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First name: Tom

Last name: Hausam

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Federal Agencies;

I am 77 years old and have been working on maintaining forest trails for bikers, hikers and horse people for the last 40 years. Mountain bicyclists seem to be the foremost caregivers for all of the trails that are in the West. Of course the various Federal employees whose job descriptions involve trail creation and maintenance contribute much to our National Forest trails. During those years I have observed that mountain bikes are quite gentle on the trails and in fact usually contribute to the smoothness of the trails. Horses are quite destructive to forest trails and it is very rare for me to see horse people working on trails.

Riders of electric mountain bikes (such as myself) continue to build and care for the trails and in my experience the impressions made on the mountain trails are the same for the electric bikes as for the pedal versions. In addition I have never experienced any animosity between bikers, hikers and horse people while biking with either my pedal or electric bike. Usually we like to stop and talk to one another. It is always fun to meet other trail users along our rides. Please allow us to continue to ride our electric mountain bikes on all of the trails. (Of course not in Wilderness areas).