

Position Statement on Upper Chattooga River

Visitor Use Capacity Analysis for Boating Ban

In 1976 the Forest Service had the proper solution for the angler-boater conflict. The boating ban is still the proper solution today and should continue in the future. The ban has achieved solitude and harmony for the Upper Chattooga for nearly 30 years. This unique solitude experience is shared without conflict among traditional backcountry visitors such as anglers, hikers, backpackers, bird watchers, swimmers, waterfall viewers and nature lovers. For the angler, there is no where else they can go in the East that has the size and volume to permit quality trout fishing in a spectacular backcountry setting that is boat free. The backcountry visitors want to preserve this unique resource of solitude and protect the natural resources of the only section of the Chattooga that has not been damaged by conflict and management. It is our Chapter's belief it is also what is best for the future of the Upper Chattooga River.