Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/21/2020 7:29:02 PM First name: Kevin W. Last name: McAlister Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello, I've heard there was this proposal, where it opens up more trails in our National Forests to electric bikes, or e-bikes, through a new rulemaking process. I feel very concerned about this because the proposal has huge implications for wildlands, wildlife, and Wilderness on more than 150 million acres of your public lands. I say this for three reasons: (1) Research shows that like all recreation, mountain bikes displace wildlife, (2) e-bikes can travel much farther into the backcountry in less time, and startle and disturb wildlife over far greater distances. E-bikes also conflict with nonmotorized trail users like hikers, horseback riders, and bicyclists, and (3) a significant segment of the mountain biking community has become one of the most ardent opponents of wilderness designation and, more significantly, is pushing to open existing Wildernesses to bikes. All of which is why I'm asking you to withdraw from this proposal. Thank you and have a nice day.