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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

As an emtb rider I am very excited and thankful that the department is willing to review regulations around e bike use on trails. The use of a class 1 emtb has opened up a new world for me that I would never have been able to experience before. I get to explore more of our beautiful wilderness now that I have easier mobility. I definitely think the class 1 emtb should not be designated as motorized. It is so much different than an atv or dirt bike and still very different from a class 2 or 3 e-bike. I have to pedal to gain any advantage, so there's definitely a limit to its abilities. I would be concerned that changing/making any trails motorized to accommodate a class 1 emtb would take away paths for horses and hikers. I think all of them can coexist. I have spent a lot of time in Post Canyon in Hood River where emtbs are allowed and it seems to be working out well. I still get passed by almost everyone on a traditional mountain bike. So not much has changed since I got an ebike. I also hope there is some good coordination between departments as I am always concerned I may cross over a boundary during my bike ride and into a location where e bikes are not allowed. It's currently very difficult to decide overall where it is allowed vs tolerated vs outright banned. Clarity and simplification would be great so that everyone, emtb or not, knows the rules. Thank you for taking the time to look at this. I feel e bike use will only grow, so it's great that the department is being proactive.