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First name: Penny

Last name: Johansen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I thoroughly oppose the Forest Service's proposed rule to open up our National Forest lands to additional e-bike use off the main vehicle roads!

E-bikes, like automobiles, motorcycles, and ATV's are motor vehicles - not bicycles. E-bikes, which are currently being developed, are capable of reaching speeds as high as 55 mph, and have NO place on any of our National Forest lands other than on main roads with other motorized vehicles.

The present proposed rule suggests ways in which these motorized vehicles are likely to impact our national forest lands. These highly probable environmental ramifications must be comprehensively evaluated through the process & submission of a formal environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

In addition, it appears this proposed rule will create conflicts with the Forest Service's Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212 et seq).

Another consideration, due to e-bike speed and relatively quiet nature, they are able to travel much farther into the back country and will undoubtedly startle and disturb wildlife as well as foot traffic/hikers, bicyclists, and horseback riders over MUCH greater distances.

Perhaps, most importantly, I cannot help but wonder if any real thought has been given, let alone plans created, with regard to the immense possibility of other very real dangers which are certain to affect humans and wildlife if e-bikes are permitted to use areas other than roads dedicated to motorized traffic, such as (not simply possible but very probable!) injuries which will undoubtedly occur to humans, animals, and wildlife alike...especially in inaccessible or relatively inaccessible areas...or anywhere, for that matter???

It also appear there are virtually no plans included in this proposal with regard to the issue of trespass enforcement re: illegal off-trail riding, and the possibility/probability of illegal trail development by some e-bikers. Thus, as it stands, it is guaranteed, at least to some degree, e-bikes will be sure to increasingly encroach on designated wilderness areas and other protected areas with little, if any consequence. This illegal use will degrade the exceedingly important, extremely treasured "wild character" of these, our precious, irreplaceable national forest lands and should definitely NOT be encouraged and will without a doubt occur if this appalling ruling were to pass.

There are many, many places other than within our national forests, wilderness areas, and other such protected public "natural forest & park lands" available for recreational motorized vehicle use!

The Forest Service should MOST definitely withdraw this proposal!

Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts and opinion.