From:	riverin34@aol.com
To:	comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Cc:	awbeta@amwhitewater.org
Subject:	Ban on the Chattooga
Date:	07/18/2008 02:06 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

I have been a long-time supporter and member of American Whitewater. Not only am I an educator, but I am also a river guide and an avid naturalist with an education in Environmental Science. The Ban on the Chattooga stupefies all rationalization for the use of the river. AW has contacted me in regards to this issue.

The AW mission statement is as follows:

American Whitewater restores rivers dewatered by hydropower dams, eliminates water degradation, improves public land management and protects public access to rivers for responsible recreational use.

Your ban to paddle on the Chattooga bans the very people who care MOST about your land, your water, your natural features, and your state's beauty. Why would there ever exist a policy to BAN the very people who dedicate their time, money, professionalism, and whole hearted efforts to maintain and take care of the river and it's ecosystem.

It is my plea, and that of MANY other educated AW supporters, that your "ban" be lifted and perhaps in the future, these efforts by AW and its supporters to protect a river in your state is recognized with much more admiration and appreciation.

Peace, Erin Facciolo

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