

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/6/2020 8:20:41 PM

First name: Eric

Last name: Isaacson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have seen many benefits of pedal assist e-bikes. Whether thwarted by age or injury, E-Bikes make the wilderness accessible to those who no longer are able to ride they once could. Most negativity I've heard against them is in regards to their ability to bomb trails at dangerous speeds. I feel like this is an unfounded fear. Gravity is the main force that creates great speed on a mountain bike and fear and caution are what slows that down. Just as many shared downhill trails show similar speeds for dirt bikes and mountain bikes, you also don't see much if any difference between an e-bike and a traditional mountain bike on downhill trails. Their uphill abilities are framed by the opposition as some form of cheating. The same people also fight against shuttling but seldom take issue with lift served bike parks. I'm not sure "cheating" is really a thing. In the end, pedal assist e-bikes are not a threat to anything and create new possibilities for so many people to mountain bike. Let's allow them to ride with us.