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Title:

Comments: I am writing to insist that e-bikes NOT be allowed on non-motorized NFS trails. I enjoy riding my bike on back roads and non-motorized trails. I plan to purchase an e-bike. However, it will be used in town and strictly on back roads. Classifying e-bikes as non-motorized is puzzling. The definition of an e-bike is dependent upon its electric motor. There are already over 50,000 miles of US Forest Service trails open to my use on an e-bike. I see no reason for an addition of trails. One sobering reason for NOT allowing e-bikes on non-motorized trails is the speed they move, which translates to additional distance, and the impact of both upon wildlife and habitat. When I hike on non-motorized trails, I am seeking a quiet, hiking experience. I don't want an e-bike or any motorized bike approaching me at mechanized speed. With COVID 19 rampant, people understandably seek wild lands to isolate. Increased use of trails can negatively impact wildlife, habitat, and the condition of trails. This, in turn, damages ecosystems. E-bikes are mechanized bikes and have no place on non-mechanized trails. Attached is a document from CO BHA detailing the negative impact of non-mechanized mountain bike use on wildlife. E-bikes would only increase this negative impact.