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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello -

I understand that you are soliciting comments on the use of e-bikes on trails. I would like to go on record as strongly supporting the use of e-bikes on ALL trails for the following reasons;

1. They do no more damage than any other mountain bike.
2. They might allow the rider to go uphill slightly faster but they are certainly no faster downhill, so there is no real hazard to their use.
3. From an environmental standpoint, they are actually better than a regular mountain bike since they easily allow the rider to ride to the trails rather than drive their car. This also frees up more parking at crowded access points.
4. They allow riders to access more remote trails, meaning less crowds on close-in, popular trails, dispersing the use.
5. Most e-bike riders are over 50 years old and are not prone to crazy jumps, stunts or trail-tearing antics.
6. They eliminate the 'shuttle' mentality whereby people drive their trucks filled with bikes to the top of the trails, then tear back down the trails while someone shuttles their car, meaning much more trail use and damage.
7. They allow older, less fit riders the opportunity to use the trails.
8. The instances of problems or conflicts in the past few years are virtually none (other than a few pompous bikers complaining for no real reason other than some sort of assumed superiority).
9. E-bikes make you smile!!! (Go ahead, try one.)

For these and myriad other reasons, the USFS, NPS, BLM and associated government agencies should treat e-bikes exactly the same as any other mountain bike. Trying to regulate this rapid growing fun sport will only lead to absurd, unnecessary and impossible-to-enforce regulations.

Sincerely,

Jack Hennesey  
Hailey, Idaho