

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/24/2020 3:39:13 PM

First name: John

Last name: McGrew

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been riding Mt. Bikes for the last thirteen years, ten of which were on regular Mt. Bikes and the last three years on a Class I e-bike. I am 75 years young and love to ride and have clocked more than 1300 miles this summer on my bike, mostly single track local and back country riding. I have considered the arguments concerning motorized verses non-motorized use on our trails. I think most users would agree that the Class 1 e-bike causes no more damage to the eco system and trails than regular Mt. Bikes do. Many people seem to be against e-bikes because they are motorized, which they are, and that they will cause more crowding on the trails, which is probable. However, consider that these non e-bike Mt. Bikes are technical marvels with mechanical advantages including weight, geometry and gearing. No, they are not motorized but I don't think the non e-bike Mt. Biker can reasonably justify that to a hiker or equestrian they are much different than the e-bike rider because they don't have a motor. As far as trail crowding is concerned I think that is inevitable. We should try and build more trails as responsibly as we can and respect each others rights to the trail. E-bikes should give way, whether they are going up or down, and be respectable when passing hikers, equestrians and non-motorized bikes. We are still a democracy, let's keep the trails open in a responsible way. I favor the proposed plan for e-bikes.