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First name: David

Last name: Andrzejek

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Context: I am an avid outdoorsman. I hike, bike, kayak, ski, snowshoe, etc. I ride both an 'analog' mountain bike (MTB) and a 'class 1' electric mountain bike (eMTB).

I support allowing class 1 eMTBs on trails where regular MTBs are allowed. In my experience class 1 eMTBs have the same impact *or less impact* than regular MTBs. Less impact because I find the electric assistance enables a more even power delivery, which on loose, sandy climbs means I lose traction (aka 'spin out') less often than I do on my regular MTB. My eMTB enables me to enjoy more rides or harder (longer) rides than I otherwise would at my age (50 years old).

It is also my experience that the majority of arguments against eMTBs are from people who are opposed to electric bicycles *in concept*, but do not have any actual first hand experience with them. These people cite excessive trail damage, high speeds, noise, and other fallacies. In my two years of riding eMTBs I find these arguments baseless.

I think it all comes down to access... class 1 electric bikes allow for greater access for people like myself who are past their physical prime but would still like to enjoy mountain biking trails along side other mountain bikers.