Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/20/2020 8:00:44 PM First name: Benjamin Last name: Bain Organization:

Title:

Comments: I want to voice my strong support for allowing class 1 ebikes on all trails open to mountain biking. Perhaps ebike users could pay a fee for registration to prove they have a class 1. USFS should allow ebike on trails for people who otherwise could not. Those with disabilities should have a chance to enjoy these trails too. Jefferson County has allowed ebikes on their trails and has had no issues what so over. Please check in with their office to confirm. Please allow ebikes on all trails open to mountain bikes.

Please refer the independent study done showing that class 1 ebikes do NOT cause any more significant damage to trails that regular mountain bikes. In 2015, IMBA conducted a scientifically controlled field study designed to measure relative levels of soil displacement and erosion resulting from traditional mountain bicycles, class 1 eMTBs (see definition above) and traditional off-road motorcycles (i.e. dirt bikes). The observations were compiled in controlled environmental conditions, with each type of bike making multiple passes on separated sections of the same trail within a single test site. This study found that the impacts from Class 1 eMTBs and traditional mountain bicycles were not significantly different, while motorcycles led to much greater soil displacement and erosion.