Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/24/2020 1:50:09 PM

First name: Mary Last name: Stewart Organization:

Title:

Comments: My family and I are opposed to the Forest Service's proposed rule to open up our National Forest lands to additional e-bike use for the following reasons:

- E-bikes are motor vehicles, not bicycles. New e-bikes are being developed now that will drive up to 55 mph.
- E-bikes must travel only where motor vehicles are allowed.
- This proposed rule suggests likely environmental impacts that should be fully evaluated through an environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- The proposed rule appears to set up conflicts with the Forest Service's Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212 et seg).
- E-bikes can travel much farther and quicker and more quietly than other motorized vehicles and thus are extra disturbing and scary for wildlife over far greater distances.
- E-bikes also conflict with other non motorized trail users like hikers, horseback riders, and bicyclists....like most of us!!!!
- Meanwhile, there is currently almost no enforcement for trespass, illegal off-trail riding, and illegal trail development by some bikers, e-bikes will increasingly trespass into Wilderness and other protected areas with no consequences. This illegal use issues is particularly upsetting to us as such illegal activities will further damage these lands and should not be encouraged as this rule will do.

So in conclusion, we think that the Forest Service should withdraw this proposal.

Thank you for your attention to our comments.