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First name: William

Last name: Forbes

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Research shows that like all recreation, mountain bikes displace wildlife, and because they travel farther and faster than hikers or equestrians, they can impact a much greater area in the same amount of time. 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.

But beyond these direct impacts to nature, 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. That will presumably include e-bikes if they're eventually allowed on non-motorized trails on public lands. There is a long history of once a new recreation use is established, it is politically very difficult to go back and remove it. This proposal should either be withdrawn or apply very, very limited access to e-bikes as a test of their impacts. Thanks!