

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/17/2020 6:26:09 PM

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Comments:

E-bikes are motorized vehicles. Many public trails were designed for foot traffic only and are closed to motorized vehicles and should remain so. Studies of recreation impact on elk and deer have found that fast-moving visitors on bikes and ATVs have as much as two times the impact as hikers or horseback riders in driving animals away from feeding and resting areas.

That results in "habitat compression," shrinking the landscape where wildlife feel secure for feeding and raising young as more humans penetrate regions that used to be hard to reach. The consequences are poor feeding, lower calf and fawn survival and reductions in big-game opportunities. Humans also need the rare respite (these days) from mechanized, motorized, electronic devices to calm and clear the head. so few natural places like this exist anymore. Categorically allowing an additional class of motorized use and a new group of trail users to crowd trails designed for nonmotorized recreation would be irresponsible and ecologically harmful. Therefore I support existing USFS/BLM policies that prohibit use of e-bikes on nonmotorized trails and roads.