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Comments: Thanks for providing an opportunity to comment on this important matter.

I am a soon-to-be retired physician who got a Class 1 eMTB for his 70th birthday after 25 years of enjoying regular mountain bikes. That is 25 years of riding and hiking North and South Carolinas' beautiful trails. When I am not riding, I am hiking with family and friends, enjoying and sharing these beautiful trails with other users. Whenever I can I also participate in trail repair activities.

I want to be able to continue these outdoor activities, especially mountain biking, into my 80's and 90's as long as my health allows. Class 1 e-mountain bikes are making it a reality for me. It has enabled me to ride the same range of trails that I used to ride when I was more vigorous and had less arthritic pains. With the e-bike, I learned to SLOWdown and appreciate my natural surroundings more.

Lumping Class 1 e-MTBs into oversimplifying 'motorized' category and prohibiting them from regular trails is doing a tremendous disservice to a growing number of law-abiding, aging outdoor enthusiasts such as myself. Please give some thoughtful consideration to this matter. Thanks so much.