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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for having this comment period . I am a 70 year old mountain biker with some health issues (asthma). I am opposed to allowing any form of ebike on USFS trails. The idea that even an 18 mph would be compatible with with non motorized bikes is laughable to me. Though I am older and have asthma I am still reasonably fit. My average speed on most rides is between 6 to 10 mph. Having a motor in my bike would increase that to 10 to 15 almost twice as fast . Any modern traffic engineer would look at that and realize that would completely change the dynamic of the trail.

I know many supporters of motorized bike talk about increased access to the trails. This is the same argument that was used against the creation of wilderness areas in the 60's. Fortunately those arguments failed then and I hope they fail now. Our mountain bike trails are already overused, the maintenance of them usually falls to volunteer organizations as the USFS does not have the funds to work on MTB trails.

The last point is who is going to enforce these rules. How many USFS law enforcement are out on the trails(in Bend, Or none) who on the ground can tell the difference between classes of ebikes?. Since all of these bike have electronic brains who will make sure they are not modified ? Who will certify that the manufactures follow the rules? My guess is no one . If ebikes are allowed it will cause more conflict than we have now and there will be no one to step in.

Please do not follow the marketing of the bike manufacturers and say pedal assist are not the same as a motorized vehicle. They have a motor do it's pretty simple to classify them as motorized.

Thank you,

DonLeet