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First name: Ryan

Last name: Schannauer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Class 1 ebikes are not motorcycles. They are pedal assisted bicycles.

They do no more damage to a trail than a standard bicycle does; they are 15lbs heavier. Consider a 250lb cyclist on a 35lb bike vs a 180lb cyclist on a 50lb bike. Neither of these will affect a wet trail more than a horse. Even a hiker leaves prints behind on a wet trail. The ruts hikers see on trails are not ebike specific. What about trails pocked with cow or horse hooves (or even excrement)?

Arguments in regards to "ebikes offering more people opportunity to see the world" are ridiculous and self-important. None of us deserve the wilds more than another. Population control is an entirely different discussion.

Comments in regards to "ebikes being dangerous" are preposterous and show that the remarking individual does not understand how a class 1 ebike operates. They have no throttle. You must pedal for them to assist. At 20 mph, they do not assist. This is not extremely fast on a bike. Any cyclist can reach well beyond 20 mph on their own.

Arguments in regards to "ebikes causing issues on narrow trails" are silly. They are no wider than a standard bike. Issues with bikes on trails are not limited to ebikes, and are the result of careless people. Any poor trail manners are unfortunate and do not represent the entire pool of bike riders (nor hikers, nor horse riders).

Ebikes offer opportunity to specific individuals who may never get to see part of their world that is often reserved for the young, very fit, or someone fortunate to have a lot of free time.

Ebikes offer the ability for those that are fit to explore farther and longer.

Ebikes allow the elimination for shuttling. Many cyclists opt to ride difficult routes by using vehicles to shuttle their bikes to a particular starting point. Then, they ride their bikes to an ending point. After that, they retrieve their original shuttle vehicle using another vehicle. That is a lot of fuel and emissions. That is a lot of large vehicle trail traffic. As the amount of riders in a group increase, so do the vehicles required to shuttle.

ebikes are a primarily human powered machine. They do not pollute when operated. They offer the ability for all people to explore their world longer and deeper. We cannot limit access to our wilds based on selfishness. The technology has arrived. These are optimized bicycles. Empower people to love their wilderness, and they will care for it.

"The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness". Each of us needs to escape this stressful world. ebikes will let people do it for the first time, the last time, for longer times, or a lot more times.

"Danger" is created by the user, not the mode of movement.