

[Designation Number A310]

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 18,424 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 2½ 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

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 span about 40 feet above the river.

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

76 Bridge—This section is 1.0 miles of the river from just below Bull Sluice to $\frac{3}{4}$ 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 or 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 Cashiers 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,

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 Grimschaw's 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) ¹
Headwaters.....	Recreation.....	5.5
Chattooga cliffs.....	Wild.....	2.0
Hullpen bridge.....	Scenic.....	.5
Ellicott Rock.....	Wild.....	3.4
Burrells Ford.....	Scenic.....	1.0
Rock Gorge.....	Wild.....	9.0
28 bridge.....	Recreation.....	5.1
Earls Ford.....	Wild.....	15.0
78 bridge.....	Scenic.....	1.0
Woodall Shoals.....	Wild.....	7.1
Total.....		49.6
WEST FORK		
3 Forks.....	Wild.....	3.3
Pine Mountain.....	Recreation.....	4.0
Total.....		7.3
Grand total.....		56.9

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

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 Ellicott Rock south to Big Bend Falls, a distance of 5½ 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 3½ 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.

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 may 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 presently 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 lands 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 or longer stretches of inconspicuous 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 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.

Construction and installation of gates 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 Clavton, 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 Grimshaw's 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 northwest 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 Grimshaw's 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 Pig 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 feet up a spur ridge to the top of Reed Mountain about 800 feet above the Chattooga River; thence

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

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

In a southwesterly direction 1,500 feet along ridge to the peak of Hickory Top; thence

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

In a northwesterly direction 2,000 feet along the main ridge to the northwest 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, to 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, this 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 lays 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 Plney 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 the 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 a point on the next ridge where the ridge divides; thence

A direct course in a southeasterly direction 1,300 feet across two drains to a 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

In a northerly direction 1,300 feet to a point on Page Branch 1,100 feet above its mouth; thence

In a northerly direction 700 feet to a point on the Warwoman-Pine Mountain Road, 350 feet west of Burrell Cemetery; thence

In a northwesterly direction 1,500 feet up a spur ridge of Page Mountain to the intersection of the main ridge; thence

In a northwesterly direction 900 feet off this ridge to a point on an unnamed branch 300 feet above its mouth; thence

In a northwesterly direction 900 feet up a spur ridge of Norton Ridge, to a point on a flat area; thence

In a westerly direction 1,600 feet along the main ridge of Norton Ridge to the intersection of a northwest spur ridge; thence

In a northwesterly direction 800 feet along a spur ridge to a point on a knob; thence

In a northwesterly direction 1,100 feet down the spur ridge to Overflow Road at Smith Creek Bridge; thence

Northwesterly 4,000 feet parallel to and 33 degrees northeast of the centerline of Overflow Road to a point directly north of a knob lying south of Overflow Road; thence

In a northerly direction 400 feet down the side slope to a point on Totterly Pole Creek; thence

In a northerly direction 1,100 feet up a spur ridge to a knob; thence

In a northwesterly direction 3,200 feet along a ridge, across a jeep trail, across a saddle to a point on a knob; thence

In a northwesterly direction 700 feet to Holcomb Creek; thence

In a northwesterly direction 1,800 feet up a spur ridge to the top of High Top Mountain; thence

In a northwesterly direction 1,500 feet along the main ridge to a knob on a spur ridge; thence

In a northwesterly direction 2,000 feet along the main ridge to a knob at the intersection of a northeast spur ridge; thence

In a northeasterly direction 1,800 feet down a spur ridge to a point on Overflow Creek 200 feet below the junction of a branch from the west; thence

In an easterly direction 1,500 feet up a ridge to the high point of Salt Log Knob; thence

In a southeasterly direction 3,500 feet down a spur ridge to a point on Big Creek, 3,000 feet above its mouth; thence

In a southerly direction 2,000 feet up a spur ridge to the western knob of Stoney Mountain; thence

In a southerly direction 2,100 feet down a spur ridge to a point above a drain; thence

In a southerly direction, crossing a drain 700 feet to a knob; thence

In a southwesterly direction 2,400 feet down a spur ridge, across a saddle to a knob; thence

In a southeasterly direction 1,300 feet down a spur ridge to a point in a small branch 700 feet from its mouth; thence

In a southeasterly direction 700 feet to a point on the end of a spur ridge; thence

In a southeasterly direction 1,100 feet along the spur ridge to a saddle; thence

In a southerly direction 300 feet to the intersection of a spur ridge; thence

In a southeasterly direction 1,700 feet down a spur ridge to a point on Reed Mill Creek 900 feet from its mouth; thence

In a southeasterly direction 700 feet up the slope to a point on a spur ridge; thence

In a southeasterly direction 1,100 feet across Overflow Road to a knob; thence

In an easterly direction 600 feet across Overflow Road to a point on the end of a spur ridge; thence

In a southeasterly direction 500 feet across Overflow Road to a point on a low knob; thence

In a southeasterly direction 600 feet across Overflow Road to a point on Law Ground Creek, 900 feet from its mouth; thence

In a southeasterly direction 800 feet to a point on the Warwoman-Pine Mountain Road approximately 350 feet west of the Route 28 intersection; thence

In a southeasterly direction 900 feet, passing north of the Billingsley Cemetery and crossing Laurel Creek, to a point on Route 28, 500 feet above the mouth of Laurel Creek; thence

In a southeasterly direction 3,600 feet around the end of Carroll Mountain approximately one-third of the way up the slope to a point on Camp Branch, approximately 600 feet from its mouth; thence

In a southeasterly direction 400 feet to a point on a spur ridge; thence

In a southerly direction 1,300 feet to a point on Route 28 at a dirt road; thence continuing

In a southerly direction 800 feet to a knob; thence

In an easterly direction crossing Route 28 at 800 feet; and continuing on the same course to 2,100 feet on top of the main ridge; thence

In a southeasterly direction 900 feet down the ridge to Mose Branch, 200 feet north of a road crossing; thence

In a northeasterly direction 2,700 feet up a spur ridge to the top of Mose Mountain; thence

In a northerly direction 3,500 feet along the ridge to Oakley Top; thence

In a southeasterly direction 3,700 feet down a spur ridge, across a field, to a point on Reed Creek approximately 1,100 feet from its mouth; thence

In a southeasterly direction 1,200 feet to the top of Little Mountain; thence

A direct course in a northeasterly direction 1,700 feet across a drain to a point on a spur ridge of Big Mountain; thence

A direct course in a northeasterly direction 1,650 feet up a side slope to another spur ridge of Big Mountain; thence

In a northerly direction 1,200 feet up this spur ridge to the southern knob of Big Mountain; thence

In a northeasterly direction 1,800 feet along Big Mountain to the northern knob of said mountain; thence

In an easterly direction 3,000 feet down Salt Trough Branch divide to a point in a gap on an old logging road; thence

In a northeasterly direction 500 feet up the slope to a point in an old log road on a flat ridge; thence

In a northwesterly direction 400 feet to Salt Trough Branch, 500 feet from its mouth; thence

In a northwesterly direction 4,500 feet up the east Salt Trough Branch divide to the intersection with a spur ridge; thence

A direct course in a northerly direction 2,500 feet across several drains and up the side slope to the northern knob of Rand Mountain; thence

In a northerly direction 2,300 feet down a ridge to Carey Gap in Burrell's Ford Road; thence

In a northerly direction 2,100 feet up a spur ridge to its intersection with the main ridge of Bee Bait Mountain; thence

In a northeasterly direction 1,500 feet along the ridge to the summit of Bee Bait Mountain; thence

In a southeasterly direction 1,000 feet down a spur ridge to a point where the ridge becomes wider; thence

In an easterly direction 1,000 feet down this ridge; thence

In a northeasterly direction 1,800 feet down a spur ridge to a point on Harden Creek, 800 feet above its mouth; thence

A direct course in a northeasterly direction 1,500 feet to a point on the East Harden Creek divide; thence

In a northwesterly direction 2,900 feet up this divide to a point; thence

A direct course in an easterly direction, 2,300 feet across the head of a small drainage to a point in a gap on a spur ridge; thence

In a northeasterly direction 900 feet, across a drain to the point on a spur; thence

In a northerly direction 1,100 feet up a spur ridge to a knob; thence

In a northerly direction 800 feet along the ridge to the next knob, elevation 2,967 feet M.S.L.; thence

In a northwesterly direction 1,200 feet to an unnamed branch, 1,700 feet above its mouth; thence

In a northerly direction 1,200 feet up a spur ridge to a point on a northwest-southeast ridge; thence

In a northwesterly direction, 700 feet along this ridge to the North Carolina-Georgia state line, the point of beginning.

[FR Doc.76-8076 Filed 3-19-76; 8:45 am]

WEST SLOPE OF THE TETONS PLANNING UNIT

Availability of Final Environmental Statement

Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, has prepared a final environmental statement for the West Slope of the Tetons Planning Unit, Targhee National Forest, Idaho. The Forest Service report number is USDA-FS-FES (Adm) R4-78-4.