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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have owned and ridden a Class 1 e-MTB for nearly 3 years and can attest that the perceived increase in trail damage and perceived increase in injuries are simply not true. A Class 1 e-MTB should be included in the same category as a "regular" bicycle because it has no throttle, will not travel any faster than a "regular" bicycle would and enables the rider to travel to locations that would otherwise be unreachable.

Class 2 and 3 e-bikes are entirely different and should be categorized as motorized vehicles, albeit not to the extent of motorcycles or ATV's. Class 2 and 3 e-bikes do have a place and should be allowed to be used to experience the outdoors. They are quiet, produce no emissions, and are generally used by people not looking to "explore off the beaten path" but rather to conquer the hills and other terrain that would otherwise limit their mobility.

I urge you to consider Class 1 e-MTB's as you would a traditional bicycle because they allow people like myself to experience the outdoors in locations that I would otherwise not be able to enjoy. For example, trails at the higher elevations in Colorado would be inaccessible to me if it were not for my Class 1 e-MTB due to the reduced oxygen levels. I am otherwise fit enough to hike and bike throughout the wilderness but the reduced oxygen at altitude just drains me.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,  
Derek L. Hays