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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am sure that you are getting many comments begging you to disallow eBikes, because people tend to speak up only when they oppose something. I am here to ask you to think critically about those pleas.

I have heard this opposition of eBikes and I really don't understand it. Most eBikes, especially class 1, are no different from other bikes and should be allowed where other bikes are allowed.

eBikes don't make more noise than regular bikes. They do not "disrupt wildlife". They are not in any way more destructive than regular bikes. Speed limits would apply to ebikes as they do for all bikes. And anyone who thinks they're more dangerous because it is easier to go faster has never been buzzed by a pack of riders on regular bikes going 40-60mph.

I think that when people think of motorized bikes, they imagine mopeds or other traditional motorized bikes. In truth, with few exceptions, the only person who can tell the difference between an ebike and a regular bike is the person riding it. I invite you to try one sometime so you can see this for yourself.

What eBikes do is allow older or disabled riders to enjoy riding for longer periods of time and in areas we might not be able to ride (e.g., inclines or gravelly areas that require more physical work to navigate). I am 54 and prior to buying my eBike I could ride for an hour or so before it became difficult. I would often need to walk my bike up hills. In the last year and a half I have ridden often and far. Before C19 my husband and I rode 30-40 miles each weekend. And during this crisis our eBikes have provided opportunities for recreation with social distancing. We have ridden the American River Parkway and the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes, both in their entirety. Without eBikes we could not have imagined entire weekends of all-day riding like that.

Please treat Class 1 eBikes as regular bikes because they are no different. Also consider the other classes with an open mind.

Thank you for your time.