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Title:

Comments: The opportunity for the public to engage in FSM 7700 and 7710 is greatly appreciated by me and my husband who are in our 70's. We have been mountain biking for 30 years. We are invested in the revision of the Forest Service directives to update and clarify guidance on the management of electric bike (e-bike) use on National Forest System lands.

We have not moved into class 1eMTB bikes yet, but we see it in our (near) future. The final directive must reconsider how to allow class 1 eMTBs on select non-motorized trails while retaining a trail's non-motorized status, similar to the recent Department of Interior final rule. The final directive can be further improved by following the International Mountain Bicycling Association's management recommendations: managing the three classes of e-bikes separately from one another, and prohibiting class 2 and class 3 eMTBs on natural surface, non-motorized trails.

The proposed directives could jeopardize funding and increase user conflict if non-motorized trails were to become reclassified as motorized to allow for eMTBs.

Mountain bikers appreciate the leap in technology presented by eMTBs as a unique management challenge. These proposed directives rightfully plan separate management for bicycles and electric bicycles. It is critical that land managers and local mountain bikers work together to determine where eMTBs are.

Thank you for your willingness to engage with the mountain bike community.