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First name: Nadine

Last name: Godwin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As an American citizen and taxpayer, I am an owner of America's national forests and I oppose the Forest Service's proposed rule to allow for more e-bike travel on national forest land.

E-bikes are motor vehicles and, as a result, must be kept to routes where other motor vehicles are allowed to travel.

I have special concerns for wildlife and the preservation of healthy habitats for these animals. Because e-bikes travel so quickly and quietly they can move much further into backcountry than can a bicycle, and they are thus poised to startle and disturb wildlife over considerably wider ranges than bicycles ever can.

Furthermore, they conflict with requirements and the sheer pleasures of hiking, biking and horseback riding.

We can confidently predict that turning e-bikes loose on more of our trails sets the stage for increased trespassing into Wilderness and other protected areas with no consequences. Such illegal use will degrade the wild character of these lands and should not be encouraged with a rulemaking such as the one under consideration.

This proposal must be dropped in the interests of all of us.

Thank you.