Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/24/2020 6:55:29 PM

First name: John Last name: Ragan Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am in agreement of allowing electric assist bicycles on non-motorized trails. I ride both conventional and electric assist mountain bikes and believe there is no discernible difference in trail impact between the two. Contrary to many biking purists, ebikes are not akin to motorcycles in any way. They cannot conquer any different terrain than a conventional bike, they simply allow the rider to choose how much physical exertion they can tolerate. Even the bikes equipped with throttles are not designed to be operated solely by the throttle. If a user relied on just throttle alone, they would deplete the battery in a very short time. Even the higher wattage bikes do not have the power to propel the bike up even mild hills on throttle alone. These bikes have to be pedaled, just like any other bike. I think both pedal and pedal assist bikes can cohabitate on the same trails without any issues. No matter which form a rider chooses, they must ride safely and follow bike and trail etiquette at all times. Those are much more important issues than the style of bike being ridden.