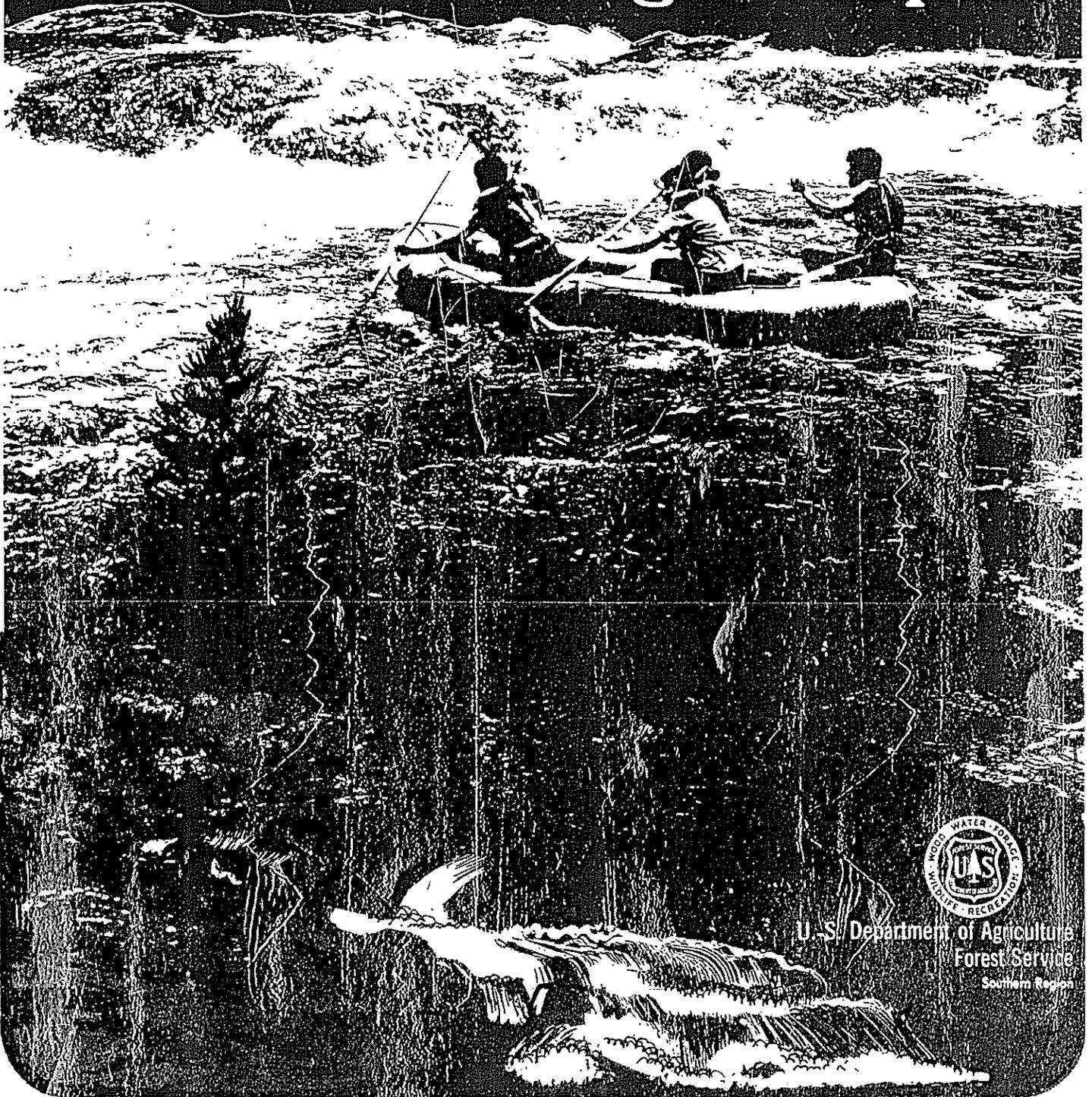


# Chattooga

## WILD and SCENIC RIVER management plan



U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Southern Region

RECREATION STAFF COPY

CHATTOOGA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER  
MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Date 7/11/80

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## INTRODUCTION

Fifty-seven miles of the Chattooga River were designated a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System on May 10, 1974. This plan will provide direction in the day to day management of resources and people using the river. The plan will be reviewed annually and revised as needed.

## MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

### Description

Sixty-eight percent of the river is classified as WILD. Travel within these sections will be by foot or boat only. Motor vehicle access will be for emergencies only - fire or search and rescue.

Five percent of the river is classified as SCENIC, and is the area of the river near the major access points. These areas and the 27% of the river classified as RECREATION may be managed to accomodate visitors using motor vehicle access to the river.

Patterns of use are being established on the river. Floating is limited to below Highway 28 Bridge. Fishermen tend to congregate at Highway 28 Bridge, Burrell's Ford and Bull Pen, the major stocking points.

The completion of the hiking trail along the river will result in increased hiking and dispersed camping within the corridor boundary.

### Objectives

#### Entire River

The Act states that "Each Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said System without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration,

primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its aesthetic, scenic, historic, archaeological, and scientific features. Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development based on the special attributes of the area."

An objective will be to provide a range of recreation opportunities characteristic of, and in harmony with, the nature of the individual river segments.

#### Wild Area

The wild area will be managed to (1) preserve the river and its immediate environment in a natural, wild, and primitive condition essentially unaltered by the effects of man, and (2) provide water-oriented recreation opportunities in a primitive setting.

#### Scenic Area

The scenic river area will be managed to (1) maintain and enhance the condition of the high-quality scenery, (2) provide opportunities for river-oriented recreation, and (3) utilize other resources and permit other activities which maintain or enhance the quality of the wildlife habitat, river fishery, scenic attraction, or recreational values.

#### Recreational Area

The recreational river area will be managed to provide compatible outdoor recreation opportunities and water-oriented recreational facilities.

## ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY

### Forest Supervisors

The Forest Supervisor, Francis Marion & Sumter National Forests, is responsible for administering the public use of the main river between Georgia and South Carolina. He is also charged with the administration of special use permits involving use of the main river or banks.

The Forest Supervisor, Chattahoochee - Oconee National Forests, is responsible for the administration of the West Fork.

The Forest Supervisor, National Forests in North Carolina, is responsible for the administration of that portion of the river that is in North Carolina.

### District Rangers

The District Ranger, Andrew Pickens Ranger District, is responsible for:

1. Enforcement of the Code of Federal Regulations and Regional Forester's and Forest Supervisor's Prohibitions and Orders at all the major access points and on National Forest land immediately adjacent to the main Chattooga River in both Georgia and South Carolina, where the primary access is from the river. Major access points are:

Burrell's Ford

Highway 76

Highway 28

Woodall Shoals

Earl's Ford

2. Providing cleanup and maintenance of developed and undeveloped sites at the major access points and on all National Forest lands immediately adjacent to the Chattooga River in both Georgia and South Carolina where the primary access is from the river.
3. Providing the above items (1 & 2) on all other National Forest lands within or adjacent to the corridor boundary within the Sumter National Forest.
4. Developing use figures and administering the registration system for the river.
5. Administering the "River Rangers" program.

The District Ranger, Tallulah Ranger District, is responsible for:

1. Enforcement of the Code of Federal Regulations and Regional Forester's and Forest Supervisor's Prohibitions and Orders within the corridor boundary along the West Fork.
2. Providing all cleanup and maintenance within the corridor boundary along the West Fork.
3. Providing the above items (1 & 2) on all other National Forest lands within or adjacent to the corridor boundary within the Chattahoochee National Forest that are not at major access points or where principal access is by land.

The District Ranger, Highlands Ranger District, is responsible for:

1. Enforcement of the Code of Federal Regulations and Regional Forester's and Forest Supervisor's Prohibitions and Orders within the corridor boundary within the Nantahala National Forest.
2. Providing cleanup and maintenance of developed and undeveloped sites within or adjacent to the corridor boundary in the Nantahala National Forest.

Other

County Sheriffs have responsibility for search and rescue. Initial Forest Service coordination will be by the respective District Ranger. For more details concerning search and rescue, see page 17.

## PERSONNEL

Administration on the Chattooga River requires special personnel. This section describes the duties, minimum qualifications, desirable qualifications, and necessary training of the individual involved. The official title of "River Rangers" will be used for these personnel.

### Duties

River Rangers will serve as an information source for the general public, primarily on conditions of the river and hazards. They will, however, remind the public of existing prohibitions and orders and recommendations in terms of safety. Incumbents of this position will be required to enforce the Code of Federal Regulations and Regional Forester's and Forest Supervisor's Prohibitions and Orders. A part of the duties will include actually floating parts of the river periodically to report on conditions between access points and participate in cleanup. At times, incumbents in these positions will be the Forest Service representative in the case of an accident or a disaster, and will take charge of the situation unless relieved by the District Ranger or a representative of the Sheriff's Office. They will be prepared to render first aid and begin rescue operations. They will participate in the collection of data in the form of keeping registration boxes adequately stocked with registration forms, removing these forms, coding, and sending to R/O for summarization.

Other personnel - Forest workers and other labor may be used as needed. Supervision of the entire operation will be the responsibility of the District Ranger.

### Qualifications

River Rangers must be in good physical condition, be good swimmers, and have Red Cross standard first aid cards.

Skill in the use of the river floating equipment is a necessity. This ability may be difficult to find and may require training of the employee. Selection should favor personable applicants who can meet and talk with people well. A minimum of two years floating experience on the Chattooga River would be desirable but not necessarily a requirement.

### Training

If employees do not have the above qualifications, certain of these may be met through training before the employee is placed actively on the river. This includes Red Cross first aid card and competency with floating equipment. Forest Service first aid instructors will conduct the first aid training. A minimum of 16 hours of Forest Service law enforcement training will be conducted for these employees each year, even though they may be repeat employees. Since these employees will be Forest Service representatives on the river, they will need to know the general information about the Chattahoochee, Nantahala, and Sumter National Forests. This information will be given in the orientation period with the Ranger or recreation staff on the District.

Manning

During the use season (about May 15 - September 15), River Rangers will be stationed at Earl's Ford and Highway 76 Bridge on weekends and holidays. River Rangers will also conduct roving patrols on the River during weekends and holidays. Administration in North Carolina will not require special personnel or scheduled manning. District personnel will do needed administration in connection with other duties.

## REGULATIONS

A number of regulations are in effect on the river. These regulations are shown in the Appendix AP-1. It is pointed out that the river north of Highway 28 Bridge is not open to floating use. This prohibition is a condition of the floater permit, is printed on the reverse side, and is enforceable under 36 CFR 261.77(c).

## CARRYING CAPACITY

No formal study to set the amount of floating use on the Chattooga has been made. However, several studies have been made by Dr. Gordon Howard of Clemson University to analyze perceptions of visitors towards crowding and management. These studies, made when floating use was about 80% of the current use, did not reveal serious problems with over use.

The Clemson Computer Center is presently analyzing the FY '79 Chattooga River registration data for the Forest Service to determine user patterns. A detailed carrying capacity study based on these three studies, literature search, water quality studies (now under way) and discussions with knowledgeable individuals should be completed by the end of FY '80.

Floating use is greatest on week ends with the peaks at 4th of July, Memorial Day and Labor Day. Use on a typical week day is only 1/4 to 1/3 that of the preceding week end day. Thus Management Direction has been to seek to encourage use on week days and discourage use on week ends.

In the interim the present administratively set use limits will be continued. These were developed over the last 5 years and appear to be within the desired range since use is no longer growing at the very rapid rate that occurred during the early 1970's.

The following guidelines will be followed unless a study shows that they should be changed (either up or down).

1. No limitation on private floaters will be imposed. Because of the numerous launch points this would be difficult to administer and a burden on users.
2. No more than three regular tour companies (rubber raft) will be permitted to operate under the existing five year permit conditions.
3. No more than six training clinic companies (canoe and kayak) will be permitted to operate under one year permits.
4. Starting times and places for commercial trips will continue to be regulated to minimize conflict with other users.
5. All floaters will be required to register and follow the prescribed safety equipment regulations.

## CAMPING

Dispersed area camping is compatible with the goals of the National Wild and Scenic River System. This use is increasing and will continue to increase as hiking and overnight boating become more popular. The policy on camping use is as follows:

1. The only "developed" camping area will be at Burrell's Ford Campground, and this area will be closed to vehicular access. (See joint Supervisors' Order of May 15, 1977, Appendix AP-2.)
2. The only camping area open to vehicular access will be Long Bottom Ford. Facilities will be limited to trash collection and sanitary facilities.
3. A number of designated camping areas have been established. These areas are marked with signs and are located at various locations along the river. The visitor traveling by foot or boat may elect to camp in a designated site or may select a site. If the visitor selects a site, the site must be 1/4 mile from a road, 50 feet from the river or a tributary stream, 50 feet from the hiking trail.

## PERMITS

A special use permit is required for all commercial use of the National Forests. Commercial outfitting and guiding includes all such activities where the permittee or any of his employees makes a profit, receives a reimbursement of salary, receives rental for use of animals or equipment, increases the value of his facilities, equipment, animals, etc., or support in any part, other programs or activities from amounts received from customers of the permitted activities. Such use would include services for guiding or transporting persons and providing equipment, supplies, or materials. Special use permits for such operations may be issued when the use does not conflict with wild and scenic river management objectives, is in accord with approved resource plans, provides a needed public service, and assists in the management and utilization of National Forest resources.

An operation is not commercial where there is a bona fide sharing of expenses and where no fee, charge, or other compensation is collected from individual participants in excess of actual costs or expenses incurred. Nonprofit status of any group or organization under the internal revenue or postal laws or regulations does not in itself determine whether a trip or trips arranged by such a group or organization is non-commercial. Any person, group or organization seeking to qualify as an organized, non-commercial, or private operation shall have the burden of establishing, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Forest Service, that no profit will be derived from the planned trip.

A permit shall not be granted simply to provide a commercial, profit-making opportunity. The Forest Service is not obligated to issue a permit to accommodate a desire of an individual applicant.

Two categories of special use permits may be granted: more than one year and/or temporary or transient land occupancy. The issuance of special use permits will not establish nor set up a system of area allocation or permanence of operation which might deny use by others. For the Regional Forester's decision concerning special use fees for summer camps, see Appendix AP-4.

The following information applies to Special Use permits:

1. Permittees will provide an annual operating plan which shows their operational details.
2. Public safety is a major concern of the Forest Service. The permit places a responsibility on the permittee to see that "his employees and patrons operate boats in a safe and reasonable manner." Failure to comply with permit requirements may be grounds for revocation.
3. The permittee must comply with all State and Federal laws and regulations relating to use of the National Forest lands and waters thereon. He will also assume full responsibility for the conduct of his employees and clients.

4. All permittees will be required to carry liability insurance. This is required in all special use permits, "where public liability might exist." No one can question that liability does exist in float boating operations. This permit clause will read: "The permittee shall have in force at all times during the period of this permit, public liability insurance covering: (1) property damage in the minimum amount of Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000), and (2) personal injury or death in the minimum amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand dollars (\$250,000). The coverage shall extend to property damage, bodily injury, or death arising out of the permittee's activities under the permit including, but not limited to, the occupancy or use of the land and the construction, maintenance, and operation of the structures, facilities, or equipment authorized by this permit. Such insurance shall also name the United States as a co-insured and provide for specific coverage of the permittee's contractually assumed obligation to indemnify the United States. The permittee shall require the insurance company to send an authenticated copy of its insurance policy to the Forest Service immediately upon issuance of the policy. The policy shall also contain specific provisions or a rider to the effect that: (1) the inclusion of the United States as an additional insured shall in no manner preclude recovery from the insurance company of any amounts which the permittee becomes legally obligated to pay to the United States as a

result of permittee's activities under the permit, and (2) the policy will not be cancelled or its provisions changed or deleted before 30 days written notice to the Forest Supervisor by the insurance company.

5. The District Ranger will maintain a continuing inspection to determine whether the permittee is complying with all provisions of the special use permit. This inspection will include, but not be limited to, the quality of the service rendered, safety of operation, and nondiscrimination policies of the permittee.
6. A sufficient number of containers shall be carried to stow trash, garbage, and litter. Permittees shall carry out all of their litter and garbage. Alternate stopping points will be selected by the District Ranger for use by commercial floaters. Use of these areas will be alternated as needed for sanitation purposes.
7. No organized races will be allowed on any section of the river.

The following items apply to the more than one year permits:

1. The nature of the river indicates that no more than three commercial operations be permitted to operate on a daily basis. At the present, three float outfitters have been granted special use permits. These permits expire on December 31, 1982, unless sooner terminated or revoked by the Regional Forester. Efforts

were made in the special uses granted to keep the total number of clients within the carrying capacity. However, reliable carrying capacity figures are not available at this time. With the present registration system plus the figures gained from the commercial outfitters, we will have reliable usage figures in the near future.

2. Each special use permittee will furnish the District Ranger, by the 5th of each month, completed standard registration forms from the previous month. These forms will list each trip, dates, and the total number of passengers carried, including guides. Forms will be supplied with the issuance of the permit.
3. All boats and rafts operated by the permittees must bear the permittee's business name or number in three-inch (or larger) block letters or numerals. (Numbers, if used, will be coded to the permittee for Forest Service identification).

These items pertain to the temporary or transient land occupancy permit:

1. Each commercial permittee will also complete and submit the standard registration forms.
2. The District has authority to issue temporary or transient land occupancy special use permits with standard clauses specifying the limited areas and time periods.

[3410-11]

Title 36—Parks, Forests and Public Property  
CHAPTER II—FOREST SERVICE, DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

PART 261—NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM  
PROHIBITIONS

Permits for Chattooga River

AGENCY: Forest Service, Department  
of Agriculture.

ACTION: Final regulations.

SUMMARY: This action requires private and commercial users to obtain a permit to float the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River. Permits will include conditions of use to protect river values and provide for floater safety. Safety regulations have drastically reduced the high number of fatalities occurring prior to regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 27, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
CONTACT:

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Francis Marion and Sumter National  
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Second Floor, Columbia, S.C. 29201,  
803-765-5222.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:  
On May 27, 1977, the Forest Service published an interim rule (42 FR 27244) with a proposed amendment to Subpart C of 36 CFR 261.70. The proposed amendment adding new § 261.77, Prohibitions in Region 8, Southern Region, would prohibit acts or omissions within the areas of the Sumter National Forest and the Chattahoochee National Forest for the purposes of public safety and establishing reasonable rules of public conduct. Interested persons were given 90 days in which to submit written data, views, or objections regarding the interim regulations.

No written objections have been received and the interim regulations are hereby adopted without change and are set forth below.

Dated: January 16, 1978.

LAWRENCE M. WHITFIELD,  
Regional Forester, Region 8,  
Southern Region, Forest Service  
Department of Agriculture.

Subpart C of Chapter II of title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended by revising § 261.77 as follows:

§ 261.77 Prohibitions in Region 8, Southern Region.

(a) Using or occupying any area of the Sumter National Forest or the Chattahoochee National Forest abutting the Chattooga River for the purpose of entering or going upon the River in, on, or upon any floatable object or craft of every kind or de-

scription, unless authorized by permit obtained through registration at Forest Service Registration Stations abutting the Chattooga River located at Highway 28, Low-Water Bridge, Earl's Ford, Sandy Ford, Highway 76, Woodall Shoals, or Overflow Bridge or unless authorized under special use permit.

(b) Using or occupying within the scope of any commercial operation or business any area of the Sumter National Forest or the Chattahoochee National Forest abutting the Chattooga River for the purpose of entering or going upon the River in, on, or upon any floatable object or craft of every kind or description, unless authorized by special use permit.

(c) Violating or failing to comply with any of the terms or conditions of any permit authorizing the occupancy and use specified in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section is prohibited.

(d) Entering, going, riding, or floating upon any portion or segment of the Chattooga River within the boundaries of the Chattahoochee National Forest in, on, or upon any floatable object or craft of every kind or description, unless authorized by a permit obtained through registration at Forest Service Registration Stations abutting the Chattooga River located at Highway 28, Low-Water Bridge, Earl's Ford, Sandy Ford, Highway 76, Woodall Shoals, or Overflow Bridge or unless authorized under special use permit.

(e) Entering, going, riding, or floating within the scope of any commercial operation or business upon any portion or segment of the Chattooga River within the boundaries of the Chattahoochee National Forest in, on, or upon any floatable object or craft of every kind or description unless authorized by special use permit.

(f) Violating or failing to comply with any of the terms or conditions of any permit authorizing the occupancy and use specified in paragraph (d) or (e) of this section is prohibited.

[FR Doc. 78-2367 Filed 1-26-78; 8:45 am]

## SEARCH AND RESCUE

Search and rescue will be the basic responsibility of the local sheriffs' departments and the local rescue squads. The District Rangers will maintain close contact with the organizations in their districts and will cooperate in their search and rescue efforts.

River Rangers, upon being notified of lost or injured persons or accidents, will contact the appropriate sheriff's department, rescue squad and District Ranger's office. He will take leadership in search and rescue efforts until the arrival of sheriff's department or rescue squad or until relieved by other Forest Service personnel.

The District Rangers will execute an action plan with rescue squads. Action Plans will spell out uses of equipment and techniques and responsibilities.

### General Policy

The following items are considered to be standard operating procedure:

1. A Forest representative will accompany search and rescue parties.
2. In the event of a missing person(s), no search will be undertaken during hours of darkness unless there is a known injury or the missing individual(s) is under 16 years of age. Normally, the full scale search will be undertaken by 11:00 a.m. the following day. For other Emergency Operations, see FSM 1590.

## SAFETY

River Rangers in their day to day administration of the river and all other Forest Service personnel entering or using the river in an official capacity will observe all conditions of use as required for the public.

The Andrew Pickens Ranger will make a written report of all serious injuries reported on the main river in Georgia and South Carolina. The Highlands Ranger and the Tallulah Ranger will be responsible for such reports in North Carolina and on the West Fork, respectively. The report will include name of person killed, injured, or lost (if possible); residence; age; when killed, injured, or lost; witnesses (if any); type of equipment (if applicable); time and date of incident; violation of regulations (if any); and a short narrative of incident. A definite attempt will be made by the River Ranger to ascertain and report all injury causing accidents and lost persons.

### Recommendations

There are many safety items that we do not feel at this time we are in a position to control by issuing Conditions of Use under Secretary's Regulations. These items will be transmitted to the public in the form of recommendations rather than Conditions of Use. These will be posted on bulletin boards, signs, used in publications, and in discussions with the users.

1. Every float party should have at least one throw line, one extra paddle, and one first aid kit.
2. Average floating time between access points for various types of craft will be posted at each of the major access points, with the latest recommended departure time from there to the next regular access point.
3. Warning of dangers at the Narrows, Bulls Sluice, and Woodall Shoals will be posted at entry points.

Safety regulations have been formulated and are listed in the Appendix AP-1 under "Final Regulations."

## I&E and VIS

The basic purpose of the Visitor Information Service program for the Chattooga River will be --

- to give the public a general idea of the purpose of the Wild and Scenic River System and how it is managed and protected.
- to inform the public of the recreational opportunities available on the river and within the areas adjacent to the river.
- To stress to all visitors the need for personal safety and proper care of the river's unique environment.
- To tell the scenic, geologic, and historical stories of the area.

To further these purposes:

1. A single map brochure showing river floating, trail system, access points, primitive campsites, etc. has been developed.
2. A minor information site will be established at Highway 76 vicinity. This site should be an interpretive shelter with information and some interpretation devices. Information to be dispensed will be:
  - (a) Current river water levels relative to floatability.
  - (b) Rules and regulations concerning the Wild and Scenic River and its corridor.
  - (c) Safety recommendations for users of the land and water of the Wild & Scenic River.
  - (d) Location of other recreation opportunities in the surrounding area.
  - (e) General information about the National Forests in N.C., S.C., and Georgia.

## ACQUISITION

It is in the public interest to acquire by fee simple title all privately owned lands within the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River boundary and any privately owned lands immediately adjacent that may present right-of-way or access problems in the management of the river.

Scenic easements will be considered only when extensive negotiations indicate that acquisition by fee simple title is impossible. These easements may have to be acquired through condemnation proceedings. The terms of scenic easements will vary from case to case depending upon what measures are necessary to prevent impairment of the scenic quality or basic resource. Condemnation of land is prohibited by the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.

## VISITOR PROTECTION

During the spring and summer of 1976 and 1979 numerous private vehicles were broken into or vandalized. In addition several visitors were threatened with bodily harm or shots were fired in their direction. Enforcement of laws to protect visitors on National Forest Land is the responsibility of the Sheriff's Department.

Forest Service personnel will seek to get the Sheriff's Department to take as active a role in visitor protection as possible. Additional or expanded Coop Lawenforcement Programs will be investigated. Forest Service patrols will be on the look out for illegal activities and provide information to the Sheriff and assistance to the public who are victimized.

## MAINTENANCE AND CLEANUP

Vehicular access points will be provided with solid waste disposal containers and regularly scheduled pickups. Areas around these access points will be cleaned up on a regularly scheduled basis (May 15 through September 15) as listed on the following page.

During off-season, the areas listed on the following page will be cleaned as needed. Responsibility will be the same as during use season.

The cleanup standards will be as suggested in "Clean Recreation Sites" Brochure of January, 1974.

In addition to the scheduled cleanup, the following will be done to aid in keeping the river corridor clean --

- A "pack it in - pack it out" policy will be initiated and encouraged for all use inside the corridor except where receptacles are furnished on Scenic and Recreation sections.
- The outfitter permittees have agreed orally to help keep the river clean. However, Forest Service crews will check and float the river as necessary to keep accessible areas clean.

CLEANUP SCHEDULE

SEASON  
May 15 - Sept. 15

Area	Responsibility			Once Per Week	Twice Per Use Season
	GA.	SC	NC		
Bull Pen			X	X	
Ellicotts Rock		X			X
Burrell's Ford Area		X		X	
Nicholson Fields		X			X
Hwy. 28 Bridge & Vicinity		X		X	
West Fork					
Three Forks	X				X
Overflow Bridge	X			X	
Warwoman Bridge	X			X	
Remainder of W. Fork	X			X	
Hwy 28 Parking Lot		X		X	
Long Bottom Ford		X		X	
Earl's Ford (SC side)		X		X	
Dick's Creek Falls		X			X
Sandy Ford (GA.)	X			X	
Sandy Ford (SC)		X			X
Lick Log		X			X
Fall Creek		X			X
Thrift's Ferry		X			X
Hwy. 76		X		X	
Sutton Hole		X			X
Woodall Shoals		X		X	
Raven Rock & Mouth of Long Creek		X			X
Camp Creek		X			X
All other primitive camp sites accessible by boat		X			X

## TRAILS

The existing trails include the following:

The Bartram Trail (GA) - National Recreation

Enters the river corridor at Dick's Creek and extends 10 mi. to Highway 28.

The Foothills Trail (SC) -- National Recreation

Enters corridor at Big Bend and extends 3.0 miles to Medlin Ridge where it leaves the corridor and heads towards Highway 107.

The Ellicott Rock - Bad Creek (NC)

Begins at the Bull Pen Road and fords the River 50 yards above Ellicott Rock and extends westward to Road 441.

The King Creek Trail (SC)

Beginning at Burrells Ford campground and extending 1/2 mile to King Creek Falls.

The Spoonauger Trail (SC)

Beginning at Chattooga River Trail and extending 1/4 mile to Spoonauger Falls.

The Woodall Shoals Portage (SC)

Beginning at Woodall Shoals and extending 330 yards to parking lot.

TRAILS (Cont'd)

The Bull Sluice Trail (SC)

Beginning at the Highway 76 Portage Trail and extending 300 yards to Bull Sluice Rapid.

The Highway 76 Portage Trail (SC)

An asphalt trail beginning at the Highway 76 Parking lot and extending 200 yards to the river for boater access.

The Tilly Branch Trail (SC)

Extends from the end of the road 400 yards to the river.

The Fall Creek Portage Trail (SC)

A primitive and steep trail extending from Road 769 500 yards to the river.

The Sandy Ford Portage Trail (SC)

Extends from the newly constructed road 500 yards to the river.

The Burrells Ford Fisherman Trail (SC)

The 1½ mile portion of the Foothills Trail lying along the river in use before the campground was constructed.

The East Fork Trail (SC)

Begins at the Chattooga Picnic Area and descends 2.5 miles to the river.

Chattooga River Trail (SC)

Beginning at Ellicott Rock and extending 17.5 miles south to Highway 28.

Chattooga River Trail (GA)

Beginning at Highway 28 and extending to Highway 76. This trail is also the Bartram Trail from Highway 28 to Dicks Creek. The trail is completed except for a footbridge across the West Fork near Highway 28.

Future.

A trail system will be developed from U. S. 76 to the Macon - Jackson County line in North Carolina. The trail will be located away from the river for the most part so as not to detract from the floating or hiking experience. The trail will be located to afford the best views of the river without detracting from the solitude of the floater, fisherman, or hiker. Spurs to the river may be located where practical for access to the river by fishermen and others.

Generally, in order to minimize the impact of hikers on the river, the trail will not be developed on both sides of the river along any portion of the river.

The trail will be located as follows - North to South.

West side - From Northern terminus at Macon - Jackson County line on Norton Mill Road about 1 mile northeast of Bull Pen Road to Bull Pen Bridge.

East side - From Bull Pen Bridge to SC Highway 28 Bridge.

West side - From GA Highway 28 to U. S. 76 Bridge.

That part of the trail known as the Foothills Trail will leave the area at Medlin Mountain. From that point North, the trail will serve as the trail through Ellicott Rock Wilderness.

#### BOUNDARY MARKING

##### Standards

The corridor will be marked, with intervisible markings, by a 4" band one-half way around a tree. This band will face away from the river corridor. The color of the paint used will be No. 15102 or 25102 Blue as found in Federal Standard No. 595a. This paint is found in GSA catalog as item 8010-00-680-0144.

## MINOR IMPROVEMENTS

### 1. Bulletin Boards

Bulletin boards will be installed at major access points:

Burrell's Ford, S. C. Hwy 28, Earl's Ford, Woodall Shoals,  
U. S. Highway 76, and Bull Pen.

As a minimum, the regulations and recommended safety precautions will be posted on the bulletin boards.

### 2. Registration Facilities

Self-registration facilities will be installed at S. C. Hwy 28, Earl's Ford, Sandy Ford, U. S. Highway 76, Woodall Shoals, and Overflow Bridge.

### 3. Stream Gauges

Color coded stream gauges will be installed at S. C. Hwy 28, Earl's Ford, Highway 76, and Woodall Shoals and will be used as a warning system for the dangers of high water. The gauges will have water level numbers and will have portions of the gauge painted green, yellow, and red to correspond with relatively safe, hazardous, and extremely dangerous water levels.

### 4. Shelters

There will be no trail shelters built within the river corridor.

### 5. Corridor Boundary Signs

Portal signs, or similar identification, will be installed to identify the corridor boundary on Highway 76, Highway 28, Burrell's Ford Road, and Bull Pen Road.

## BENCHMARK SYSTEM

To protect and perpetuate the unique qualities of the Chattooga River, a benchmark system should be established to inventory the river's resources. The objectives of the benchmark system should be as follows:

1. Determine which, if any, species or ecosystem are in danger and what must be done to protect them.
2. Evaluate the condition and trend of all the resources.
3. Determine the optimum use of each resource without destroying its values.
4. Provide adequate program to carry out the protection of these environmental systems.

Research will be utilized to plan and possibly implement the Benchmark System.

### Abandoned Highway 76 Steel Bridge

This was the main Highway Bridge from the early 1900's until it was replaced with a concrete bridge 50 yards down stream in 1949. Since that time it has had no use or maintenance. All of the wood decking has rotted away. It is now an eye sore to the view from the main bridge.

The bridge is also a serious safety hazard as young people climb on the truss work forty or more feet above the water. The plans published in the Federal Register called for its removal. This should be carried out as soon as it is approved by National Register personnel.

## OTHER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Timber - Timber will be administered for recreation, watershed protection, aesthetic and wildlife values. Some cutting of timber may occur in the construction of trails, for safety of users, or for scenic improvement.

Insects - Disease - Proposals to control must be developed through an Environmental Analysis approved by the Forest Supervisor.

Fire and Other Emergencies - Fires will be controlled under regular suppression policy. Within the river corridor, the District Rangers may approve use of power saw, truck-mounted and portable pumps, helicopters, aerial tankers, tractor-plows, smoke jumpers, and vehicles used by search and rescue organizations. The Rangers will use the method of fire control which results in the least amount of environmental damage while adequate to control the fire.

Special Uses - Permits for new power lines and roads will be restricted to scenic and recreation sections of the river. No occupancy permits will be issued within the river corridor.

Minerals - No mineral leasing or removal of sand or gravel is permitted on National Forest lands within the boundaries. There are no outstanding mineral rights.

Fisheries - Fish stocking from wheeled vehicles will be permitted at Burrell's Ford, Highway 28 Bridge, Long Bottom Ford, and Bull Pen Bridge only on the main river and at Overflow and Warwoman Bridges on the West Fork. Floating north of Highway 28 Bridge is prohibited and fishing is encouraged in this section.

Wildlife Habitat - Cultivation of old fields in the recreation section of the river near Highway 28 and on the West Fork may be done to maintain landscape variety, provide openings beneficial to wildlife habitat, and provide a seed source for wildlife habitat work.

Water Quality - A water quality monitoring plan is being developed. When the plan is completed, it will become part of the appendix to this management plan.

APPENDIX  
Regulations

APPENDIX  
Prohibition of Motorized Traffic

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

May 15, 1977

ORDER OF FOREST SUPERVISOR

SUMTER NATIONAL FOREST, SOUTH CAROLINA  
CHATTAHOOCHEE NATIONAL FOREST, GEORGIA  
NANTAHALA NATIONAL FOREST, NORTH CAROLINA

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), it is hereby ordered that the prohibitions hereinafter set forth apply to the area known as the CHATTOOGA HILD AND SCENIC RIVER CORRIDOR on the Sumter, Chattahoochee and Nantahala National Forests, which area is depicted on the map attached here to.

The following prohibited acts as set forth in 36 CFR 261.56 are hereby applied to the above described area.

Possess or use a vehicle off forest development roads  
(36 CFR 261.56)

The following prohibited acts as set forth in 36 CFR 261.54 are hereby applied to the above described area.

All motorized traffic is prohibited (36 CFR 261.54 [b])

Exemption to the above orders as provided by 36 CFR 261.50(e)(4):

Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting forces in the performance of an official duty.

The following roads are excluded from the above orders:

Sumter National Forest

U. S. Highway #76  
Low Water Bridge Road (County)  
S. C. State Highway #28  
Burrell's Ford Road #798

Chattahoochee National Forest

Sandy Ford Road (County)  
U. S. Highway #76  
Ga. Highway #28  
Burrell's Ford Road #646  
Earl's Ford Road (County)  
Overflow Road #85  
Warwoman Road #FH-5

Nantahala National Forest

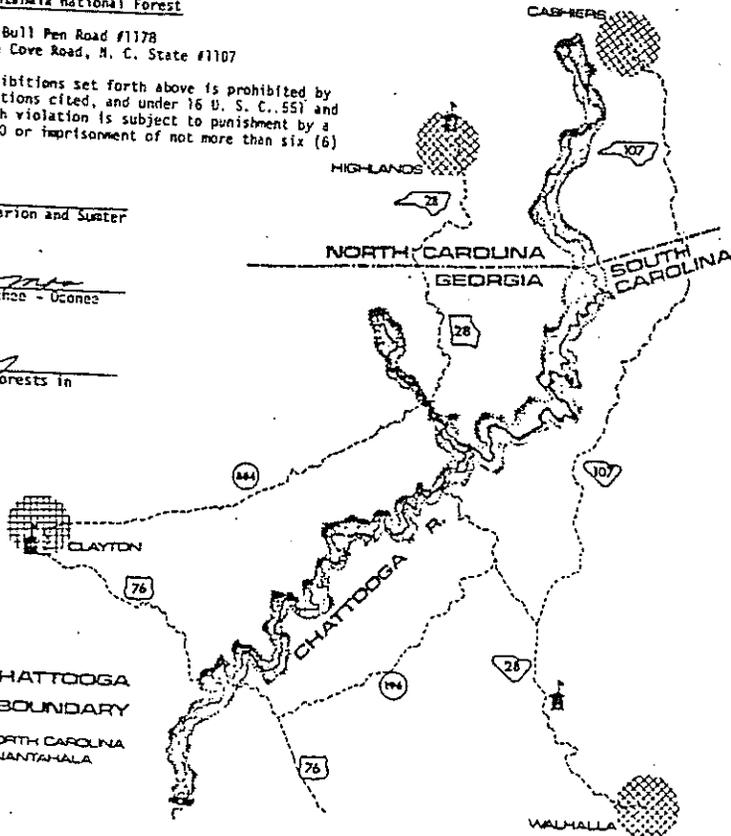
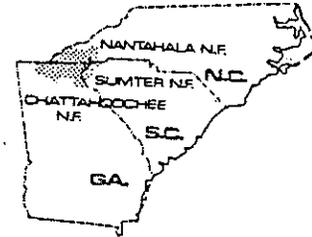
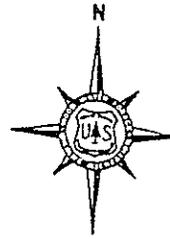
Bull Pen Road #1178  
Whiteside Cove Road, N. C. State #1107

Violation of any of the prohibitions set forth above is prohibited by the provisions of the regulations cited, and under 16 U. S. C. 551 and 7 U. S. C. 1101 (f), any such violation is subject to punishment by a fine of not more than \$500.00 or imprisonment of not more than six (6) months or both.

*[Signature]*  
Forest Supervisor, Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests

*[Signature]*  
Forest Supervisor, Chattahoochee - Oconee National Forests

*[Signature]*  
Forest Supervisor, National Forests in North Carolina



WILD AND SCENIC CHATTOOGA RIVER & CORRIDOR BOUNDARY  
SOUTH CAROLINA-GEORGIA-NORTH CAROLINA  
SUMTER-CHATTAAHOOCHEE-NANTAHALA  
National Forests

APPENDIX  
Prohibitions of Camping Locations

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
July 1, 1977

ORDER OF FOREST SUPERVISOR

SUMTER NATIONAL FOREST, SOUTH CAROLINA  
CHATTAHOOCHEE NATIONAL FOREST, GEORGIA

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), it is hereby ordered that the prohibitions hereinafter set forth apply to the area known as the CHATTOOGA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER CORRIDOR on the Sumter and the Chattahoochee National Forests, which area is depicted on the map attached hereto.

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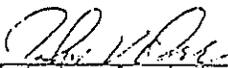
Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire within 50 feet of the Chattooga River or any of its tributaries or within one quarter mile of any roadway. (36 CFR 261.52 (a))

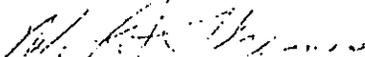
The following prohibited acts as set forth in 36 CFR 261.58 are hereby applied to the above described area.

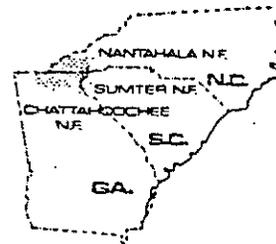
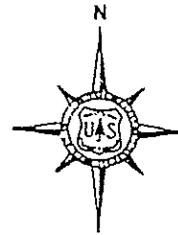
Camping within 50 feet of the Chattooga River or any of its tributaries or within 50 feet of a maintained trail or within one quarter mile of any roadway. (36 CFR 261.58 (e))

Being publicly nude (36 CFR 261.58 (j))

Violation of any of the prohibitions set forth above is prohibited by the provisions of the regulations cited, and under 16 U.S.C. 551 and 7 U.S.C. 1101 (f), any such violation is subject to punishment by a fine of not more than \$500.00 or imprisonment of not more than six (6) months or both.

  
Forest Supervisor, Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests

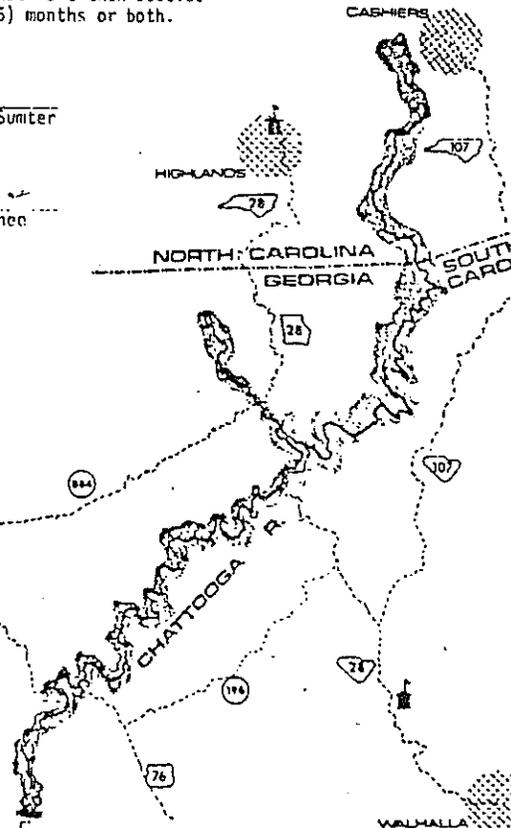
  
Forest Supervisor, Chattahoochee - Oconee National Forests



WILD AND SCENIC CHATTOOGA RIVER & CORRIDOR BOUNDARY

SOUTH CAROLINA-GEORGIA-NORTH CAROLINA  
SUMTER-CHATTAHOOCHEE-NANTAHALA

National Forests



APPENDIX  
Special Use Fees, Summer Camps



2.

Forest Service policy in determining need for special use permits when commercial outfitting and guide use is being made of the National Forest is as follows:

1. When an activity is an organized feature of a package that a resort or dude-ranch offers its guests.
2. It is specifically advertised as a special attraction.
3. The protection of the National Forests resources requires it.

This is the case of the Chattooga, where 20,000 persons last year tried the river run made famous by the movie "Deliverance." The Chattooga is designated as a National Wild and Scenic River.

In many cases, such as ski resorts, the commercial use is easy to identify. In other cases, it is not so easy. According to their statement, the camps in the North Carolina Camp Directors Association charge an average of \$20.00 per day for each youngster attending their camps. Not all of the camps are involved in use of the National Forest. Some of them do have programs which provide for camp occupants to be rewarded by a trip down the Chattooga River, if they obtain a certain proficiency in canoeing. This qualifies as an organized feature of the package the camp offers its guests.

The distinction must also be made between these camps and other type youth groups such as the Boy Scouts. The North Carolina camps are operated as profit making ventures, while those such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts provide non-profit services to the general public.

As a result of my administrative review of their appeal, I have advised the members of the North Carolina Camp Directors Association that they will be required to obtain Special Use Permits to utilize the Chattooga River Corridor beginning May 1, 1978. However, because of their present minimal use of the area, the fee will be waived for each applicant until such time as individual use becomes significant enough to warrant collection.

Special use permits cite statutory authorities and serve as permissive license not only for the collection of fees, when appropriate, but also for administrative control purposes, as necessary. Because of the increasingly heavy use of this area, and to preserve the wild and scenic river values and provide for floater safety, it has been necessary to establish and enforce certain control measures. Special use permits are essential in controlling the scheduled use of the River which is an important element in helping to preserve pristine conditions of the area. Currently special use permits are required only in the case of

3.

commercial users, where a charge is appropriate. This requirement is set forth in the proposed Chattooga National Wild and Scenic River Management Plan, and is based on regulations and directives cited in Secretary's Regulations 36 CFR 251.1, 36 CFR "Interim Regulations" 261.77(b) and Chief of Forest Service policy FSM 2721.53a, all of which authorize and prescribe the issuance of special use permits for commercial use of these National Forest lands.

The Directors had also expressed concern about the requirement for liability insurance coverage as being one of the conditions of use for special use permits. In my decision notice, I informed them that this requirement may be waived for each member of the Association who already has insurance in connection with the operation of his camp or submits the necessary evidence that insurance coverage is unobtainable or economically unfeasible.

I can assure you the Forest Service is, and will remain, interested in development of this Nation's youth. This is not a question of restricting our young people's use of the National Forests, but one of whether commercial organizations can utilize the National Forest for a profit making venture, without paying a fee.

Should you need any additional information or clarification regarding this matter, we shall be happy to provide it for you.

Sincerely,

James E. Webb

LAWRENCE  
R  
OR:  
WHITFIELD  
RESTER

6 copies to Office of Information, R-8. Distribution as follows:

cc: Francis Marion & Sumter NFs  
NFs in North Carolina  
OI, R-8  
WO, 2700  
WO, Legal Affairs  
Executive

R-8

P.O. Box 2417  
Washington, D.C. 20013

CERTIFIED RECEIPT REQUESTED

1570

MAR 22 1978

Mr. Thomas Thorne-Thomsen  
Alston, Miller and Gaines Law Offices  
Citizens and Southern National  
Bank Building  
35 Broad Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Thorne-Thomsen:

Our Administrative Review of the North Carolina Camp Director's Association appeal is complete. At issue is the Regional Forester's decision to require member camps to obtain special use permits and pay a fee in order to occupy and use National Forest land in conjunction with using the Chattooga River.

The 24-member camps included in this appeal contend that they are businesses operating on private land and their use of the Chattooga River and perhaps other areas of National Forest land is incidental and by no means commercial. Member camps feel that the decision to require them to obtain charge special use permits is discriminatory and inconsistent with the goals for managing the River as stated in the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River Management Plan. The members, therefore, ask to be relieved of the permit requirement or, in the alternative, that all users of these National Forests be required to meet the same requirements.

We find that the Regional Forester adopted both a registration and a special use permit system in order to properly manage recreation use on the Chattooga River. His authority for requiring such systems is authorized in Secretary of Agriculture's Regulation 36 CFR 251.1.

This regulation, in part, states that "All uses of national forest lands, improvements, and resources . . . excepting those provided for in the regulations governing the disposal of timber and the grazing of livestock or otherwise specifically authorized by acts of Congress, shall be designated 'special uses,' and shall be authorized by 'special use permits.'" Individuals temporarily using or occupying National Forest lands for the purpose of camping, picnicking, boating, etc., may be allowed to do so without a special use permit. However, the decision rests with the Forest Service.

Copy to  
J. Zecher  
3/31 of

P & B		
DATE RECEIVED		
MAR 28 1978		
DIRECTOR		
PLANNING ✓		
PROGRAM DEV.		
BUDGET		
SYSTEMS		
INFO	COMMENT	REP.
FILE	DESTROY	

It is reasonable and economically prudent to forego the requirement of a special use permit in instances of infrequent, incidental use that are not considered to be in conflict with resource management objectives. Special use permits should not be waived for the sake of creating identical procedures for all categories of users.

Whether a special use permit will be charge or not depends on the nature of the use. Free use permits may be issued without charge to outfitter guides when the use is (a) by a governmental agency, (b) of a public or semi-public nature, (c) for noncommercial purposes, (d) in connection with an authorized utilization of National Forest resources, (e) of benefit to the Government in the administration of the National Forests or for similar purposes compatible with the public interest, and when authorized and directed so to be issued by acts of Congress. Conversely, a charge permit is required for those outfitter guide operations clearly using National Forest lands as an integral part of the business, i.e., conducting tangible, preplanned activities as part of the overall camping program. Payment of a fee is required and the amount must be commensurate with the value of the use authorized by the permit.

From the record, we are unable to tell how each of the camps in the North Carolina Camp Director's Association impacts National Forests. All have differing operations and their use and purpose for using National Forest lands no doubt varies. Perhaps some camps' use may be of the degree and character as to warrant the Regional Forester waiving the special use permit requirement. This decision is his to make in light of management objectives and anticipated impacts.

It is our decision, therefore, that the Regional Forester direct the Forest Supervisor to reconsider each camp's use of National Forest land. Using the direction given in Forest Service Manual 2721.53 and this decision letter, special use permits should be issued as deemed appropriate. If a permit is required, fees must be charged for those permittees judged to be commercial.

This constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture and concludes the Administrative Review process under Secretary's Regulation 36 CFR 211.2.

Sincerely,

cc: R-8

THOMAS C. NELSON  
ACTING CHIEF

APPENDIX  
Development Plan

## DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Bullpen (Scenic) - Bullpen Bridge and Road is one of the two major access points in North Carolina. It is a U. S. Forest Service system road that joins N. C. Hwy. 107 with Highlands, N. C. Because of this road, this section is classified as Scenic. It is a major trout stocking point. The majority of the use is fishing for stocked and native trout. Floating has been infrequent in the past. Because of the small water flow and the ruggedness of this gorge area, floating is not recommended on this section.

Development needs--

--Construct 1.5 miles of hiking trail with termini at Bullpen Bridge and Ellicott Rock.

--Construct 10-15 car parking lot and solid waste disposal facilities near Bullpen Bridge for use as trail head and to serve fishermen.

--Construct 2.5 miles of hiking trail from Bullpen Bridge to a point on the Grimshaws Bridge Road near the Macon-Jackson County Line.

Burrells Ford (Scenic) - Burrells Ford is one of the three major access points in Georgia and South Carolina. Access is by U. S. Forest Service Road #708 (stone surfaced) with concrete bridge which links Georgia Highway 28 with South Carolina Highway 107. This a major trout stocking point. It also attracts heavy visitor use for sight-seeing and for hiking into the Ellicott Rock Wilderness. Burrells Ford Campground is located about one-half mile down river from the bridge. It is being administered by Sumter National Forest as a primitive walk-in campground. Burrells Ford has been used by floaters very infrequently because of the low water level during the normal use season and the difficulty of portaging gorge areas. Floating is not recommended in this section.

Development needs--

--Major day-use parking lot in South Carolina (30-50 cars) to serve fishermen, hikers, and sight-seers. Include solid waste disposal facilities.

--Relocate 2.0 miles of Foothills Trail to by-pass campground and bridge crossing. Trail to be located to take hikers by foot of attractive waterfalls on Kings Creek and on Spoon Auger Creek and relieve conflict with fishermen.

--Close primitive road which meanders down river bank on Georgia side in order to prevent resource damage caused by indiscriminate camping. Primitive walk-in camping will be allowed along the river downstream from the Burrells Ford Bridge, but it can be no closer than one-quarter mile of the bridge. A locked gate will be used for blocking the road on the Georgia side leading south from the bridge to allow access to a private cemetery.

--Revise Burrells Ford Campground to a development scale 1 walk-in campground, stabilize and reinforce campsites, and install adequate sanitation facilities.

Nicholson Fields (Recreation) - These are a series of four separate fields situated along the west bank of the Chattooga River. They begin at Highway 28 and continue upstream for two miles. Present access to these fields is a primitive jeep road. They have had heavy use in past years for camping for the purpose of deer hunting and fishing for wild or natural trout. This area remains a favorite spot for wild trout fishing. This location is the source of some of the best wild or natural trout fishing in both South Carolina and Georgia. Floating will be prohibited above Highway 28 which includes the Nicholson Field area.

Development needs--

--Install gate near Highway 28 to provide limited access to private lands. Prohibit other vehicular access.

Russell Fields (Recreation) - This proposed development is located in the Russell Fields about one-quarter mile south of the Russell House and about one-eighth mile off Highway 28. The Russell House and fields are bordered on the east by Highway 28 and on the west by the Chattooga River. This site would provide an easy take-out point for floaters on the West Fork and launching for this section of the river.

Development needs--

--Construct access road, 25-40 car parking lot, and sanitary and water facilities.

Earl's Ford (Wild) - This site in South Carolina is the most used "put-in" for floaters on the entire river. It marks the beginning of the longest floating stretch of Wild River area. On weekends, upwards of 70-100 cars are crammed along a narrow road with no developed space for parking. The portable toilets being used are not meeting minimum sanitation standards. Until facilities are provided outside the boundary and the road blocked at the boundary, the road violates the Wild Classification area.

Development needs--

--Major parking lot (60-75 cars), outside corridor boundary.

--Sanitation facilities.

--Barrier road.

--Picnicking facilities.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
July 1, 1977

ORDER OF FOREST SUPERVISOR

SUMTER NATIONAL FOREST, SOUTH CAROLINA  
CHATTAHOOCHEE NATIONAL FOREST, GEORGIA

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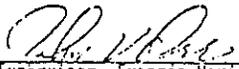
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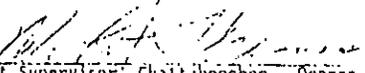
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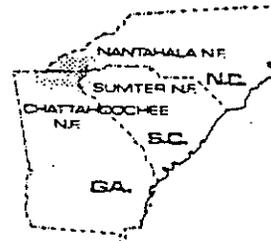
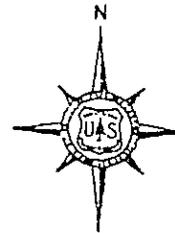
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Forest Supervisor, Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests

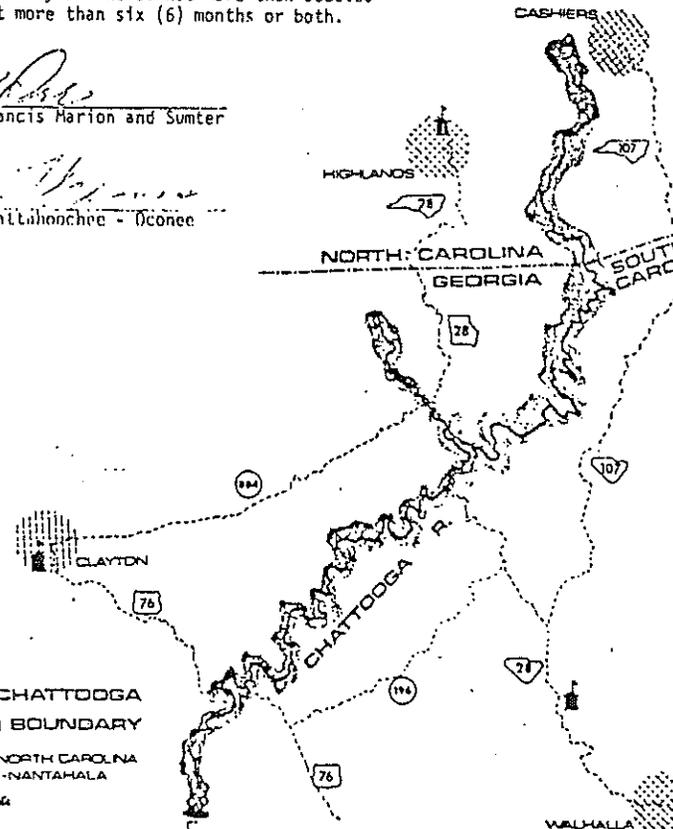
  
Forest Supervisor, Chattahoochee - Oconee National Forest.



WILD AND SCENIC CHATTOOGA RIVER & CORRIDOR BOUNDARY

SOUTH CAROLINA-GEORGIA-NORTH CAROLINA  
SUMTER-CHATTAHOOCHEE-NANTAHALA

National Forests



APPENDIX  
Special Use Fees, Summer Camps

2.

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Sincerely,

James E. Webb

LAWRENCE  
R  
FOR: WHITFIELD  
RESTER

6 copies to Office of Information, R-8. Distribution as follows:

cc: Francis Marion & Sumter NFs  
NFs in North Carolina  
OI, R-8  
WO, 2700  
WO, Legal Affairs  
Executive

R-8

P.O. Box 2417  
Washington, D.C. 20013

CERTIFIED RECEIPT REQUESTED

1570

MAR 22 1978

Mr. Thomas Thorne-Thomsen  
Alston, Miller and Gaines Law Offices  
Citizens and Southern National  
Bank Building  
35 Broad Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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Copy to  
J. Beckwith  
3/31  
Jf

P & B	
DATE RECEIVED	
MAR 28 1978	
DIRECTOR	
PLANNING	
PROGRAM DEV.	
BUDGET	
SYSTEMS	
INFO	COMMENT
FILE	DESTROY

It is reasonable and economically prudent to forego the requirement of a special use permit in instances of infrequent, incidental use that are not considered to be in conflict with resource management objectives. Special use permits should not be waived for the sake of creating identical procedures for all categories of users.

Whether a special use permit will be charge or not depends on the nature of the use. Free use permits may be issued without charge to outfitter guides when the use is (a) by a governmental agency, (b) of a public or semi-public nature, (c) for noncommercial purposes, (d) in connection with an authorized utilization of National Forest resources, (e) of benefit to the Government in the administration of the National Forests or for similar purposes compatible with the public interest, and when authorized and directed so to be issued by acts of Congress. Conversely, a charge permit is required for those outfitter guide operations clearly using National Forest lands as an integral part of the business, i.e., conducting tangible, preplanned activities as part of the overall camping program. Payment of a fee is required and the amount must be commensurate with the value of the use authorized by the permit.

From the record, we are unable to tell how each of the camps in the North Carolina Camp Director's Association impacts National Forests. All have differing operations and their use and purpose for using National Forest lands no doubt varies. Perhaps some camps' use may be of the degree and character as to warrant the Regional Forester waiving the special use permit requirement. This decision is his to make in light of management objectives and anticipated impacts.

It is our decision, therefore, that the Regional Forester direct the Forest Supervisor to reconsider each camp's use of National Forest land. Using the direction given in Forest Service Manual 2721.53 and this decision letter, special use permits should be issued as deemed appropriate. If a permit is required, fees must be charged for those permittees judged to be commercial.

This constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture and concludes the Administrative Review process under Secretary's Regulation 36 CFR 211.2.

Sincerely,

cc: R-8

THOMAS C. NELSON  
ACTING CHIEF

APPENDIX  
Development Plan

## DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Bullpen (Scenic) - Bullpen Bridge and Road is one of the two major access points in North Carolina. It is a U. S. Forest Service system road that joins N. C. Hwy. 107 with Highlands, N. C. Because of this road, this section is classified as Scenic. It is a major trout stocking point. The majority of the use is fishing for stocked and native trout. Floating has been infrequent in the past. Because of the small water flow and the ruggedness of this gorge area, floating is not recommended on this section.

Development needs--

--Construct 1.5 miles of hiking trail with termini at Bullpen Bridge and Ellicott Rock.

--Construct 10-15 car parking lot and solid waste disposal facilities near Bullpen Bridge for use as trail head and to serve fishermen.

--Construct 2.5 miles of hiking trail from Bullpen Bridge to a point on the Grimshaws Bridge Road near the Macon-Jackson County Line.

Burrells Ford (Scenic) - Burrells Ford is one of the three major access points in Georgia and South Carolina. Access is by U. S. Forest Service Road #708 (stone surfaced) with concrete bridge which links Georgia Highway 28 with South Carolina Highway 107. This a major trout stocking point. It also attracts heavy visitor use for sight-seeing and for hiking into the Ellicott Rock Wilderness. Burrells Ford Campground is located about one-half mile down river from the bridge. It is being administered by Sumter National Forest as a primitive walk-in campground. Burrells Ford has been used by floaters very infrequently because of the low water level during the normal use season and the difficulty of portaging gorge areas. Floating is not recommended in this section.

Development needs--

--Major day-use parking lot in South Carolina (30-50 cars) to serve fishermen, hikers, and sight-seers. Include solid waste disposal facilities.

--Relocate 2.0 miles of Foothills Trail to by-pass campground and bridge crossing. Trail to be located to take hikers by foot of attractive waterfalls on Kings Creek and on Spoon Auger Creek and relieve conflict with fishermen.

--Close primitive road which meanders down river bank on Georgia side in order to prevent resource damage caused by indiscriminate camping. Primitive walk-in camping will be allowed along the river downstream from the Burrells Ford Bridge, but it can be no closer than one-quarter mile of the bridge. A locked gate will be used for blocking the road on the Georgia side leading south from the bridge to allow access to a private cemetery.

--Revise Burrells Ford Campground to a development scale 1 walk-in campground, stabilize and reinforce campsites, and install adequate sanitation facilities.

Nicholson Fields (Recreation) - These are a series of four separate fields situated along the west bank of the Chattooga River. They begin at Highway 28 and continue upstream for two miles. Present access to these fields is a primitive jeep road. They have had heavy use in past years for camping for the purpose of deer hunting and fishing for wild or natural trout. This area remains a favorite spot for wild trout fishing. This location is the source of some of the best wild or natural trout fishing in both South Carolina and Georgia. Floating will be prohibited above Highway 28 which includes the Nicholson Field area.

Development needs--

--Install gate near Highway 28 to provide limited access to private lands. Prohibit other vehicular access.

Russell Fields (Recreation) - This proposed development is located in the Russell Fields about one-quarter mile south of the Russell House and about one-eighth mile off Highway 28. The Russell House and fields are bordered on the east by Highway 28 and on the west by the Chattooga River. This site would provide an easy take-out point for floaters on the West Fork and launching for this section of the river.

Development needs--

--Construct access road, 25-40 car parking lot, and sanitary and water facilities.

Earl's Ford (Wild) - This site in South Carolina is the most used "put-in" for floaters on the entire river. It marks the beginning of the longest floating stretch of Wild River area. On weekends, upwards of 70-100 cars are crammed along a narrow road with no developed space for parking. The portable toilets being used are not meeting minimum sanitation standards. Until facilities are provided outside the boundary and the road blocked at the boundary, the road violates the Wild Classification area.

Development needs--

--Major parking lot (60-75 cars), outside corridor boundary.

--Sanitation facilities.

--Barrier road.

--Picnicking facilities.

Dick's Creek (Wild) - This site in Georgia provides access to Dick's Creek Falls and the Bartram Trail. Dick's Creek Falls is a favorite spot accessible by an existing trail. The Bartram Trail is along the route of William Bartram, early explorer and pioneer botanist who entered the drainage in 1775.

Development needs--

--Construct 10-car parking lot outside corridor boundary.

--Reconstruct 0.5 miles trail to Dick's Creek Falls.

Highway 76 (Scenic) - More people see the Chattooga River where this U. S. Highway crosses than any place on the river. The attraction causes many people to stop and view the river. This, coupled with the site being a major put-in.- take-out for floating, creates significant impacts on this area. Most floaters who put in at Earl's Ford take out here. Parking is limited to the road right-of-way, producing a hazard to all visitors who stop and passing traffic. Remains of an old highway bridge detracts from the scenic qualities. Bull Sluice, a 10-foot high cascade offering an ominous challenge to floaters, is a short hike from the highway. The site offers the best opportunity for visitor information efforts.

Development needs--

--Major parking lot (100 cars).

--Sanitation facilities.

--Trails to launch site and Bull Sluice.

--Visitor Information Service shelter with displays.

--Picnicking facilities.

--Remove old bridge superstructure.

Buckeye Branch, Licklog, Sutton Hole, Cliff Creek, Daniels Creek, Camp Creek (Wild) -

These areas are proposed because of the suitability and need for areas of primitive camping for the fisherman, hunter, and hiker as well as the floater. These areas are alike in that the sites have been used for primitive camping and will continue on a walk-in basis to accommodate the hiker, hunter, and fisherman as well as overnight camping for floaters.

Development needs--

- Reconstruction of access roads to boundary.
- Construction of minor parking lots (10 to 15 cars) at or near boundary.
- Construction of hiking trails for access from parking lot to camping area.
- Construct and install gates for search-rescue access at Licklog and Camp Creek.

(See Development Plan Summary for details.)

Sandy Ford & Earl's Ford in Georgia (Wild) - These are where the old roads that connected Clayton, Georgia, and Whetstone and Walhalla, South Carolina, crossed the Chattooga during early settlement days. The present access is by a Georgia county-maintained road. These areas receive heavy use by fishermen and hunters, and moderate use by floaters.

Development needs--

- Construct a 10- to 20-car parking lot at corridor boundary on each road.
- Construct and install gate to block primitive road at corridor boundary (need county permission) to allow access for search-rescue purposes.

Overflow Bridge (Recreation) - Overflow Bridge area is on the West Fork of the Chattooga River. It is near the beginning of the Wild section and is the furthest vehicular access up West Fork. The access is by U. S. Forest Service System Road #86. This area is also the major launching point for float trips on West Fork. Overflow Bridge area is a major trout stocking point and receives heavy use by fishermen.

Development needs--

- Construct 0.1 mile of access road to parking lot (with surface).
- Construct parking area to accommodate 25 cars.
- Design and develop two areas of concentrated use for primitive camping.
- Install sanitation facilities.
- Improve stream bank to facilitate ease of launching.

Woodall Shoals (Wild) - Woodall Shoals is a major site along the river because of the attractiveness of the rapids, excellent fishing, and

because it's a major exit for floaters. The access is by a primitive system road being maintained by the U. S. Forest Service.

Development needs--

--Construct a parking lot to accommodate 10 cars, outside corridor boundary.

--Provide sanitation facilities.

--Reconstruct and improve access road for 3 miles.

--Construct and install gate to allow search-rescue access.

Trails - In addition to the trails near Bullpen Bridge, other trails will be needed to provide hiker access throughout most of the river corridor. When complete, a trail system will be available from a trail head in Grimshaws Bridge Road in North Carolina, to U. S. 76, a distance of approximately three-fourths the length of the river corridor.

Development needs--

--Construct hiking trail from junction with Foothills Trail near Big Bend in South Carolina to Highway 28.

--Construct hiking trail from Highway 28 to U. S. 76 in Georgia.

ANNUAL DISTRICT COST ESTIMATES\*

(1980 Dollars)

Recurrent Costs

Supervisory	\$ 5,760
Registration Program	3,000
Water Monitoring Program	750
River Ranger Program	
3 GS-3's for 5 months	13,000
Fleet	
2 vehicles F.O.R. & mileage	5,400
Clean Up	
Supplies	800
Salaries	
Crew Leader	2,000
3 men	1,800
	<hr/>
	\$32,510
	<hr/> <hr/>

\* Does not include overhead

CHATTOOGA RIVER

DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUMMARY

RIVER MILES AND LOCATION		Classification	State	Reconstruct Access Rd. Miles	Parking Lot	Launch Site	Trail Miles	Developed Campsite	Developed Picnicking
46.0	Bullpen	Scenic	NC		X		4.0		
40.3	Burrells Ford	Scenic	SC		X			X	
40.3	Burrells Ford	Scenic	GA		X				
29.1	Russell Fields	Rec.	SC		X	X			X
22.4	Earls Ford	Wild	GA	5.0	X	X			
22.4	Earls Ford	Wild	SC		X	X			X
19.6	Dick's Creek	Wild	GA		X		0.5		
19.1	Sandy Ford	Wild	GA	1.0	X	X	0.2		
16.3	Buckeye Branch	Wild	GA				0.5		
15.5	Licklog	Wild	GA	3.0	X	X	0.3		
10.0	Highway 76	Scenic	SC		X		0.3		X
10.0	Highway 76	Scenic	GA		X	X			
8.2	Sutton Hole	Wild	GA	0.8	X		0.3		
8.1	Woodall Shoals	Wild	SC	3.0	X	X	0.5		
7.1	Cliff Creek	Wild	GA		X		0.4		
	Daniel's Creek	Wild	GA				0.5		
5.4	Camp Creek	Wild	GA	5.0	X	X	0.3		
3.9	Overflow Bridge	Rec.	GA	0.1	X	X			
	Big Bend - Highway 28	Wild - Rec.	SC				8.0		
	Highway 28 - U.S. 76	Rec. - Wild - Scenic	GA				16.0		

narrow channel with numerous falls and sluices. Below Licklog Creek, the gradient is much easier and the steep ridges on either side begin to widen down to Nicholson Fields.

**Earls Ford**—This section covers 15.0 miles of the river from Turnhole to Bull Sluice.

The river is 75 feet wide at the beginning of this section, flowing slowly between heavily wooded slopes. Just below Turnhole, it divides around a large island and drops over two easy rapids for a short, smooth run to Big Shoals. Here it divides around a large boulder and drops down a five-foot ledge through boiling whitewater. The next three miles are over easy rapids, around several islands, and through a series of shallow rapids to Earls Ford where an old road comes to the river. An old Indian trail between the Cherokee villages of Stekoa and Keowee once crossed the river near here. Warwoman Creek joins the river at this point, increasing the volume of water significantly. Below this point, the degree of canoeing difficulty increases. The next 12 miles to Bull Sluice has been called the most beautiful stretch of whitewater in the Southeast—unexcelled for both scenery and canoeing water.

Leaving Earls Ford, steep ridges close in on the river as it drops over rapids, around boulders, and down ledges. Six easy rapids in the next mile lead to the Rock Garden, where several rock slabs jut 10-15 feet from the river and shoreline at a 45 degree angle, creating unusual rock formations.

The river continues over several difficult rapids and a stretch of turbulent water to Dicks Creek. Here Dicks Creek Falls cascades 100 feet down into the river. This is probably the most beautiful waterfall along the entire river.

Below Dicks Creek, the river flows past a series of roundtopped rocks and by two large islands to Sandy Ford. It then falls over some easy rapids and enters the Narrows. This is a long and difficult rapids where the stream narrows to a six-foot width, pouring over several ledges in quick succession.

For the last three miles to Bull Sluice, the river moves steadily over moderate shoals and rapids with several abrupt chutes. Bull Sluice is one of the most dangerous areas on the river.

**Woodall Shoals**—This section covers the remaining 7.1 miles to Tugaloo Reservoir. Downstream from U.S. 76 Bridge, the river flows through undisturbed country with deeply forested ridges rising easily on either side. The river is over 200 feet wide here and flows smoothly with considerable volume around a succession of rocks and boulders protruding from the water and banks. Within the first mile, the river drops over nine steep rapids.

No other stretch of the Chattooga can compare with the last 3.7 miles of the river with its 48 rapids and cascades. It is rated by canoe experts as one of the most difficult stretches of whitewater in America and should be attempted only by expert canoeists and floaters. The river runs among huge boulders and through sheer rock-walled canyons. The wildness of the land and sheerness of

the ridges and canyon walls make it nearly impossible to get out of the river once a floating party is launched. It flows through an impressive gorge with cliffs on the east side rising over 150 feet above the water level. Several tributaries enter by waterfalls, such as 60-foot high Long Creek Falls. Not far from the gorge, the river is stilled in the quiet waters of Tugaloo Reservoir.

**Three Forks**—This section includes a portion of the West Fork of the Chattooga and reaches from 1.3 miles above Three Forks on Overflow Creek to 0.1 mile above Overflow Bridge, a distance of 3.3 miles.

The West Fork above Overflow Bridge is wild and inaccessible. Because of the extremely rough terrain and lack of access, at least one-half day is necessary to view this segment. The use of floating equipment is impractical. Three creeks join at Three Forks, about two miles above Overflow Bridge, to form the West Fork.

Holcomb Creek, the westernmost of the three, is a small, narrow, fast-flowing mountain stream. About one-half mile above Three Forks, it drops over a small waterfall and crashes down a narrow gorge, creating continuous whitewater. Cliffs rise vertically over 100 feet above the water on one side. Evidence of the great force of the water is seen in the numerous rock formations and round pot holes cut into solid rock. This stream has the appearance of a darkly shaded cataract hidden by cool, dense vegetation.

Overflow Creek is the middle stream of the Three Forks. It is a larger, wider, and more smoothly flowing stream than either of the other two. Overflow averages 20 feet in width and is a rather open, sunlit stream that could be easily walked by fishermen. The stream includes a beautiful 25-foot waterfall that is one of the most spectacular single features of the West Fork.

Big Creek is similar in size to Holcomb Creek and drops swiftly in a series of waterfalls and fast flowing pools. For 100 yards above Three Forks, it flows in washboard fashion over a series of ledges tilted at about 30 degrees. The steep, rocky sides of the stream and the dense vegetation along its shoreline make it difficult to climb out of the stream bed.

#### SCENIC

**Class definition.** A scenic river area is free of impoundments, with shoreline or watershed still largely primitive, and shoreline largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads. Long stretches of conspicuous or well traveled roads may not parallel the river in close proximity.

**Description.** Three sections of the river are classified as scenic. They are described as follows:

**Bullpen Bridge**—This section includes the section of river  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile above and  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile below the Bullpen Bridge.

The river above the bridge runs rapidly through a steep gorge. Below the bridge, the river widens where Ammons Branch flows into the Chattooga. However, this section is not safe for floating because the river becomes narrow, steep, and too hazardous for it.

The bridge is steel with a 60-foot about 40 feet above the river.

**Burrells Ford**—This one-mile section begins  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile above the bridge and extends  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile downstream from the bridge. It contains the Burrells I Campground, a one-mile portion of Foot hills Trail, and two cemeteries.

**76 Bridge**—This section is 1.0 mile the river from just below Bull Sluice  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile below U.S. Highway 76 Bridge. The remains of an old bridge, some evidence of sandmining, and a dirt access road to the water are located immediately adjacent to the highway bridge.

#### RECREATION

**Class definition.** A section of river which is readily accessible by road, railroad and may have some development along the shoreline. The river may have undergone some impoundments or diversions in the past.

**Description.** Three sections of the river are classified as recreational. They are described as follows:

**Headwaters**—The portion of the river 5.5 miles of the headwaters of the Chattooga from 0.8 mile below Cashier Lake to 0.2 mile above Norton Mill Creek. Above this portion, the Chattooga is only a small stream a few feet wide trickling off the Blue Ridge Crest.

The Headwaters section, including Silver Slipper Falls and the Chattooga Cliffs, has the most scenic long-range views and cascades on the river. Silver Slipper Falls drops steeply down the mountainside for over 150 feet, partially framing a view of nearby Whitesides Mountain with its 2,000-foot sheer granite sides.

At the foot of the falls, the river plunges into dense forest for one-third mile, then turns eastward on a gentle slope through a young forest growing in abandoned fields. Past this, the river drops sharply for 75 feet through the narrow v-shaped rock walls of Ribbon Falls. A number of interesting pot holes, several feet in diameter and four to ten feet deep, have been cut vertically down the solid rock sides of this cascade. The river continues along a rapidly descending course through dense forest and over a continuous succession of rapids, cascades, and small waterfalls.

The Headwaters section provides some of the most dramatic scenery to be found on the river. However, this section is wholly in private ownership and at the present time includes five homes and three cabins. Public access is limited.

About one-half mile above Grimshaws Bridge, the river enters a valley with forested old fields and large open pastures. A barn and several summer homes are visible from the river. Grimshaws Bridge crossing is accessible by a county road.

**28 Bridge**—This section includes 5.1 miles of the river beginning at Nicholson Fields and ending at Turnhole. This section of the river is entirely different from the gorge-enclosed section above it. The river above has crashed over 20 miles from its extreme headwaters down through the mountains, averaging an 84-foot drop per mile. Here, the river abruptly changes into a smooth stream,

CURRENT RIVER USES

BOATING

Sections of the river are ideal for floating in canoes, kayaks, and rubber rafts. Motorized boat use is impractical because of the shallow water and rocks. During CY 1974, an estimated 21,000 floaters used the river. Of these, about 4,000 saw the river with commercial outfitters. These commercial outfitters operate under special use permits which guide their schedules and the size of their groups. There are now three established outfitters with local offices near the river area; however, most floaters use the river on an individual basis.

HIKING

Hiking is popular in the river zone. There are two developed trails along the river. One is in South Carolina from Elliott Rock south to Big Bend Falls, a distance of 5 1/2 miles. The other is a portion of the Bartram Trail in Georgia extending from the Warwoman area south to nearby Sandy Ford, a distance of 3 1/2 miles. Although there are no other developed trails along the river, most of the shoreline is accessible to those hikers wanting to use primitive fishing trails.

CAMPING

The only developed camping along the river is Burrells Ford Campground in South Carolina. However, river runners on float trips and hikers can enjoy camping under primitive conditions at many sites along the river.

FISHING

Trout fishing on the Chattooga ranges from excellent in the upper areas to extremely marginal in the lowermost reaches. Off-setting the poor trout fishing in lower sections of the Chattooga is an increasingly good redeye bass fishery. Since this river is located in the lower portion of trout habitat, it isn't as productive as those streams in the North or West portions of the Nation. However, because of its location in the South, it remains an extremely popular area for trout fishing. The present population of rainbow and brown trout is supplemented by State stocking programs.

Very little fishing is done from floatable craft. Most fishing is done either from the bank or by wading in the stream. The recent increase in floaters using the river has had a detrimental effect on the fishing experience. Conflicts have developed on certain sections of the river where floaters and fishermen use the same waters.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

ENTIRE RIVER

The Act states that: Each component of the national wild and scenic rivers system shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such adminis-

tration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its esthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic, and scientific features. Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development based on the special attributes of the area.

An objective will be to provide a range of recreation opportunities characteristic of, and in harmony with, the nature of the individual river segments.

WILD AREA

The wild area will be managed to (1) preserve the river and its immediate environment in a natural, wild, and primitive condition essentially unaltered by the effects of man, and (2) provide water-oriented recreation opportunities in a primitive setting.

SCENIC AREA

The scenic river area will be managed to (1) maintain and enhance the condition of the high-quality scenery, (2) provide opportunities for river-oriented recreation, and (3) utilize other resources and permit other activities which maintain or enhance the quality of the wildlife habitat, river fishery, scenic attraction, or recreational values.

RECREATIONAL AREA

The recreational river area will be managed to provide compatible outdoor recreation opportunities and water-oriented recreational facilities.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

Management direction statements explain how the management objectives for the river will be met. The directions for each subject begin with statements of a general nature and apply to the entire river. Additional directions specific to an individual river area are contained in that portion of the statement specifically identified by a river area classification.

To understand the total impact of the directions under which an individual river area will be managed, both the general and specific statements must be considered.

Unless otherwise specified, the management directions apply to both private and Federal lands.

SOIL AND WATERSHED

Entire area. Water and soil are the two basic elements which make a river and its banks. The condition of both is important in that they affect all the other uses and activities in the area.

The following management direction is aimed at maintaining or improving the condition of the soil, water, and watershed.

Make detailed soil studies to guide planning and location of future improvements, operations, and developments.

Scenic easements on critical soil areas of privately-owned lands will be acquired to protect those areas exhibiting clear and present potential for deterioration if disturbed or where serious deterioration is presently occurring.

flowing easily through progressively gentle slopes, and an area of fields, farms, and homes. This is the slowest flowing section on the entire river, dropping an average of only 12 feet per mile. It is shallow and easy for the inexperienced canoeist.

Except for the short pastoral stretch near Grimshaws Bridge in North Carolina, this is the only section on the main river with farms, homes, and a paralleling main highway in view from the river.

The open fields on each side of Highway 28 were once the site of Chattooga Old Town, a large Indian settlement destroyed by the Cherokees before 1600. State Highway 28 crosses the Chattooga and then parallels it within 100-1000 feet for 1.8 miles on the South Carolina side.

*Pine Mountain*—This section covers a distance of 4.0 miles, reaching from 0.1 mile above Overflow Bridge to the junction with the Chattooga River.

The West Fork below Overflow Bridge changes abruptly into a different kind of river. Its character changes from white-water in primitive surroundings to a slow-moving gentle stream—suitable for the canoeing novice—in an area of moderate development that includes Overflow and Warwoman Bridges, and evidence of logging to the water's edge in the first 2.6 mile segment. Overflow Road parallels the stream closely. From Warwoman Bridge to the Chattooga, the river banks show heavy use and considerable erosion. Noise from traffic on the roads may be heard in places. The river banks are high, almost vertical, and generally block the view of surrounding fields and farm buildings from the water level. Several abandoned developments are in the lower reaches, including rusty sand-mining equipment, steel tanks, an old splash dam, and the remains of a low-water bridge.

Highway 28 closely parallels the river much of the way between Warwoman Road and the Chattooga. The eroded riverbanks throughout this segment have contributed a number of sand and silt deposits along the stream course.

River classification

Area	Class	Length (miles) <sup>1</sup>
Headwaters.....	Recreation.....	5.5
Chattooga cliffs.....	Wild.....	2.0
Bullpen bridge.....	Scenic.....	.5
Elliott Rock.....	Wild.....	3.4
Burrells Ford.....	Scenic.....	1.0
Rock Gorge.....	Wild.....	9.0
28 bridge.....	Recreation.....	5.1
Earls Ford.....	Wild.....	15.0
76 bridge.....	Scenic.....	1.0
Woodall Shoals.....	Wild.....	7.1
Total.....		49.6
WEST YORK		
3 Forks.....	Wild.....	3.2
Pine Mountain.....	Recreation.....	4.0
Total.....		7.3
Grand total.....		56.9

<sup>1</sup> Wild, 39.8 mi (70 pct); scenic, 2.5 mi (4 pct); recreation, 14.6 mi (26 pct).



TEXAS

Designation of Emergency Areas

The Secretary of Agriculture has determined that farming, ranching, or aquaculture operations have been substantially affected in the following Texas Counties as a result of the natural disasters shown below:

Hunt.—Extreme wet conditions August 1, 1974, to July 13, 1975; drought conditions July 16, to October 31, 1975.

Red River.—Excessive rainfall March 1, through June 17, 1975; and drought conditions June 18, through November 3, 1975.

Therefore, the Secretary has designated these areas as eligible for Emergency loans, pursuant to the provisions of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended by Public Law 94-68, and the provisions of 7 CFR 1832.3(b) including the recommendation of Governor Dolph Briscoe that such designation be made.

Applications for Emergency loans must be received by this Department no later than May 3, 1976, for physical losses and December 2, 1976, for production losses, except that qualified borrowers who receive initial loans pursuant to this designation may be eligible for subsequent loans. The urgency of the need for loans in the designated area makes it impracticable and contrary to the public interest to give advance notice of proposed rule making and invite public participation.

Done at Washington, D.C., this 12th day of March, 1976.

FRANK B. ELLIOTT, Administrator, Farmers Home Administration. [FR Doc.76-8016 Filed 3-19-76; 8:45 am]

Forest Service CHATTOOGA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER Classification, Boundaries, and Development Plan

Pursuant to the authority delegated to the Chief, Forest Service, by the Secretary of Agriculture in 7 CFR 2.60, the classification, boundaries, and development plan for the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River area, including portions of the West Fork of the Chattooga River in the Nantahala, Sumter, and Chattahoochee National Forests, are established as hereinafter set forth. The material which follows is all contained in the River Plan for the Chattooga River, copies of which were furnished the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on November 13, 1975, in accordance with subsection 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (82 Stat. 908).

Dated: March 15, 1976.

JOHN R. MCGUIRE, Chief, Forest Service.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN—CHATTOOGA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

INTRODUCTION

Public Law 93-279, May 10, 1974, amended Public Law 90-542, October 2, 1968, "The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act" hereinafter referred to as "The Act," designating the Chattooga River as a part of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

The portion of the Chattooga River designated as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System extends from 0.8 miles below Cashiers Lake in North Carolina to Tugaloo Reservoir and the West Fork Chattooga River from its junction with the Chattooga upstream 7.3 miles, a total distance of 57 miles. The river is to be administered by the Forest Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Classification of the river into the three classes presented in the Act is proposed together with supporting management objectives and directives and development plans. The Act charges that:

Each component of the national wild and scenic river system shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its esthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic, and scientific features. . . .

The Forest Service must, within one year of the date of the Act, (1) establish the detailed boundaries of the Chattooga River, (2) classify the river or its various segments as wild, scenic or recreational in nature, and (3) prepare a development plan in accordance with the classification. This document is designed to meet these requirements.

Information concerning the Chattooga River may be obtained by writing the Forest Supervisors, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests at Gainesville, Georgia; Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests at Columbia, South Carolina; or National Forests in North Carolina at Asheville, North Carolina.

RIVER BOUNDARIES

Several factors determined the location of the river boundaries. The Act limits the area within the boundaries to not more than an average of 320 acres per mile. With a length of 57 miles to be included within the boundaries, a maximum area of 18,240 acres is possible.

Of primary importance is the nature and condition of the land area seen from the river or riverbank. Protection of this primary viewed area is one of the principle management objectives.

Boundaries are on ridge tops and natural features where possible. On the basis of the above consideration, the river boundaries contained a total of 16,424 acres, an average of 288 acres per river mile.

Refer below for the legal description of the boundary and availability of a map showing these boundaries.

RIVER CLASSIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION

WILD

Class definition. A wild river area is free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and water unpolluted. It represents a vestige of primitive America.

Description. Six sections of the river are classified as wild. They are described as follows:

Chattooga Cliffs—This two-mile section begins 0.2 miles above Norton Mill Creek and ends one-quarter mile above Bullpen Bridge.

Ellicott Rock—This 5.2 mile section begins one-quarter mile below Bullpen Bridge and continues to approximately one-quarter mile above Burrells Ford Bridge. It includes 1.7 miles of the river in North Carolina and 3.5 miles of the river between Georgia and South Carolina.

Both of these sections are in a near natural condition. They include some beautiful but hazardous whitewater that should not be floated. Enormous boulders, some over 50 feet high with trees on top, rise from the riverbed.

The stream averages 25-30 feet in width at the beginning of this section and drops on a generally steep gradient through whitewater cascades hemmed in by dense vegetation and high ridges. In many places, sheer rock outcrops and cliffs tower 400-600 feet above the river. The Chattooga Cliffs, a series of these outcrops 2,800-3,300 feet in elevation, continue for 2 1/2 miles down the river. Along the faster dropping portions, exposed boulders and steep, slick, rock walled sides make it difficult to climb out of the riverbed to portage around dangerous cascades or other obstacles. In another place, the river enters a narrowly enclosed rock canyon. Here, the noise of the river is hushed, and deep water flows slowly between sheer walls of solid rock rising 75 feet out of the water.

The river flows past Ellicott Rock, a point where the state boundaries of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia join, named for an early day surveyor. This historic rock and the river, for a distance of 2.1 miles, is within the Ellicott Rock Wilderness, a 3,600-acre parcel of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Rock Gorge—The nine-mile section from Burrells Ford to Nicholson Fields is one of the most difficult portions of the river. This stretch includes exciting but treacherous whitewater. It flows around huge rocks and through narrow sluices and drops over 25-foot Big Bend Falls and 21 small waterfalls and rapids in less than two miles. Here, the Chattooga enters Rock Gorge, the steepest part of the Chattooga River Gorge. Huge, house-size boulders constrict the river into a

Stabilize or revegetate all areas of exposed soils. Place special emphasis on preventing and controlling soil erosion near the water's edge. Take measures to reduce causes of siltation and turbidity from tributaries and the river.

Alteration of the stream bed or modification of bedrock will not be permitted.

Solid waste disposal within the corridor will be prohibited.

At the present time, management of the Chattooga River area produces high quality water above Stekoa Creek. The production of high quality water will continue under Wild and Scenic River management.

The only major problem needing attention is sewage discharge from the City of Clayton, Georgia, into Stekoa Creek which flows directly into the Chattooga River. The City is aware of this problem and is correcting it as funds permit.

Because of habitation on the tributaries of the Chattooga River in North Carolina and Georgia, additional pollution is possible. A sanitary survey is being made to locate possible sources of pollution and to determine the action needed to minimize their effect. State water quality agencies are interested in maintaining the quality of water in the river.

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE

*Entire area.* In general, wildlife habitat management activities on a large scale will not be attempted. The narrow corridor limits habitat management opportunity. All wildlife species will be maintained for their ecological values. Wildlife populations will be allowed to seek their own population levels as they adjust to habitat diversity.

No new wildlife openings or other habitat improvements will be established. Portions of existing managed wildlife openings at Nicholson Fields and Russell Field (S.C.) will be maintained. Closed and seeded roads will not be maintained as wildlife openings.

A native fishery will be encouraged. Fish stocking will be permitted at the Highway 28 Bridge, Burrells Ford, Bullpen Bridge, Long Bottom Ford on the river, and Warwoman and Overflow Bridges on the West Ford. Artificial fish habitat structures will not be installed.

#### MINERALS

*Entire area.* The extraction of minerals through surface disturbance is not compatible with Wild and Scenic River status. Other methods of geophysical study which would not disturb the surface may be compatible. There are no outstanding mineral rights on National Forest lands.

#### PROTECTION

*Entire area.* Due to the roadless character along segments of the river and the need to maintain this character, special protection requirements are established. The unique and irreplaceable values involved demand the employment of all necessary means to insure protection of existing values. Criteria for protection are as follows:

Proposals to control insects and disease must be developed through an environmental analysis approved by the Forest Supervisor.

Most recreation use on the river occurs during the period of May through September when the forest fire hazard is low. The frequent summer rainfall and lush green vegetation combine to minimize fire danger during this period. The highest risk of forest fires occurs in early spring and fall when vegetation has dried. Generally, fire occurrence in the corridor is small.

Some changes in fire control organization and tactics will be needed. For example, more use of airplane patrols along the narrow corridor would aid early detection of forest fires. Heavy motorized equipment will be used only when needed to protect aesthetic and other values. Restoration action will be taken to reduce the impact and return the damaged area to its original condition.

#### RECREATION

*Entire area.* One of the key reasons for including the Chattooga River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was to protect and enhance the recreational values which the river possesses.

The main attraction of the Chattooga River is its recreation opportunity—the chance to visit a whitewater river and experience solitude, adventure, and challenge. Protecting and maintaining the aesthetic values of the river must remain of paramount importance. Development within the boundary of the Chattooga River must not detract from, or destroy, the natural beauty that makes this river different from other rivers.

Restrictions in the Act limits types of recreation use, especially in the Wild and Scenic sections. Compatible uses on the Chattooga River are floating (including rafting, canoeing, and kayaking), hiking (including sightseeing, nature study, and photography), hunting, fishing, and camping. These uses are provided for in the development plan.

Although current levels of all types of use create some problems, uncontrolled future use would probably result in safety hazards and a lowering of the quality of the recreation experience. When the need warrants, this will be prevented by the establishment of regulations limiting size, number, type, etc., to provide optimum use.

Future technological advances may result in new types of equipment that could be used on the river. Only such new types of equipment compatible with management objectives will be permitted.

*Wild area.* The absence of man-made developments and the unmodified natural environment will dominate. Recreation developments will be of a primitive nature and, if necessary, will include only those facilities for sanitation, safety, fire, and site protection, and administrative purposes. Recreation use of the Wild River area will require a maximum degree of outdoor skills. Trails will be the principal type of improvement.

*Scenic area.* Proposed facilities in offer more convenience and comfort than those in the Wild River area; however, the natural environment will still dominate. Development will not intrude upon the natural scenic quality that present exists.

*Recreational area.* Facilities may be developed to provide opportunities for river-oriented recreation consistent with management objectives and protection of the river environment.

Private enterprise will be encouraged to develop recreational facilities on lands outside the river boundaries.

#### ACQUISITION

*Entire area.* It is desirable to acquire by fee simple title all privately owned lands within the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River boundary and any privately owned lands immediately adjacent that may present right-of-way or access problems in the management of the river within the limitations imposed by the Act.

This may require purchase of land with improvements that will have to be removed in order to protect the natural environment or setting. Authorization for condemnation for fee simple title does not exist.

On land that remains in private ownership, compliance with the management directions will be accomplished through acquisition of scenic easements. As used herein, the term scenic easement means purchased interests restricting the use of land for the purpose of protecting the scenic view from the river. Such interests shall not affect, without the owner's consent, any regular use exercised prior to the acquisition of the easement.

Scenic easements will be considered only when extensive negotiations indicate that acquisitions by fee simple title is impossible. These easements may have to be acquired through condemnation.

The terms of scenic easements will vary from case to case depending on what measures are necessary to prevent impairment of the scenic quality or basic resource.

Scenic easements will be sought to protect the natural environment or setting. Easements will consider protection of the view from the river or its environs as well as protection of critical resources.

Scenic easements will be written so that the government will acquire sufficient interests in the properties so as to protect the scenic qualities and basic resources. Conforming and nonconforming uses of land are covered in this plan in a general way. Specific application of these guides will necessarily be determined on the grounds of a case-by-case basis. An acquisition plan showing justification, needs, and purpose of scenic easements will be developed to guide the acquisition program.

Where a scenic easement for a parcel of private land is needed, an attempt will be made to negotiate an easement for all the parcels within the river boundary.

Where there is a need and the terrain is suitable, an easement for public access along the banks of the river will be acquired.

**Wild and Scenic areas.** Fee title will be acquired in all voluntary acquisitions. Only two tracts of private land remain within sections of the river classified as wild.

**Recreational area.** Fee acquisition will not be considered essential but is desirable in most instances. The bulk of privately owned lands is within the Headwaters Section in North Carolina.

Scenic easements will recognize the existence of more manmade modifications. Easements will be sought to control uses that conflict with the basic resources.

#### TIMBER

Though the production of timber products will be restricted within the proposed corridor, timber management in its broad sense will be practiced.

The role and objective of timber management will be the protection and production of healthy, vigorous stands of trees of all ages and species common to the area. Timber will be managed for recreation, watershed protection, and aesthetic and wildlife values rather than for commercial production. Some cutting may be designed for scenic improvement. This objective will be the same on all segments regardless of whether classified as Wild, Scenic, or Recreation.

#### IMPROVEMENTS

**Entire area.** There are places along the river where new developments or resource improvements are desirable to meet public needs.

Structures that can be seen from the river, trail, or developed recreation sites will (1) be of an appropriate design, (2) have sufficient topography or vegetative screening to make them as inconspicuous as possible, (3) be designed so that little or no soil is left exposed when construction is complete, and (4) contain no design features which are obtrusive or incompatible with the scenic qualities of the area, unless for reasons of public safety. Examples of incompatible design features are shiny metal siding or roofing, large areas of bright colors, large or lighted signs, etc.

Improvements on private land will be controlled through purchase of scenic easements. Scenic easements will seek control of construction, design, and location of any new construction or remodeling of existing improvements including signing. Recreation residences will not be permitted on public lands.

**Wild area.** No new structures will be permitted. Any improvements such as trails, signs, and launch points must meet the following criteria:

(1) Resource Improvements—Design and locate improvements so they are unobtrusive and in harmony with the environment, unless for reasons of public safety.

(2) Public Information and Orientation—Assure that signs are compatible in design, and for directional or safety purposes only.

**Scenic area.** Public-use facilities, such as moderate size campgrounds, parking lots, trail heads, and visitor information centers, are compatible if screened from the river. Commercial public service facilities will not be permitted in this area. No residential structures will be permitted.

**Recreational area.** Campgrounds and picnic areas with a full range of facilities may be developed and in close proximity to the river. Agricultural use and residential home occupancy on private lands is compatible. Commercial public service facilities may be permitted.

#### TRANSPORTATION

**Entire area.** Existing roads and bridges greatly affect the classification of the areas along the river.

Construction of roads or trails will be controlled on private land through scenic easements. Approval of construction will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Great care will be taken in the location and design of any future roads to assure they are not visible in a way that would detract from the river environment.

Roads and trails will be constructed to the minimum safe standard consistent with the intended use.

Public use of the trail system, existing and proposed, will be restricted to hikers only.

Transportation plans will be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect the management objectives for the Wild and Scenic River. Conflicting or non-standard transportation facilities will be removed or brought to standard.

**Wild area.** There will be no construction of new roads. All existing roads will be closed and stabilized at the corridor boundary.

**Scenic area.** An occasional road with bridge access across the river is present. Short stretches of conspicuous and well screened roads may occur. Parking areas will not be visible from the river.

**Recreational area.** New roads needed for developments will be permitted providing the design, location, and standards are such that the least impact on the environment is assured. Roads paralleling the river will be permitted if adequately screened from the river.

Parking areas will be located out of sight of the river or recreation sites. Screening will be provided if necessary.

#### UTILITIES

**Entire area.** With a few exceptions, along the recreational river areas, existing utility development along the river has had little adverse effect on recreational and scenic values. However, construction of additional developments and expansion of existing ones will increase the need for additional utilities. Construction of new utilities will be done in such a way that the scenic and recreational values are not degraded.

Where feasible, utility lines will be buried. If not, try to locate all new utility lines out of view of the river or its en-

viron. Where this is not possible, the visual impact will be reduced by use of screening, color, non-reflective hardware and conductors, and treatment of the new utility corridor. Reduction of visual impact of existing lines will be encouraged.

If possible, existing and proposed utility lines will be grouped so the number of right-of-way corridors and aerial crossings of the river are reduced. New utility lines will be attached to bridges where feasible.

Where necessary, scenic easements may include purchase of the right to construct utilities visible or audible from the river. This includes power generating equipment.

**Wild area.** No above-ground utility lines will be permitted.

**Scenic and Recreational area.** No additional utilities that can be seen from the river will be permitted.

#### VISITOR INFORMATION

**Information and Education.** The Chattooga River area is rich in settler and Indian history and outstanding scenic features. A real opportunity exists to interpret these outstanding features—to orient the visitor to the river's attractions, inform them of the recreation opportunities available within the river boundary, the dangers therein, and enhance their overall experience in visiting the river.

Interpretation will be planned to answer basic questions of what visitors come to see and do, to open new vistas of knowledge, and instill in the visitor a sense of appreciation for values or concepts of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Many visitors will have to canoe, hike, and camp to get this association. Maps and brochures will be needed for the river user. Others will be satisfied by just driving across the river at the access points or by viewing exhibits and interpretive displays at various information points. Motion pictures and television programs can be an effective means of reaching this segment of the public.

#### GRAZING

**Entire area.** There is no permitted grazing within the river corridor on National Forest lands. The U.S. Forest Service administers all land suitable for grazing except on the Headwaters Section in North Carolina. Grazing would be compatible on some lands to maintain a pastoral environment.

#### DEVELOPMENT PLANS

##### BULLPEN (SCENIC)

Bullpen Bridge and Road is one of the two major access points in North Carolina. It is a U.S. Forest Service system road that joins N.C. Highway 107 with Highlands, N.C. Because of this road, this section is classified as Scenic. It is a major trout stocking point. The majority of the use is fishing for stocked and native trout. Floating has been infrequent in the past. Because of the small water flow and the ruggedness of this gorge area,

floating is not recommended on this section.

**Development needs—**

Construct 1.5 miles of hiking trail with termini at Bullpen Bridge and Ellicott Rock.

Construct 10-15 car parking lot and solid waste disposal facilities near Bullpen Bridge for use as trail head and to serve fishermen.

Construct 2.5 miles of hiking trail from Bullpen Bridge to a point on the Grimshaws Bridge Road near the Macon-Jackson County Line.

**BURRELS FORD (SCENIC)**

Burrels Ford is one of the three major access points in Georgia and South Carolina. Access is by U.S. Forest Service Road No. 708 (stone surfaced) with concrete bridge which links Georgia Highway 28 with South Carolina Highway 107. This is a major trout stocking point. It also attracts heavy visitor use for sight-seeing and for hiking into the Ellicott Rock Wilderness. Burrels Ford Campground is located about one-half mile down river from the bridge. It is being administered by Sumter National Forest as a primitive walk-in campground. Burrels Ford has been used by floaters very infrequently because of the low water level during the normal use season and the difficulty of portaging gorge areas. Floating is not recommended in this section.

**Development needs—**

Major day-use parking lot in South Carolina (30-50 cars) to serve fishermen, hikers, and sight-seers. Include solid waste disposal facilities.

Relocate 2.0 miles of Foothills Trail to by-pass campground and bridge crossing. Trail to be located to take hikers by foot of attractive waterfalls on Kings Creek and on Spoon Auger Creek and relieve conflict with fishermen.

Close primitive road which meanders down river bank on Georgia side in order to prevent resource damage caused by indiscriminate camping. Primitive walk-in camping will be allowed along the river downstream from the Burrels Ford Bridge, but it can be no closer than one-quarter mile of the bridge. A locked gate will be used for blocking the road on the Georgia side leading south from the bridge to allow access to a private cemetery.

Revise Burrels Ford Campground to a development scale 1 walk-in campground, stabilize and reinforce campsites, and install adequate sanitation facilities.

**NICHOLSON FIELDS (RECREATION)**

These are a series of four separate fields situated along the west bank of the Chattooga River. They begin at Highway 28 and continue upstream for two miles. Present access to these fields is a primitive jeep road. They have had heavy use in past years for camping for the purpose of deer hunting and fishing for trout. This area remains a favorite spot for trout fishing. This location is the source of some of the best trout fishing in both South Carolina and Georgia.

Floating will be prohibited above Highway 28 which includes the Nicholson Fields area.

**Development needs—**

Install gate near Highway 28 to provide limited access to private lands. Prohibit other vehicular access.

**RUSSELL FIELDS (RECREATION)**

This proposed development is located in the Russell Fields about one-quarter mile south of the Russell House and about one-eighth mile off Highway 28. The Russell House and Fields are bordered on the east by Highway 28 and on the west by the Chattooga River. This site would provide an easy take-out point for floaters on the West Fork and launching for this section of the river.

**Development needs—**

Construct access road, 25-40 car parking lot, and sanitary and water facilities.

**EARLS FORD (WILD)**

This site in South Carolina is the most used "put-in" for floaters on the entire river. It marks the beginning of the longest floating stretch of Wild River area. On weekends, upwards of 70-100 cars are crammed along a narrow road with no developed space for parking. The portable toilets being used are not meeting minimum sanitation standards. Until facilities are provided outside the boundary and the road blocked at the boundary, the road violates the Wild Classification.

**Development needs—**

Major parking lot (60-75 cars) outside corridor boundary.

Sanitation facilities.

Barrier road.

Picnicking facilities.

**DICK'S CREEK (WILD)**

This site in Georgia provides access to Dick's Creek Falls and the Bartram Trail. Dick's Creek Falls is a favorite spot accessible by an existing trail. The Bartram Trail is along the route of William Bartram, early explorer and pioneer botanist who entered the drainage in 1775.

**Development needs—**

Construct 10-car parking lot outside corridor boundary.

Reconstruct 0.5 mile trail to Dick's Creek Falls.

**HIGHWAY 76 (SCENIC)**

More people see the Chattooga River where this U.S. Highway crosses than any place on the river. The attraction causes many people to stop and view the river. This, coupled with the site being a major put-in-take-out for floating, creates significant impacts on this area. Most floaters who put in at Earls Ford take out here. Parking is limited to the road right-of-way, producing a hazard to all visitors who stop and passing traffic. Remains of an old highway bridge detract from the scenic qualities. Bull Sluice, a 10-foot-high cascade offering an ominous challenge to floaters, is a short hike from the highway. The site offers the best opportunity for visitor information efforts.

**Development needs—**

Major parking lot (100 cars).

Sanitation facilities.

Trails to launch site and Bull Sluice Visitor Information Service shelter with displays.

Picnicking facilities.

Remove old bridge superstructure.

BUCKEYE BRANCH, LICKLOG, SUTTON HOLE, CLIFF CREEK, DANIELS CREEK, CAMP CREEK (WILD)

These areas are proposed because of the suitability and need for areas of primitive camping for the fisherman, hunter, and hiker as well as the floater. These areas are alike in that the site have been used for primitive camping and will continue on a walk-in basis to accommodate the hiker, hunter, an fisherman as well as overnight camping for floaters.

**Development needs—**

Reconstruction of access roads to boundary.

Construction of minor parking lots (1 to 15 cars) at or near boundary.

Construction of hiking trails for access from parking lot to camping area.

Construction and installation of gate for search-rescue access at Licklog and Camp Creek.

(See Development Plan Summary for details.)

**SANDY FORD AND EARLS FORD IN GEORGIA (WILD)**

These are where the old roads that connected Clayton, Georgia and Whetstone and Walhalla, South Carolina crossed the Chattooga during early settlement days. The present access is by a Georgia county-maintained road. These areas receive heavy use by fishermen and hunters and moderate use by floaters.

**Development needs—**

Construct a 10- to 20-car parking lot at corridor boundary on each road.

Construct and install gate to block primitive road at corridor boundary (need county permission) to allow access for search-rescue purposes.

**OVERFLOW BRIDGE (RECREATION)**

Overflow Bridge area is on the West Fork of the Chattooga River. It is near the beginning of the Wild section and is the furthest vehicular access up West Fork. The access is by U.S. Forest Service System Road No. 86. This area is also the major launching point for float trips on West Fork. Overflow Bridge area is a major trout stocking point and receives heavy use by fishermen.

**Development needs—**

Construct 0.1 mile of access road to parking lot (with surface).

Construct parking area to accommodate 25 cars.

Design and develop two areas of concentrated use for primitive camping.

Install sanitation facilities.

Improve stream bank to facilitate ease of launching.

**WOODALL SHOALS (WILD)**

Woodall Shoals is a major site along the river because of the attractiveness of the rapids, excellent fishing, and because it's a major exit for floaters. The

access is by a primitive system road being maintained by the U.S. Forest Service.

**Development needs—**

Construct a parking lot to accommodate 10 cars outside corridor boundary.

Provide sanitation facilities.

Reconstruct and improve access road for 3 miles.

Construct and install gate to allow search-rescue access.

**TRAILS**

In addition to the trails near Bullpen Bridge, other trails will be needed to provide hiker access throughout most of the river corridor. When complete, a trail system will be available from a trail head in Grimshaws Bridge Road in North Carolina to U.S. Highway 76, a distance of approximately three-fourths the length of the river corridor.

**Development needs—**

Construct hiking trail from junction with Foothills Trail near Big Bend in South Carolina to Highway 28.

Construct hiking trail from Highway 28 to U.S. Highway 76 in Georgia.

**COORDINATION WITH OTHERS**

The following sections outline some of the administrative responsibilities of the state and local governments.

**STATES**

Administration of the river involves coordination with agencies of three different States—Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. The organization and responsibilities in each of the States is similar but slightly different. Working with the different State organizations will require coordination.

In all three States, the Game and Fish organization has direct responsibility for administering the fish and wildlife resources of the State. They are also charged with enforcing the State boating regulations.

Each State has a Water Quality agency charged with setting water quality standards and pollution prevention programs. Even though the Chattooga is an interstate river, the State Water Quality classification varies between states. These standards are, however, adequate to protect the aesthetics of the area and health of the users.

Ownership of the river bed also varies by States. The State Constitution of South Carolina declares the Chattooga River to be navigable in fact and law and, therefore, State property from the mean high water mark to the middle of the river. In Georgia and North Carolina, the determination has not been legally established since their Constitutions do not address the matter of ownership of the river bed and navigability. Review by the Attorney General of North Carolina indicates that the bed is probably the property of riparian owners. Similar review in Georgia indicates that the same is probably true.

**COUNTIES**

The Chattooga River flows through Macon and Jackson Counties in North

Carolina, Oconee County in South Carolina, and Rabun County in Georgia. Regular Peace Officers of each of these counties have police responsibility on portions of the river within their respective counties. County rescue squads assist in this responsibility. Enforcement of Secretary of Agriculture Regulations and Conditions of Use is the responsibility of the U.S. Forest Service.

**Chattooga River Map—On file with:**

Forest Supervisor, National Forests in North Carolina, 50 S. French Broad Ave., Asheville, N.C. 28802.

Forest Supervisor, Francis Marion & Sumter National Forests, 1801 Assembly Street, 2nd Floor, Columbia, S.C. 28201.

Forest Supervisor, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests, 601 Board Street, S.E., Gainesville, Ga. 30501.

Regional Forester, Region 8, U.S. Forest Service, 1720 Peachtree Road, N.W., Suite 820, Atlanta, Georgia 30309.

**BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION OF THE  
CHATTOOGA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER**

**NORTH CAROLINA SECTION**

Begin at a point on the crest of ridge on the North Carolina-Georgia state line, 2,450 feet more or less west of Ellicott Rock, a corner in the Chattooga River common to the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. Go in a northwesterly direction to the junction of the main ridge with a spur ridge; thence

Turning northeasterly down a spur ridge crossing the Ellicott Rock Trail and an unnamed branch up to a point on a low top; thence

Turning northwesterly down a ridge to a cove; thence

Continuing in a northwesterly direction across this cove and across a ridge at a point where the Chattooga River flows northeasterly. Continuing north-west across Glade Creek and across a ridge dividing Glade Creek from Ammons Branch and down to a junction of an unnamed branch with Ammons Branch. Continuing in a northwesterly direction across the Bull Pen Road and up a ridge to the top above Bull Pen Road; thence

Turning westerly across to another top; thence

Turning northeasterly, dropping down a ridge to the junction of Cane Creek and Holly Branch. Crossing Cane Creek in a northeasterly direction up the meanders of a ridge to the top of the divide between Cane Creek and the Chattooga River. Dropping down in an easterly direction across Norton Mill Creek; thence

Climbing up and following the meanders of ridge between Norton Mill Creek and the Chattooga River; thence

Turning northerly up to the main divide between Norton Mill Creek and the Chattooga River; thence

To the top of a knob, 1,900 feet more or less, east, southeast of Whiteside Church; thence

Turning northeasterly down a spur crossing Green Creek; thence

Continuing northeasterly and climbing up the main divide between Green

Creek and the Chattooga River following the meanders of this ridge; thence

Turning north to the Whiteside Cove Road; thence

Turning northwesterly through the flat at Grimshaws and up a low ridge to a low top; thence

Turning northeasterly across to a ridge paralleling the Chattooga River; thence

Turning northwesterly following the meanders of this ridge up to a low top; thence

Continuing northwesterly down across the flat west of the junction of the Devil's Courthouse Branch with the Chattooga River; thence

Turning northerly down across the Devil's Courthouse Branch and up a low spur ridge; thence

Turning westerly up to allow top on the main ridge; thence

Turning northerly down a spur ridge and crossing a small branch and up to a low top; thence

Turning northeasterly across another small branch and up on to the side of a ridge; thence

Turning easterly following the meanders of a spur ridge down to the forks of a small branch; thence

Turning northeasterly up a ridge between the forks to a low top; thence

Turning southeasterly down across another branch and climbing up and following the meanders of the west side of Timber Ridge up to the top at the south end of Timber Ridge; thence

Continuing southeast down across a small branch and up on a spur ridge to a small top; thence

Down to the Whiteside Cove Road at a point 600 feet more or less west of Norton Cemetery; thence

Continuing in a southerly direction up a ridge, the main divide between the Chattooga River and Fowler Creek, and following the meanders of this divide on down a spur ridge on the southern end of the divide overlooking the junction of Fowler Creek with the Chattooga River; thence

Turning south down a spur ridge and crossing Fowler Creek just east of the junction; thence

Turning southeasterly up the meanders of a hollow and an unnamed branch to a low ridge; thence

Turning westerly and southwesterly and climbing to the top of Bear Pen Mountain; thence

Continuing southwesterly down with the main divide between the Chattooga River and Scotsman Creek to the top of Jacks Knob; thence

Turning westerly down the ridge from Jacks Knob to a point on the dividing ridge between Scotsman Creek and the Chattooga River; thence

Turning in a southerly direction and following the meanders of the divide ridge between Scotsman Creek and the Chattooga River all the way up to the top of Bull Pen Mountain; thence

Continuing in a southerly direction following the main divide between Scots-

man Creek and the Chattooga River to the top of Polly Mountain; thence

In a southeasterly direction down a spur ridge, crossing Bull Pen Road and crossing Scotsman Creek about 400 feet from the Chattooga River; thence

Easterly up a spur ridge to the top of the divide between Scotsman Creek and Fowler Creek; thence

Southerly along the crest of the divide to the Ellicott Rock Wilderness Boundary; thence

Easterly down a spur ridge, crossing Fowler Creek at 700 feet more or less, and continuing easterly up a spur ridge to the Old Bad Creek Road; thence

Southerly along said road to the gap where the road bears southeasterly, and continuing southerly along the ridge to the North Carolina-South Carolina state line, being 2,800 feet more or less, easterly from Ellicott Rock.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA SECTION

Beginning at a point on the South Carolina-North Carolina state line, on the west of a ridge, 2,800 feet more or less, easterly from Ellicott Rock; thence

Southerly along the divide between Bad Creek and the Chattooga River 3,700 feet more or less, to the brow of the ridge; thence

Southeasterly, crossing Bad Creek 900 feet above the mouth of Bear Creek, thence

Southeasterly up the spur 600 feet to the brow and continuing southeasterly leaving spur, 1,200 feet to the trail on the crest; thence

South and crossing a branch, 800 feet to the crest of a spur ridge; thence

Westerly down the ridge, crossing a trail and continuing on course to a point at the forks of a drain; thence

Southwesterly and southerly up a drain to the crest of a ridge; thence

Southerly and southwesterly down a spur to a point on East Fork of the Chattooga River about 1,000 feet above its mouth; thence

Cross East Fork in a southwesterly direction 4,500 feet up a spur ridge along and down the dividing ridge between the Chattooga River and the Spoonauger Creek drainages to a point on this creek about 850 feet above its mouth; thence

In a southerly direction 500 feet up a spur ridge to the top of the main ridge of Medlin Mountain which is the southern boundary of Ellicott Rock Wilderness; thence

In a southwesterly direction 900 feet off the ridge to a point on a small branch about 1,200 feet from the mouth of this branch; thence

In a westerly direction 1,000 feet to a point on the Winchester Cemetery ridge, just north of the cemetery; thence

In a southwesterly direction 700 feet to a point on a spur ridge next to the Chattooga River; thence

In a southerly direction 800 feet to a point on Kings Creek, approximately 850 feet from its mouth; thence

In a southerly direction 1,200 feet across Kings Creek and up a spur ridge to the main ridge that runs parallel to Kings Creek; thence

In a southeasterly direction 200 feet up this ridge to the western peak of Mill Mountain; thence

In a southwesterly direction 2,000 feet along a ridge from Mill Mountain to a point on this ridge above the Chattooga River; thence

In a southeasterly direction 1,000 feet across a cove, to a spur ridge of the main ridge running south from the west peak of Mill Mountain; thence

In a southerly direction 2,000 feet down this ridge to a small stream that runs into the point of Big Bend at a point about 1,000 feet above the mouth of this stream; thence

In a southeasterly direction 750 feet across this stream up the side of a ridge to the Big Bend Road; thence

In a southwesterly direction 900 feet down the Big Bend to a saddle on the ridge that runs up to Round Top; thence

In a westerly direction 2,000 feet up the ridge to the top of Round Top Mountain; thence

In a southeasterly direction 2,400 feet down a ridge to a point on a small stream about 600 feet upstream from the mouth of said stream; thence

In an easterly direction 500 feet uphill to the point of a ridge; thence

In a southerly direction 500 feet to the point on a small stream about 800 feet above the mouth of said stream; thence

In an easterly direction 1,600 feet up a spur ridge to the top of the main ridge above the Chattooga River; thence

In a southerly direction and westerly direction 4,000 feet along the top of this ridge, across a saddle to a knob of elevation 2,053 feet M.S.L.; thence

In a southwesterly, westerly, and northwesterly direction 4,800 feet along the top of this ridge which is the main ridge between the Chattooga River and Fig Pen Branch to a peak that shows an elevation of 2,052 feet; thence

In a southeasterly direction 1,700 feet to another peak that overlooks the mouth of Lick Log Branch; thence

In a southwesterly direction 1,400 feet down a ridge to a point on Lick Log Branch about 400 feet above the mouth of said branch; thence

In a southwesterly direction 400 feet across Lick Log Branch and up a spur ridge to the point of a ridge running perpendicular to the Chattooga River; thence

In a southwesterly direction 1,000 feet down a spur ridge that parallels the Chattooga River to the bottom of a cove about 400 feet above the mouth of this cove; thence

In a southwesterly direction 2,000 feet about 50 feet back from the point where the slope breaks sharply into the Chattooga River Gorge to the next cove; thence

In a southwesterly direction 1,000 feet up a spur ridge to the point of the ridge that leads into bend of the river at this point; and thence

In a northwesterly direction 350 feet down a spur ridge to Ira's Branch about 250 feet above the mouth of Ira's Branch; thence

In a southwesterly direction 2,900 up a spur ridge to the top of Reed Mountain about 200 feet above the Chattooga River; thence

In a southerly direction 1,500 along ridge to the peak of Reed Mountain; thence

In a southerly direction 1,300 along the main ridge of Reed Mountain to Reed Mountain Gap; thence

In a southwesterly direction 1,000 feet along ridge to the peak of Hick Top; thence

In a westerly and southwesterly direction 7,000 feet along the ridge between Hickory Top and Russell Mountain, the top of Russell Mountain; thence

In a northwesterly direction 2,000 feet along the main ridge to the northwesterly knob of Russell Mountain; thence

In a southwesterly direction 3,000 feet down the main spur ridge from Russell Mountain across Highway 28 to a stream in the bottom of a cove about 700 feet from the mouth of this stream; thence

In a southwesterly direction 1,000 feet to the top of a knob that overlooks Long Bottom Ford; thence

In a southerly direction 1,400 feet to the point of the ridge that parallels the preceding stream; thence

In a westerly direction 1,600 feet down a spur ridge to the knob overlooking the first bend below Long Bottom Ford; thence

In a northwesterly direction 1,600 feet past the north end of the field and crossing a branch 300 feet from its mouth, the point of a ridge overlooking the first rapid below the first bend downstream from Long Bottom Ford; thence

In a southerly direction, 2,100 feet along a ridge to a point on the stream just upstream from the Turn Hole, the point being about 400 feet above the mouth of this stream; thence

In a southerly direction 1,200 feet across the stream and up a ridge that lies just above the old road to a point 140 feet in elevation above the road; thence

In a northwesterly direction, 1,180 feet to the peak of a hill that overlooks the Turn Hole; thence

In a northwesterly direction, 1,200 feet down a ridge to a point where this ridge breaks sharply toward the river; thence

In a southwesterly direction 600 feet across a saddle to a peak in the bend of the river above Big Shoals; thence

In a southeasterly direction, 1,600 feet across two drains and dividing ridges to a point in a road at the corner of an old field; thence

In a southeasterly direction 3,000 feet up a spur ridge to Piney Knob; thence

In a southwesterly and westerly direction 6,000 feet along the ridge top to the highest knob on that ridge; thence

In a northerly direction 1,500 feet down a spur ridge to a point on the end of said ridge; thence

In a northwesterly direction 500 feet to a saddle; thence

In a northerly direction 600 feet along a ridge to a high point of 1,767 feet M.S.L.; thence

- In a southwesterly direction 2,000 feet down a spur ridge to a cove just north of Moss Mill Branch about 400 feet up this cove from the Chattooga River; thence
- In a southerly direction 600 feet across the ridge between this cove, to Moss Mill Branch about 500 feet above the Chattooga River; thence
- In a westerly and southwesterly direction 1,800 feet up a ridge, the east knob on the ridge southeast of the Earls Ford Road; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 1,300 feet down this ridge to a knob overlooking Earls Ford about 500 feet from the Chattooga River; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 600 feet across a drain to the top of a knob above the Earls Ford Road; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 200 feet down a ridge to a point on the Earls Ford Road about 1,400 feet from its terminus at the Chattooga River; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 1,000 feet across the tip of a dividing ridge of a forked drainage to a point on the next dividing ridge; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 900 feet up this dividing ridge and across the main ridge to a point on an opposite spur ridge; thence
- In a southerly direction 600 feet down a minor ridge to an intermittent stream at a point on this stream about 700 feet above the Chattooga River; thence
- In a southerly direction 1,600 feet up a spur ridge to the point where the ridge turns east; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 700 feet along this ridge to a peak of the mountain; thence
- In a south, southwesterly direction 1,500 feet along the ridge of this mountain to a point where the ridge breaks off sharply to the west; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 1,800 feet down a spur ridge to a saddle; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 1,200 feet down slope and across a wide saddle to the top of the knob overlooking Sandy Ford; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 700 feet down a short spur ridge to a point on Whetstone Creek about 400 feet from the mouth of Whetstone Creek; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 200 feet up the slope of the ridge south of Whetstone Creek to the top of this ridge; thence
- In a south, southeasterly and southerly direction 2,300 feet up this ridge to the highest point on the ridge; thence
- In a southeasterly, southerly, and southwesterly direction 3,500 feet along this ridge to a point where the ridge divides; thence
- In a southwesterly and westerly direction 1,900 feet down the west ridge, across a saddle to a knob; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 600 feet to a point on an unnamed branch about 1,100 feet above the mouth of this branch; thence
- In a westerly direction 1,700 feet up a spur ridge and over a knob of the main ridge that runs perpendicular to the Chattooga River and down to a dry cove; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 1,000 feet up a spur ridge to the top of a ridge; thence
- In a northwesterly and northerly direction 2,200 feet, on the east point of a divided ridge; thence
- In a westerly direction 700 feet to the top of the west ridge parallel to the Chattooga River; thence
- In a southerly direction 4,000 feet along this ridge to a point on Turpin Branch about 600 feet above the mouth of Turpin Branch; thence
- In a southerly direction 600 feet up a slope to the top of the main ridge that terminates in the sharp bend of the river below Turpin Branch; thence
- In an easterly direction 600 feet up this main ridge to the highest point on that ridge; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 1,200 feet to a point on a small branch about 1,450 feet from the mouth of that branch; thence
- In a southerly direction 1,800 feet up a ridge following the break of the ridge around to another small branch about 500 feet from the mouth of that branch; thence
- In a southerly direction, 1,800 feet up a ridge to the highest point on that ridge overlooking the Chattooga River; thence
- In a southerly direction 2,700 feet down the ridge from this point to a point on Fall Creek about 800 feet above the mouth of Fall Creek; thence
- In a southerly direction 600 feet to the top of the ridge that runs perpendicular to the Chattooga River and is the divide between Fall Branch and a small branch to the south; thence
- In a west-southwesterly direction 900 feet across the head of a drain to another spur ridge; thence
- In a west-southwesterly direction 1,000 feet across a drain to another spur ridge; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 1,500 feet to the top of a knob lying directly north of the intersection of Routes 76 and 196; thence
- In a west and northwesterly direction 3,400 feet across a drain to a knob, just east of Tilly Branch; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 800 feet to Tilly Branch at a point 500 feet from its mouth; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 800 feet up a spur ridge to the top of said ridge; thence
- Westerly 700 feet to top of ridge; thence
- In a southerly direction 600 feet down a spur ridge to a point in a hollow about 800 feet from the Chattooga River; thence
- Southerly 2,400 feet along a ridge to U.S. Highway 76; thence
- In a south, southwesterly direction 500 feet across Highway 76 to the point of a knob overlooking Highway 76; thence
- In a southwesterly direction 900 feet down a spur ridge to a point on Reedy Branch about 1,500 feet above the mouth of Reedy Branch; thence
- On various courses 4,500 feet along the ridge that parallels the Chattooga River to a peak that shows on the topographic map as an elevation of 1,522 feet; thence
- In a westerly and northwesterly direction 1,900 feet along the ridge to the highest of twin peaks, 1,320 feet in elevation; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 500 feet to the branch that flows into Woodall Shoals, approximately 800 feet from its mouth; thence
- In a southwesterly direction, 2,600 feet along a ridge that parallels the Chattooga River to a point about 1,000 feet from the end of the ridge where a spur ridge turns off to the south; thence
- In a southerly direction 600 feet from this spur ridge to a point in a short stream about 1,000 feet from the mouth of this stream; thence
- In a southerly direction 1,000 feet up a spur ridge to a point on top of the divide between this creek and Long Creek; thence
- In a southerly direction down a spur ridge, 1,100 feet to a point on Long Creek about 2,000 feet from the mouth of Long Creek; thence
- In a southerly direction 2,500 feet up a spur along a ridge and down a spur to a point on Pinckney Branch approximately 800 feet from the Chattooga River; thence
- In a straight line in a southeasterly direction 2,800 feet across three drains to a knob on the top of the third ridge; thence
- In a straight line in a southwesterly direction 1,700 feet to a point on Fish-trap Branch approximately 750 feet from the Chattooga River, and continuing on course 300 feet up a slope to the intersection of a jeep trail; thence
- In a direct line in a southeasterly direction 2,300 feet across this ridge, the next drain, and up to a saddle on the next ridge; thence
- In a westerly direction 500 feet along the ridge; thence
- In a southerly direction 1,700 feet down a spur ridge to Opossum Creek about 300 feet above the mouth of Opossum Creek; thence
- In a westerly direction 300 feet down with the meanders of Opossum Creek to the beginning point on the west bank of the Chattooga River.

## GEORGIA SECTION

Beginning at a point on the west bank of the Chattooga River directly across from Opossum Creek in South Carolina, about one-half mile above Tugalo Lake; thence

In a westerly direction 3,200 feet up a ridge to the highest point on the ridge; thence

In a northeasterly direction 2,600 feet down a spur ridge, across a saddle to the top of a knob; thence

In a northwesterly direction 600 feet to a point on Camp Creek 700 feet from its mouth; thence

- In a northerly direction 1,200 feet to a knob just across Camp Crook Road; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 1,100 feet to flat knob just west of a saddle; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 700 feet along this ridge, across a saddle to a knob overlooking the river; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 600 feet to a point on an unnamed stream about 1,100 feet from its mouth; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 1,100 feet to a point on the end of a ridge; thence continuing
- In a northwesterly direction 2,100 feet to a point on Daniel Creek where said creek turns sharply southeast; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 1,800 feet over a ridge to a point on Cliff Creek about 1,700 feet from its mouth; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,500 feet to a point on a ridge; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 800 feet to a point on Stekoa Creek about 1,200 feet from its mouth; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,900 feet up a spur ridge to a high point of 1,565 M.S.L.; thence
- In an easterly direction 1,000 feet to a drain; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,500 feet to a small knob on a flat ridge; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,800 feet across a drain to a point on an old road leading into Woodall Shoals; thence
- A direct line in an easterly direction 2,700 feet parallel to the river across drains to a point on a ridge where the ridge narrows down; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,400 feet across a drain to a point on the next ridge; thence
- In a westerly direction 2,300 feet up said ridge to the high point; thence
- In a westerly and northeasterly direction 2,700 feet along this ridge, to the highest point on the next ridge; said ridge being just south of U.S. Route 76; thence
- A direct course in a northerly direction 550 feet to a point on U.S. Route 76, about 2,300 feet west of the west bank of the Chattooga River and continuing 550 feet to a ridge top; thence
- In a northerly and easterly direction 3,800 feet along a ridge and down a spur to a point on Pole Creek, 350 feet above its mouth; thence
- In a northerly direction 1,600 feet up a ridge to a point on said ridge; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 600 feet to a point on an unnamed branch; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 800 feet up a ridge to a point on the top; thence
- A direct course in a southeasterly direction 1,600 feet crossing a wide drain to the high point on a ridge; thence
- A direct course in a southeasterly direction 900 feet across a drain to the high point of the next ridge; thence
- In a northerly direction 1,400 feet along the ridge, across a saddle to a knob overlooking the river; thence
- In a northerly direction 1,400 feet across a drain to a point on a spur ridge; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,100 feet up the spur ridge to a knob on another spur ridge; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,200 feet across two drains to a saddle on the second ridge; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 2,200 feet down this ridge to a point; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 800 feet across Muscadine Creek to a point on a ridge; thence
- A direct line in a southeasterly direction 2,100 feet across another branch and up a side slope to a knob; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 800 feet up a spur ridge to a knob on the main ridge; thence
- In a northerly direction 9,500 feet along the meanders of the ridge to a knob above a drain; thence
- A direct course in a northeasterly direction 1,450 feet down a spur ridge, across a side drain to a point on Lick Log Creek about 700 feet from its mouth; thence continuing
- In a northeasterly direction 1,900 feet up a ridge running parallel to the river to a point on the top of the ridge on Lick Log Road; thence
- In a northerly direction 1,350 feet across drains to a point on Lick Log Road on a spur ridge; thence
- In an easterly direction 800 feet down the spur ridge to a point on Buckeye Branch 1,100 feet above its mouth; thence
- In an easterly direction 1,300 feet across a small ridge and drain to a point on a knob; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 1,800 feet down a spur ridge, across a saddle to a point on a ridge; thence
- In an easterly direction 750 feet to a point in a gap on the Ed Ben Ridge; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 3,000 feet along the ridge to the top of Ed Ben Mountain; thence
- In an easterly direction 1,700 feet down a ridge to a point on an old jeep road; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 500 feet crossing Rock Creek 1,000 feet above its mouth, to a point adjacent to said creek on Dicks Creek Road; thence
- In a northerly direction 400 feet to a point on the ridge east of Dicks Creek Road; thence
- In a northerly direction 3,800 feet along the ridge east of Dicks Creek Road to Dicks Creek, 1,300 feet above its mouth; thence
- A direct line in a northeasterly direction 2,000 feet to a point on the ridge dividing the Dicks Creek drainage and the Chattooga River drainage; thence
- In a northerly direction 4,700 feet up said dividing ridge to the top of Marcus Mountain; thence
- Westerly, northerly and easterly along the west of the ridge 8,500 feet to the top of a knob overlooking Warwoman Creek, opposite Marsengills Creek; thence
- A direct course, easterly, crossing Warwoman Creek at 500 feet, for a total distance of 1,600 feet to a point on a flat low ridge west of Gold Mine Branch; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 1,500 feet to a point on the east divide ridge of Gold Mine Branch; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 1,700 feet down the ridge, across the intersection of two branches, to a point on a knob east of Carvers Ford; thence
- In an easterly direction 600 feet along the ridge to a point across a saddle; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 2,000 feet down the side slope, across a branch and up a spur ridge to a point on main ridge leading to Willis Knob; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 2,000 feet up said ridge to a knob with an elevation of 1,902 feet M.S.L.; thence
- In an easterly direction 1,000 feet to point on the next ridge where the ridge divides; thence
- A direct course in a southeasterly direction 1,300 feet across two drains to point on a spur ridge; thence
- In a northeasterly direction on crest of spur 600 feet to the high point of 1,838 feet M.S.L.; thence
- A direct course in a northerly direction 1,500 feet across a drain to a point on a flat ridge and continuing on course 700 feet to a point on Laurel Branch thence
- A direct course in an easterly direction 2,000 feet across a drainage and log road to a high peak of 1,894 feet M.S.L.; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,300 feet down a spur ridge to a point on Bynum Branch 1,000 feet from its mouth; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,200 feet over a saddle to a point on the divide ridge of Bynum Branch and Adline Branch; thence
- In a southeasterly direction down a spur 1,000 feet to a point on Adline Branch 700 feet above its mouth; thence
- In a southeasterly direction 900 feet to a point on the knob of Holden Cemetery, said point being south of cemetery; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,400 feet to the next knob; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,200 feet to a point on an old jeep trail on a flat ridge; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 1,700 feet to a point on the ridge on the south side of Holden Branch; thence
- In a northeasterly direction 500 feet to a point on Holden Branch approximately 800 feet from its mouth; thence
- In a northeasterly and northerly direction 3,200 feet up a spur ridge to the top of Holden Mountain; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 1,200 feet along the ridge to the lower knob of Holden Mountain; thence
- In a northwesterly direction 1,700 feet to a point on Pig Pen Branch 900 feet above its mouth; thence
- In a northwesterly direction up a spur ridge 1,500 feet to a point on this spur ridge of Old Mossy Mountain; thence
- In a northerly direction 1,200 feet to a point on an east spur ridge of Old Mossy Mountain; thence
- A direct course in a northwesterly direction 2,100 feet to a point on an east spur ridge of Burrell Mountain; thence