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Comments: I understand the argument of ebikes getting people out where they may not be able to otherwise because of physical disabilities. My experience in areas where ebikes are permitted; that is very much the minority of the ebike users.

Concerns:

The ability of an ebike to ride uphill on trails that would otherwise be un-ridable in that direction or at speeds that would never be achieved on a conventional bike even by advanced riders raises very real safety concerns.

The next question would be if adding another new user group is advisable due to over crowding of trails and already unsustainable levels of use currently being observed.

Safety concerns due to speeds achieved would likely create more user conflicts on multi use trails.

I also know from working with the USFS, as an avid mountain biker and advocate, there is a push for trails to be multi use, multi directional. If ebikes are permitted multidirectional travel would be downright dangerous based on the uphill speeds, coupled with the downhill speeds reached on an ebike or conventional bike. There is serious and real risk of collisions. Just as ski areas would not want uphill travel in areas without good lines of sight where skiers descend. That same issue applies but in this case it is worse as both groups are moving quickly and reaction time substantially reduced on trails with short lines of sight. This is a much greater concern when compared to current user groups due to the limitations of grade.

I would be more than willing to discuss this issue further.