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First name: Laurie

Last name: KERR

Organization: Cascade Volcanoes Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Title: Broadband Leader

Comments: I am in strong opposition to the use of ebikes on national forests. Ebikes can accelerate up to 28mph and these speeds create hazards because the speed at which these vehicles can meet up with hikers and dogs and pack animals on the trail. They also create more damage to the trails than regular MTB bikes due to their size and weight. Motorized vehicles should be kept separate from trails used by hikers and horseback riders.

The majority of recreational trail users are hikers, backpackers, hunters, horse packers, climbers and birders who enjoy the backcountry experience for its solitude and freedom from motorization and mechanization. Introducing ebikes into the back country would forever change the experience.

The use of ebikes have a place on public lands and should be allowed where other motorized vehicles are allowed such as ATVs. ATVs have ample opportunity to enjoy trails on public lands. The review of the literature (PeopleForBikes) reported that there are currently "more than 300,000 miles of singletrack, doubletrack, and natural surface roads accessible to motorized users". Furthermore, opening up non-motorized trails to motorized bikes would effectively eliminate the non-motorized, primitive recreational opportunities.

By allowing the use of ebikes on national forests, it would be opening up the travel management laws and policies dating back to the Nixon administration which require that all motorized recreational uses of our public lands to be confined to a system of designated roads, trails, and areas. Motorized trails must be located to minimize conflicts with other recreational uses of the public lands, as well as damage to soil, water, plants, and other public land resources, including harassment of wildlife, these policies state.

I strongly support our current travel management plans with no motorized trail use in national forests.