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Comments: I support the inclusion of Ebike usage on trails open to bicycles. My experiences using Ebikes and other Ebike riders on the trails have been positive.

While critics like to compare Ebikes to motorcycles, people who have ridden them know this is not true. Speeds going downhill are comparable to those of mountain bikers and speeds going uphill are still much lower than downhill speeds (unlikely to be going more than 10mph uphill).

Use of Ebikes have allowed greater access to user groups who would not otherwise enjoy these trails due to the required physical fitness. I have been able to enjoy mountain biking with my dad (66years old) and my significant other (35 years old) both of which would not have ridden the trails or enjoyed them without the use of an Ebike. I also use the Ebike at times as it is difficult to keep up with the required physical fitness for many trails with significant elevation as a father of 2 kids and busy work life balance, we are not all able to ride 3-5 times a week.

Critics also comment about the concerns with erosion, but I also don't see this as being true. Ebikes are not motorcycles with wheels spinning out as the power is very limited and proportional to your power input from pedaling. The bike does weigh more than a normal bike (~20lbs more), but there are also riders who weigh significantly more than I do and they still have the same right to ride the trails. Ebikes also tend to have wider and grippier tires than most standard ebikes which also prevent sliding/spinning minimizing their impact to erosion. As a counterpoint, Ebikes do enable riders to travel farther distances and will open access to users who are not currently on the trail, but this is the point. We should be encouraging more users to get outside, be active and experience the trail networks.