Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/22/2020 3:26:27 PM

First name: Carol Last name: Peck Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I am writing to express my opinion that there should be no expansion of e-bike access on existing Forest Service trails. There are enough issues with multi-user trails and e-bikes will only make that more of an issue. We've seen enough of them to know they travel at a speed that is not only incompatible with human-powered modes of transportation, but that many trails were not designed for that kind of equipment or speed.

I see a proposal for different categories, but what is the true reality of enforcing that? As it is, there is no enforcement that I see of e-bikes that currently use trails illegally. When I see ebikes on non-e-bike trails now, I have never seen a USFS employee patrolling them. How is that going to change? Unless I missed something about additional enforcement funds in your proposal, having 3 or 4 categories that are actively monitored is magical thinking.

I am a 63 year old woman who hikes and mountain bikes on USFS trails quite often. At some point in the not too distant future, some of the mountain biking may not be accessible to me because I will no longer be physically able. But if I choose to get an e-bike, I can ride in different places and I have no problem with that. I sure hope I can always walk the trails without e-bikes flying by.