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First name: Pilar Last name: Schmidt Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I am writing to oppose opening trails currently available for hiking and/or non-motorized vehicles to e-bikes. E-bikes are motorized vehicles. The Forest Service proposed changes to its directives on Travel Management and Planning in the Federal Register in order to promote the use of e-bikes, and open non-motorized trails to them, would have destructive effects on trail quality and the experiences of trail users, as well as on wildlife. There are thousands of miles of trails already available for e-bike users. If the objective of the Forest Service is to increase the accessibility of public lands to those who may be unable to walk or bike on existing trails, then more ADA compliant trails should be created and maintained. Trails that are currently accessible to e-bikes should be promoted and made more accessible to people with disabilities (limiting access to certain trails by ATVs and UTVs, for example, could create trails that are more welcoming to e-bike users).

Thank you,

Pilar