Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/8/2020 5:35:48 PM

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Organization:

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Comments: I do not support the use of e-bikes of any kind on established non-motorized trails. While I support the fundamental changes proposed, I do not think it is appropriate to change any current non-motorized trails to incorporate e-bike usage. Moving forward I think full consideration should be given to e-bikes on new trails but I have concerns about increased access, use and wear on established trails. Established trails have not been designed with e-bikes in mind and I think the potential for increased use may contribute to inappropriate degradation and erosion of these trails. I also think that non-motorized mountain bike organizations have contributed significant resources into trail building and maintenance without the intent for motorized trail use. E-bike organizations should have the opportunity to build trails for themselves (with the changes proposed) but not to contribute to trail degradation of existing trails without also contributing to their building and maintenance. I also think that while the intent of increased access to recreation for those who may need a motor is good-intentioned, it may be inappropriate. Currently access to further reaches of forest services lands is somewhat self-limiting to those who often have spent time to study first-aid and care for themselves and their equipment in case of emergency. I have concerns about the self-sufficiency in the backcountry of those who need to motor to access these lands, especially on an e-bike where limited aid supplies are typically carried.