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Organization:

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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the proposal of e-bikes on forest trails. I love to hike and enjoy the serenity of the wilderness. I occasionally also mountain bike on trails. My experiences in nature soothe my soul, rejuvenate and regenerate me. I embrace the sights, smells, and sounds of nature. I de-stress in the quietude and sounds of the forest. I heard my first bull elk bugle just a month ago. It was impressive.

I am opposed to motorized bikes on hiking and wilderness paths. I am opposed to the co-mingling of pedestrians and motorized machines on trails. The wilderness experience of the hiker is damaged by the noise and intrusion of a speeding vehicle. Motorized bikes are potentially dangerous to hikers and mountain bike riders. Perhaps a solution to this is to permit e-bikes on logging roads where off road vehicles are presently allowed. Another significant problem on public lands is going off trail and destroying habitat, creating erosion. Motorized vehicles are capable of creating thus damage at a much greater rate in our forests and these riders seem to have a greater propensity for this than hikers. Again, I thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on this topic.

I worry that motorized bikes will also damage the ecosystems and stress the wildlife, disrupt some species and even cause local extinctions of some species.