewer
Lakemont, Georgia