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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my support for allowing E-mountain bikes to be ridden on trails just as a normal mountain bike would. That being said different categories for electric mountain bikes need to be established and considered. A Class 1 E-MTB is nothing like a class 2 or a class 3 E-mtb in that there is no throttle; if you don't pedal you don't go anywhere. This salient difference needs to differentiate Class 1 E-mtb's from others.

Additionally, Class 1 bikes allow users of a multitude of physical abilities to enjoy the outdoors. I have a daughter that was born with a genetic neuromuscular disease and her muscle development is not the same as other kids. I never thought that there would be able to ride a mountain bike, however a Class 1 E-mtb that provides assist could allow her to experience the outdoors like others. To prevent her from doing so is overtly discriminatory.

Lastly, a Class 1 E-mtb can help to disperse people as trails continue to get busier and busier. They could also help with the management of US Forest service lands by providing greater access for fire crews and other land management personnel.

As a person who utilizes trails in the USFS jurisdiction approximately five days a week, I implore you to consider the classifications and guidelines that other national entities have established and put into law. A class one electric mountain bike is not a motorized vehicle, period.

Regards,

Elliot C. Lewis