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Comments: Recreation Staff Director,

I am writing in support of FSM7700 and creation of the three tiered eBike definition within Forest Service regulations. I have ridden off-road motorcycles and mountain bikes for most of my life. I have now embraced the eBike mountain bike. My personal experiences have highlighted the fact that an eBike, and the desired user experience, are not that of a motorcycle. eBikes should have unique recognition within the Forest Service regulations because they are different and far more like a mountain bike than a motorcycle.

Relegating eBikes to motorized roads and trails is unrealistic. Many motorcycle trails are too rough or too steep for eBike/bicycle use. This would also group eBikes with motorized user groups such as ATVs and Side-by-Side vehicles. These vehicles move at much higher speeds and generate significant audible noise. The eBike experience is akin to that of the bicycle in that it is nearly silent.

I appreciate the Forest Service recognizing this emerging technology and unique form of recreation. Adapting language that defines the eBike separately from traditional motorized vehicles would be a great first step in effective management of eBikes.

Best Regards,

David Kuhny