From: Cynthia Crockett
Reply To: crockett_cynthia@yahoo.com
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject: Keep It Clean by keeping it Pristine! URGENT!!
Date: 08/18/2008 02:20 PM

Monday, 8/18/2008

S. Forest Service

Chattooga River Project
4931 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29212

via email: comments-southern-francis-marion-sumter@fs.fed.us.

re: proposed Chattooga River expansion
comments: Please Keep It Clean by keeping it Pristine!

Dear Forest and River Keepers,

I am writing you to voice my comments on the proposed opening of the Chattooga River to potentially expand use of the river to boaters and other recreation. I am pro-keeping it pristine and beautiful, as it is NOW.

I would like you to consider the potential harmful impact upon the pristine and beautiful environment that this expansion would cause. I frequently hike the areas around this beautiful river where the public is permitted. I am always picking up trash left behind by thoughtless visitors on my visits. I believe that it would be a grave mistake and a shame to open up the area in question to boaters.

I hiked the Burrells Ford area and Bull Sluice area in the past week and visited the Woodall Shoals area just yesterday. At all 3 locations open to the public, I saw an unacceptable amount of glass and other trash left behind by previous visitors at these locations. It saddens me to know that people who are blessed to be enjoying such a beautiful environment are the same ones who thoughtlessly trash the beauty for others.

I have enjoyed boating, fishing and all that goes along with boat ownership. I feel that there are plenty of areas for boaters to access already without changing the pristine-ness of the area in question. I believe that our primary focus should be on land and river stewardship, so that future generations may also appreciate the natural beauty of this wondrous river and area.

The current drought resulting in the lower river levels should awaken us to recognize our need to preserve this wilderness area for our grandchildren and for generations to come. It is our responsibility as earth and river keepers to preserve the wilderness areas. Please choose to keep the area pristine, as it currently is.

Please Keep It Clean by keeping it Pristine!

Gratefully,

Cynthia Crockett
Rabun County, GA Citizen