

News Release



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For Immediate Release

Sumter National Forest Releases Chattooga Visitor Use Capacity Documents

(Columbia, SC, March 30, 2007) – Reports generated as part of an ongoing study about the upper reaches of the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River were made public today.

“Sharing these documents now is just part of our ongoing commitment to working with the public as we study the visitor use capacity of the upper reaches of this river,” said Dr. Jerome Thomas, Forest Supervisor.

More reports will be released as they become available during the next month, he said. All of these individual reports will be the building blocks for the integrated report, expected in May.

The two documents posted today are reports of findings by expert panels and a history of the river. They are available on the forest’s website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/reports.shtml>

This work is part of a visitor use capacity analysis ordered by the agency’s Washington Office after the forest’s Land and Resources Management Plan was

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appealed. The analysis and its associated data collection efforts and public involvement is designed to help the agency make a more informed decision about how the section of the river above Highway 28 should be managed.

To keep up to date on all of the latest information on this process, check out the Sumter National Forest's website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms>.

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