

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/25/2020 2:30:08 AM

First name: Erik

Last name: Eastland

Organization:

Title:

Comments: CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Here is what I sent...

I have been an avid mountain biker for approximately 30 years and am now transitioning to e mountain bikes with my friends. We are all in the late 50-60 year old range and still enjoy getting out on the trails and would love to access the single track trails we have grown to love but are currently not allowed access to. During this time, the mountain bike has gone from a modified "Schwinn" 10-speed with knobby tires to the high tech carbon fiber, full suspension bike that is commonly seen on most trails today. Technologies change and the sport changes with it. An ebike is just the latest technology in this evolutionary cycle. The "no motor" rules were written long before ebikes existed and were implemented to keep internal combustion engine powered vehicles off of trails that would be damaged by such vehicles or were in high fire risk areas. In addition, the noise and the exhaust smell from internal combustion powered vehicles is not conducive with many of the environments that are currently classified as "non motorized trails". A class 1 ebike does not cause anymore damage to the land than a standard mountain bike and is not a fire risk. It does not have an internal combustion motor and therefore does not make anymore noise than a standard bike nor does it produce any exhaust (smell). It has no throttle, so it has to be pedaled, like a normal bike to move forward. As an avid mountain biker and now an avid ebiker, I can tell from experience that an ebike is one of the greatest innovations to mountain biking since Tom Ritchey and Gary Fisher raced their single- speed balloon tire bikes down Mt Tamalpais in Marin County. Ebikes aren't the motor vehicles that the current rules were written for, they are the latest version of a mountain bike and to put them in the same category as motorcycle would just be wrong. All one has to do is to ride one on a trail for a day to know that this is the case.

On Sat, Oct 24, 2020 at 2:16 PM Kent Herman <kentaherman@gmail.com> wrote:

A sample letter from my friend Kurt to forest service comments re EMTBs.

End date is 10.26 so let's comment.

Kent

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kurt Heidner <evilopie@yahoo.com>

Date: Fri, Oct 23, 2020 at 2:06 PM

Subject: Write up

To: Kent Herman <kentaherman@gmail.com>

Here you go.

I would recommend that we stress the fact that we have been avid mountain bikers for 30+ years. During this time, the mountain bike has gone from a modified "Schwinn" 10-speed with knobby tires to the high tech carbon fiber, full suspension bike that is commonly seen on most trails today. Technologies change and the sport changes with it. An ebike is just the latest technology in this evolutionary cycle. The "no motor" rules were written long before ebikes existed and were implemented to keep internal combustion engine powered vehicles off of trails that would be damaged by such vehicles or were in high fire risk areas. In addition, the noise and the

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Ebikes aren't the motor vehicles that the current rules were written for, they are the latest version of a mountain bike and to put them in the same category as motorcycle would just be wrong. All one has to do is to ride one on a trail for a day to know that this is the case.

Kurt E. Heidner
(805) 455-2381
Sent from my iPhone

--

Kent Herman
541-408-0911
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On Sat, Oct 24, 2020 at 2:16 PM Kent Herman <kentaherman@gmail.com> wrote:
A sample letter from my friend Kurt to forest service comments re EMTBs.

End date is 10.26 so let's comment.

Kent

To Whom it may concern

We my friends and I have been avid mountain bikers for 30+ years. During this time, the mountain bike has gone from a modified "Schwinn" 10-speed with knobby tires to the high tech carbon fiber, full suspension bike that is commonly seen on most trails today. Technologies change and the sport changes with it. An ebike is just the latest technology in this evolutionary cycle. The "no motor" rules were written long before ebikes existed and were implemented to keep internal combustion engine powered vehicles off of trails that would be damaged by such vehicles or were in high fire risk areas. In addition, the noise and the exhaust smell from internal combustion powered vehicles is not conducive with many of the environments that are currently classified as "non motorized trails". A class 1 ebike does not cause anymore damage to the land than a standard mountain bike and is not a fire risk. It does not have an internal combustion motor and therefore does make anymore noise than a standard bike nor does it produce any exhaust (smell). It has no throttle, so it has to be pedaled, like a normal bike to move forward. As an avid mountain biker and now an avid ebiker, I can tell from experience that an ebike is one of the greatest innovations to mountain biking since Tom Ritchey and Gary Fisher raced their single- speed balloon tire bikes down Mt Tamalpais in Marin County.

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Erik Eastland