Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/22/2020 12:16:08 AM First name: Michael Last name: Markham Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am making my comments to voice opposition to the proposal to begin allowing e-bikes in our National Forests. Though I am not an avid outdoorsperson, I am a compassionate animal rights advocate, and as such, I have a deep respect for both the outdoors and wildlife. In my opinion, the introduction of e-bikes into these areas would denigrate the surroundings, increase the likelihood of negative interaction with wildlife, and take away from the true experience of being 'in the wild'. Because of the characteristics inherent in e-bikes, they more closely resemble motor vehicles than bicycles and should therefore be classified as such, meaning their presence should also be forbidden. Approving the proposal being considered, would set perhaps an irreversible precedent to cause irreparable harm to our National Forests.