

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2020 6:50:54 PM

First name: Rose

Last name: Houk

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Oct. 23, 2020

#### USFS E-bikes management

I am a frequent walker and bicyclist on unpaved trails and city streets. I have seen more e-bikes lately scooting around town and they're obviously going faster than a regular bicycle. But I'm not so opposed to them in this setting because maybe, just maybe, their presence will lead to safer bikepaths for all of us.

But what I worry about with e-bikes on any forest trails is the precedent that will set for the assumption that any motorized type of access is allowed. Perhaps Class 1 e-bikes might be okay, I'm still learning about the fine points.

Enforcement is the elephant in this room. The Forest Service and other public agencies are stretched so thin it doesn't seem possible for personnel to adequately manage e-bike usage. I commonly see off-roaders reading a forest sign saying no motorized vehicles, then proudly zipping past the barriers to disrupt what would otherwise have been another peaceful walk in the woods.

Essentially, the FS is correct in considering these motorized vehicles and will do itself, and us, a favor by simply saying no to this use.