Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2020 1:39:56 PM First name: Jay Last name: Wilkes Organization: SORBA Woodstock

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Comments: Class 1 level eMTBs need to be classified into the same category as regular mountain bikes. From our trail advocacy organization's standpoint, it's all about erosion control classification not motorized classification. Class 1 eMTBs do not have the power to pull up dirt from the trailbed like motorcycles. They have the same impact as regular bikes. Downhill bikes speeds will be consistant as regular bikes due to Class 1 top speed cut-offs. There are many mountain bike advocacy organizations like mine that allow class 1 eMTBs on their local trail for usage. We have seen zero impact of conflict at our trail systems. Categorizing eMTBs as motorized will create many issues regarding trail usage and access. Trail access for eMTBs will become extremely limited since it would also allow use of motorcycles which would have tremendous erosion issues to trails and nearby streams. Since mountain biking is a sport that was started in the 1970s-80s, their is a growing population of aged users as well as many americans with physical disabilities. Classifying them as regular bicycles would allow more people to cycle the forest and grow more volunteer groups like mine to help with trail maintenance. My opinion is that the USFS should follow the path of the Dept of Interior and classify Class 1 eMTBs the same as regular bicycles.