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First name: Jimmy

Last name: Brasher

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I oppose the Forest Service's proposed rule to open up my National Forest lands to additional e-bike use. The Forest Service should withdraw this proposal.

E-bikes must continue to be treated as motor vehicles, not bicycles. Calling it a bicycle is absurd and they should only be allowed where motor vehicles are allowed.

The proposed rule sets up conflicts with the Forest Service's Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212 et seq).

Because of their speed and quiet nature, e-bikes can travel much farther into the backcountry, and startle and disturb wildlife over far greater distances. E-bikes also conflict with other non-motorized trail users like hikers, horseback riders, and bicyclists.

This proposed rule suggests likely environmental impacts that should be fully evaluated through an environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Because there is almost no enforcement now for trespass, illegal off-trail riding, and illegal trail development by some bikers, e-bikes will increasingly trespass into Wilderness and other protected areas with no consequences.

This illegal use will degrade the wild character of these lands and should not be encouraged as this rule will do.

Again, the Forest Service must withdraw this proposal to allow motorized bikes on our protected lands.