From:	Jessica Hess
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject:	Chattooga River Project Comments
Date:	08/15/2008 08:44 PM

U.S. Forest Service
Chattooga River Project
4931 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29212.
comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us

August 15, 2008
RE: Chattooga River Project Comments
Dear Sumter National Forest,
I am an avid kayaker living in Chicago, Illinois. I enjoy taking trips all over the country to kayak different rivers throughout the year.
I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment regarding the recreational management of the Chattooga River. I disagree with your analysis and your proposal. Both treat me and my community of river enthusiasts unfairly and your proposal would not meet my interests. Please consider the following concerns I have regarding this issue:

- The EA is not a user capacity analysis and does not reference one. The AW appeal decision required a user capacity analysis. Where is it?
- The EA offers no basis for the boating bans and limits
- The EA lacks a full range of alternatives
- The USFS hired qualified consultants and then ignored their input
- The public should have the right to float on public Wild and Scenic Rivers regardless of who owns the land along the river.
- All aspects of the "Outstanding Remarkable Values" of Wild and Scenic Rivers should be protected on the entire river, not just in some areas.

Thank you for considering these comments. Please consider conducting a real user capacity analysis and immediately allowing boating in the same numbers, places, and seasons that you allow existing users. Paddling should be allowed in a similar manner to your alternative number 8, except on the *entire* Upper Chattooga River and its tributaries.
Thank you for considering these comments,
Sincerely
Jessica Hess
4122 N. Spaulding Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618