PHHAT

A story about a river, hemlocks and the people who dare to save both.
The Green River Gamelands
aka Nature’s Playground
In a 12.6 mile stretch of the Green River you can:

- Tube
- Learn how to kayak
- Learn river safety
- Run your 1st waterfall
- Run your 1st class V rapid
The Green River Race
1995 on the Green River

A healthy hemlock!

That’s me
22 years later
(December 2017)

Same hemlock is not so healthy.
One of hundreds of groves of hemlocks along the Green River
More hemlocks (Upper Green)
And more hemlocks (Upper Green)
OK, there are hemlocks along the Green River.

And they are sick and may die soon if nothing is done.

What does this mean?
Chattooga River in NC/GA has been hit hard by HWA.

Dead hemlocks are falling into the river, causing other trees to fall as well.

Log jams have blocked many rapids and created dangerous strainers.
How many hemlocks are there to save along the Green River?
Some fuzzy math...

- 87 ft
- 0.48 acres or 0.194 hectares
- ~310 ft of river bank

- 84 ft
- 0.59 acres or 0.238 hectares
- 15 hemlocks
- ~275 ft of river bank

- 84 ft
- 84 ft
- 81 ft
- 87 ft
- 77 ft
- 0.48 acres or 0.194 hectares
- 13 hemlocks

~14 hemlocks per 300 ft of riverbank X 2 riverbanks so 28 hemlocks for every 300 feet of river (within 80 feet of river).

Upper Green is 3.7 miles or 19,536 feet. Divide by 300 and multiply 28 is 1,823 hemlocks on the upper next to the stream bed.
OK, there are thousands of them.

What do we do about it?

Form a team of semi-super-heroes called PHHAT!
Paddlers Hemlock Health Action Taskforce
Cue the video
PHHAT Results!
Volunteers and more volunteers!
As of May 2019
900 trees treated
92 acres covered

Big Hungry Creek
2 miles

Upper Green
4 miles

Narrows
3 miles
PHHAT is kinda Phhun 😛

[Images of waterfalls and people paddling]

[Images of people enjoying the natural beauty of the falls]
Some press to keep the stoke going...

PHHAT paddlers work to save hemlocks by kayak

Paddlers to save Green River hemlocks

Phat Cause, PHHAT Acronym: Kayakers Help Hemlocks on the Green

Hemlocks Are Dying from Maine to Georgia, But Kayakers May Save the Day

By Justin Houfman | October 12, 2018
Thank you and many thanks to

Margot Wallston
Kevin Colburn
Thom Green
Regina Claire
Christoph Berenotto
Gray Jernigan
Josh Goldblach
Ryan Jacobs
Joe Berry
Kyle Juvarik

Hemlock Restoration Initiative
American Whitewater
North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
MountainTrue
Perry N. Rudnick Endowment Fund