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Comments: Trails on public land are designed for walkers moving at a slow pace to enjoy the beauty and tranquility that cannot be found anywhere else in the human domain. Trails are also used by wildlife in their own habitat where humanity has already severely disrupted their lives and populations. Everywhere we go, humans have a negative impact on the natural environment.

E-bikes are designed and built for paved roads - they do NOT belong on trails where slow walkers and wildlife have no where else on the planet to go. Noise pollution from e-bikes would also punctuate an otherwise healing experience. Studies have demonstrated clearly that quiet time in nature is healing both mentally and physically: <https://www.webmd.com/balance/features/nature-therapy-ecotherapy#1>. The presence of e-bikes flies in the face of what science has demonstrated as a benefit to humans - quiet time in nature.

As an avid hiker, I've come very close to getting slammed into by bicycle riders. Imagine what might have happened with an e-biker traveling more than 3 times the speed. At 30+ miles/hour, hikers and wildlife will be injured...lawsuits will occur!

The concept of allowing e-bikes on hiking trails is outrageous and it must NOT happen. I pay money in taxes and permits for the privilege of quiet contemplation that can't be found anywhere else - not anywhere!

Does the USFS honestly believe that e-bikes belong at the lake depicted in the attached photo? Do the RIGHT thing - leave the forests and lakes and trails for Peace and peaceful people who have no where else to go.

Deb Merchant