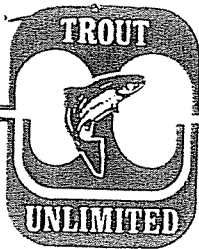


EXHIBIT 9



NOV 17 1987
WATER QUALITY
SECTION

Rabun Chapter
P.O. Box 65
Rabun Gap, Ga. 30568

30 October 1987

Division of Environmental Management
P.O. Box 27687
Raleigh, N.C. 27611-7687

Attention: R. Paul Wilms, Director

Subject: Rule - Making Petition for ORW Classification

Dear Mr. Wilms:

The members of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited of Rabun County Georgia are presenting this document as a petition to classify the entire Chattooga River watershed as "Outstanding Resource Waters." This request includes, but is not limited to, the below listed streams:

Chattooga River Watershed and all tributaries in
Jackson and Macon Counties:
including East Fork Chattooga River and
Bad Creek watersheds.

including Big Creek, Clear Creek,
Overflow Creek and Holcomb Creek
Watersheds, all tributaries of
West Fork Chattooga River.

We feel that the entire Chattooga River watershed qualifies for the classification of "Outstanding Resource Waters" because

- There is outstanding native trout habitat and fisheries; including Eastern Brook trout, Rainbow trout and Brown trout.
- A wild and remote trout stream with the size, beauty and water quality of the Chattooga River is unique in the Eastern United States.
- The Chattooga River flows through the Ellicott Rock Wilderness Area. According to US Forest Service data, this Wilderness has more visitors per acre than any other wilderness in the Forest Service System.
- The Chattooga River, including the West Fork Chattooga River, is a designated Wild & Scenic River. The river corridor is managed to provide opportunities for water-oriented recreation.

- The Overflow Creek and Big Creek tributaries, after they enter Georgia, flow through the Overflow Management Area.

This is a 3951 acre tract set aside and managed by the U.S. Forest Service for semi-primitive recreation use where "quality rather than quantity" of hunting and fishing will be the goal.

- The entire Chattooga River watershed in N.C. is within the Nantahala National Forest, with a large portion actually owned by the U.S. Forest Service.

Therefore, we feel that this watershed presently has exceptional water quality with no significant impacts from pollution.

We also feel that this watershed's unique characteristics and quality may not be protected without classification as "Outstanding Resource Waters."

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Respectfully Submitted,



Doug Adams
Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited

CC: Pat Thomas - Supervisor - Chattahoochee - Oconee National Forests
Leonard Ledbetter - Commissioner - Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Barnett Chitwood - President - Georgia Trout Unlimited Council