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Comments: Level 1 eMTBs should be treated as standard mountain bikes as far as trail access is concerned.

They are silent, require the user to pedal for them to operate and do not have enough power to damage trails in the same manner as motorcycles. The only big difference is that they go up hill faster. When riding down hill or around corners, they go the same speed or a bit slower than standard mountain bikes due to their increased weight.

In addition to being on the Board of the Summit County Mountain Biking Alliance (SCOMBA) I ride with the Summit Mountain Bikers, a group made up primarily of retirees. We range in age from mid 50's to the mid 80's. Some of our older members have taken to riding level 1 eMTB's. The primary difference in their riding is that they go up hill faster.

At the very least, there should be an exception made for their use on mountain bike trails by individuals who have health issues like asthma, COPD, heart conditions, etc. There should also be an age exemption for their use on mountain bike trails by anyone 65 or older. As we age, we loose leg strength and stamina. The option of using an eMTB allows those with health issues or age issues to continue to exercise.