From: mark stuber
Reply To: riverrat@happyhippie.com
To: comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us
Subject: Chattoga River Project Comments
Date: 07/15/2008 04:53 PM

U.S. Forest Service

Chattooga River Project

4931 Broad River Road

Columbia, SC 29212.

comments-southern-francismarion-sumter@fs.fed.us

7/15/2008

RE: Chattooga River Project Comments

Dear Sumter National Forest,

I learned How to kayak on the Chattooga River and the surrounding area. During that time we always wondered why the upper reaches of the river had been deemed illegal. I have lived near and enjoyed many rivers throughout the country but the Chattooga has always been a run I come back for. I hope in the near future there will be new sections for me to paddle.

I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment regarding the recreational management of the Chattooga River. I disagree with your analysis and your proposal. Both treat me and my community of river enthusiasts unfairly and your proposal would not meet my interests. Please consider the following concerns I have regarding this issue:

In the last thirteen years the USFS has done everything in its power to limit the number of boaters on the Chattooga, there is no reason for this. Open up the river.

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

Thank you for considering these comments,

Sincerely

Mark Stuber

_____
Get your FREE email account at www.happyhippie.com