

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/22/2020 10:41:46 PM

First name: Tony

Last name: Pastore

Organization:

Title:

Comments: TWIMC,

Please note, as a multi-activity user of the US Forest Service public lands, I support inclusion of ebikes (electric pedal assist bicycles) on trails. The key to this has been ironed out in recent BLM use planning. Ebikes should be considered equal to regular bicycles as long the ebike is a pedal assist bicycle. "Throttle" based ebikes are more like motorcycles and should be treated as such. Yes, pedal assist ebikes are a new category of quiet enjoyment in the forest... Users must be educated with appropriate signage and education. Land managers need to engage with the manufacturers as well as the users (general public) to ensure adequate education around appropriate use, etiquette, etc. The onus is on all of us to adapt to change and grow our management to accommodate changing times... Just as wild fires may force closure of some areas, so is education required to adapt to new user experiences... especially an expansion of quiet enjoyment. I ride both types of bicycles and have done so for decades. I feel pedal assist is equal to regular (sometimes called "analog") bicycle riding... Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. And good luck with your work. :)