

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/24/2020 7:18:14 PM

First name: matt

Last name: Anderson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Designating eMTBs as motorized could negatively impact our traditional maintenance and development funding sources for non-motorized trails like RTP, WWRP and NOVA grant funding in Washington State.

A motorized designation is inconsistent with recent rulings of the Department of the Interior that affect trails on National Parks, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Reclamation Lands, creating inconsistency between trails on Federal lands and more user confusion on where e-bikes can legally go.

A motorized designation also does not align with a strong trend of State legislation classifying e-bikes as non-motorized transportation, now adopted in 27 states, including Washington.

Any time access is proposed on a multi-use trail, hikers and equestrians lose a non-motorized trail.

With respect to mountain bike use specifically, no mountain bike brand is currently developing Class 2 or 3 eMTBs. The bike industry is aligned with this approach. Non-traditional e-bikes that have throttles or can move at a speed greater than 20mph should be restricted to existing motorized trails and are not considered "Mountain Bikes" by most mountain bike manufacturers.