

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/21/2020 8:48:40 PM

First name: Robert

Last name: Nelson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Sir or Madam:

As an ardent bicyclist and regular e-bike commuter, I respectfully oppose the Forest Service's proposal to open National Forests to e-bikes:

* E-bikes are closer to being motor vehicles than they are to being bicycles. Mine takes me up hills at 15 mph, and down hills much faster.

* I see no evidence of an Environmental Impact Statement having been done. Obviously, one must be done before enacting such a proposal.

* My e-bike can easily take me up canyons along the Wasatch Front quickly and quietly. I have often startled wildlife grazing alongside the road. Dangerous encounters will occur if e-bikes are allowed in the back country.

* Back country should be reserved for hikers, horses, and, if it's unavoidable, bicycles-but not e-bikes.

* We must preserve wild lands, which are already under attack by a heating earth.

I urge rejection of this Forest Service proposal. Please do not abuse the lands that is is your duty is to preserve. Thank you.