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Title:

Comments: Hi there,

I am an avid Mt Biker and hiker that lives and works in Crested Butte. I average 5 days a week on the trails out here in the West Elks, mainly on mountain bikes. Regarding e-bikes on non motorized trails, I am strongly against having them. They are motorized vehicles, the fact that the motor is powered by electricity makes no difference. Having these motorized vehicles on non motorized trails opens a huge can of worms. We all know the lengthy and sensitive process creating and maintaining new trails. Easements, public opinion, permits etc...this can take years. Throwing E-bikes into the mix will only complicate these matters further. Not to mention the increased trail damage incurred by these e-bikes ripping up hill on singletrack. We all have seen the damage that motos do in this situation, e-bikes will be less damaging than motos of course, but way more than Mt. Bikes. There is also a inherent "E-bike are fun and safe" mentality about them. I predict that inexperienced riders (and families) will find themselves miles from the trailhead, with a flat, next to no gear, and no idea how to fix their bike they know next to nothing about. Most e-bike users are inexperienced riders who do not know the rules of the trail, don't know much about backcountry safety let alone how to self rescue when unforeseen situations arise...SAR will be overloaded. E-bikes are great, but for gods sake keep the off non motorized trails. Thanks