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First name: Marydale

Last name: Casey

Organization: Wind River Backcountry Horsemen

Title: President

Comments: Dear Forrest Service personnel,

I am writing as a representative of the Wind River Backcountry Horsemen, a chapter of the Wyoming Backcountry Horsemen. We are part of a national group of 13,000 members of the Backcountry Horsemen of America. (BCHA)

Since 1995 BCHA has contributed a value of 140.2 million dollars in volunteer hours working on local and federal lands. We have always promoted inclusiveness to all who use trails. This is part of our mission statement.

We feel E-bikes are not appropriate on off road trails and backcountry. They are a motor vehicle and should be categorized as such. They belong with motor vehicles and the roads and tracts that motor vehicles are limited to.

We understand that this could open trails for the elderly and disabled. We feel this invites disaster to encourage people to areas they could otherwise not access. This could turn into a serious burden for NFS, Search and Rescue, Law Enforcement, and emergency personnel.

e-bikes are motor vehicles and should remain on designated roads. To open this up just to boost numbers of users is a poor decision and poor management.

Please keep our 13,000 member strong organization in mind as you continue your work.

Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely WRBH