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Comments: First of all I would like to thank the Forest Service for defining all e-bikes as motorized; in my opinion, these definitions are crucial to a health management of our public lands and natural resources. I would really like to see these definitions, as the currently stand, taken into consideration with regards to future non-motorized trail management. It is to my knowledge as an environmental science major that the inclusion of e-bikes in the definition of "motorized vehicles" is crucial to the proper management of trails in our national forests and grasslands. As is the case with anything in life, there is a proper place for it; I strongly believe that e-bikes, as well as other motorized OHVs, do not and should not be allowed on public, non-motorized trails. As an avid outdoorsman, I have encountered many an ATV, snowmobile, and dirt bike while out hiking, and have seen firsthand how these machines negatively affect the serenity and environmental health of our cherished public lands. While e-bikes may have their place in urban settings and select frontcountry settings (e.g. campgrounds, day use areas, etc), they have no business being on backcountry trails, or any other such settings for that matter. I understand that certain demographics may argue that e-bikes help improve ease-of-access. This is a valid argument; however It is in my opinion that this "ease-of-access" point compromises not only the safety of the user, but also the safety of the surrounding public. What any machine provides in convenience, there is also a reduction in safety. Since e-bikes are mechanized, they have an increased probability that they could malfunction at any time. Imagine being stranded deep in the backcountry with a broken vehicle and lacking the equipment and expertise to repair it with a dwindling supply of survival equipment (food, water, etc.); that situation could turn ugly really fast. What's more, the Forest Service could have to implement an expensive, labor-intensive search, which might significantly affect their budget and pull funding away from other, more pressing, conservation-oriented projects

In sum, allowing e-bikes on non-motorized trails could lead to negative ecosystem changes, an increased threat to both personal and public safety, and costly budget cuts detracting from important conservation-oriented goals.