From: Michael Smith
To: Jerome Thomas
Subject: PROTECT THE UPPER CHATOOGA RIVER
Date: 08/15/2008 09:37 AM

Michael Smith
4281 Bill Epley Ave
Morganton, NC 28655-8344

August 15, 2008

Jerome Thomas
Forest Supervisor

Dear Jerome Thomas:

US Forest Service,
I am in favor of protecting the Upper Chattooga River from overuse by boats at any time. I support low impact recreational uses, such as fishing, hunting, and hiking to protect this exceptional resource. I urge the Forest Sevice to select the "No Change" alternative to continue the current prohibition against floating vessels on the Upper Chattooga. This alternative fairly balances recreational uses on the entire river and protects the sensitive upper stretch from disturbance by vessels. The "multiple use" concept does not mean every area of a national forest 'must be used' by all user groups...some areas need 'special consideration' to be protected! This area is one of those special places where a line must be drawn to protect the resource for future generations. Thank you for considering my position.

Sincerely,

Michael Smith
828 584-2848