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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As one of millions of public land users across the country I write to object to any attempt by public land management agencies to legalize electronic motor bikes (e-bikes) on non-motorized trails.

I oppose any effort that would allow any class of vehicle with a motor - including all classes of e-bikes, which by definition have a motor - to be allowed on non-motorized trails. A contrary interpretation would create an unmanageable slippery slope and threaten future management of all non-motorized trails and areas on public lands.

Non-motorized trails were created to ensure that the public could find recreational trail opportunities free from the ever-growing motorization and mechanization. Millions of public land users including hikers, backpackers, hunters, horse packers, climbers, mountain bikers and many more, value non-motorized trails for recreation. Opening non-motorized trails to motors would forever change the backcountry experience for these users.

I recognize that e-bikes have a place on public lands, and in fact have ridden my e-bike on roads in some national parks, and generally should be allowed where motorized vehicles are permitted. The existing motorized trail system provides plentiful opportunities for e-bike use with tens of thousands of miles of trails currently open to their use.