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First name: GARETH

Last name: GREEN

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The proposed policy should include an exception for e mountain bikes to be treated the same as mountain bikes. E mountain bikes do not cause the same kind of damage as motorcycles so should be treated as non-motorized. I have been riding mountain bikes for 35 years and have ridden both on trails that allow motorcycles and do not allow motorcycles. Trails that allow motorcycles have substantial erosion problems. After riding with several friends that have a mountain bikes, I have not seen them create damage that I have seen motorcycles create. The benefit of e-mountain bikes is that it allows people to travel further distances or access trails they would not be able to use otherwise. If the goal is to get people using trails while maintaining a high quality environmental experience, e-mountain bikes are a good option.

E mountain bikes also open up outdoor recreational opportunities for people with physical disabilities, are aging, or simply do not have the time to maintain peak physical fitness That might allow them to travel further onto the trails.

I recommend and prefer the USFS adopt a mountain bike classifications similar to the department of interior where e-bikes are classified differently than motorcycles.

Please feel free to reach me for comment or questions.