Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2020 3:00:51 PM First name: Aerah Last name: hardin Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello and thank you for the opportunity to respond on e-bike management on public lands. I am an avid cyclist and have witnessed the closure of many trails to human powered mountain bikes because of user conflict and the classification of a human powered mountain bike as a "mechanized" vehicle and put in the same category as a motorcycle. Where I live, we've lost human powered bicycle access to many trails because other users did not want motorcycles there and bicycles were lumped into the same category. E-bikes are growing in popularity and are absolutely providing new access for users. However, E-bikes, no matter what class 1,2 or 3 operate with a motor. No matter how you cut it, they are motorized and should remained classified as such. Providing access to e-bikes on non-motorized trails in some cases and by specifying type 1,2 or 3 access in some cases will only foster confusion, non-compliance to the rules , user conflict and potentially loss of trail access to all bicycles. We are already seeing the lack of understanding of where e-bikes are allowed. Simply keeping them classified as the motorized vehicles that they are is the best way to clearly designate usage, minimize confusion and conflict and protect trail access for all bicycles. Thank you for your consideration.