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Title:

Comments: Response to Draft EA

E-bike Use Designation on Select Jackson Area Trails

Bridger-Teton National Forest:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft EA for the BTNF E-Bike proposal.

As a user of these trails I have significant concerns for the use of motorized vehicles (yes e-bikes) on trails built for non-motorized vehicles. I am also concerned with the news that this proposal was developed by the USFS in consultation with a pro e-bike stakeholder group. As a result the scoping document is biased and should be null and void.

However, in response to the dEA I have the following comments. I support a balanced decision between Alternative 1 and No Proposed Action.

E-Bike Class Management: I support the designation and management of Class 1 eMTBS ONLY on the trails proposed for Alternative 1. No leading mountain bike manufacturers are currently producing full suspension Class 2 or 3 electric mountain bikes, further supporting the recommendation that Class 1 eMTBs are the most appropriate for the trails proposed. Even though Old Teton Pass Rd is a paved trail what would prevent someone from riding their class 2 or 3 on to the newly open to e-bikes downhill trails. There is no component in the scoping document that includes how enforcement would take place. A quick Google search will give you multiple (if not hundreds) of websites showing the everyday user how to hack your E-bike to make it faster than it is supposed to go. Assuming people come in and register - which is highly unlikely- what is to stop them from turning their class 1 e-bike into a faster one? Will there be patrol up there, I doubt and hope not. I already run into people regularly on trails where e-bikes are NOT allowed. I don't think people will be discerning enough and if e-bike are allowed on any trail, they should stick to just class 1. I support use of any eBike classification where motorized vehicles are already allowed. ?

New Trail Development: I support identified trail development in Shadow Mountain Area and Mosquito Creek.

Teton Pass: I support of class 1, eMBT access on Old Pass Highway and directional trails (including: Jimmy's Mom, Powerline Jumps, Fuzzy Bunny, Phillips Connector Trail and Parallel Trail from June 1 - November 30). I do NOT support any use of eMTB's on the north side trails of Teton Pass. I believe we need to protect access for regular, non electric mountain bike users as well and keep some areas motor free. All trails on the North side of Teton Pass are multi-directional and there would be too much conflict with users.

Seasonal Closures: I do not support any extension of seasons because of the impact on wildlife.??

Thank you for your time and I appreciate your consideration in my comments.

Respectfully,

Emily Sadow