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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I've been a Mtn Biker since mountain biking the late 80s when mountain biking started. My first mountain bike was a rigid frame Diamond Back Sedona. Last year, at 69, I was diagnosed with lung cancer and went through Chemo and Immuno Therapy. 2 years later my disease is at bay but the extensive treatment caused me to lose a great deal of strength and muscle mass. I was resigned to giving up my mountain biking until friends urged me to try a Class 1 eMtb. With the Class 1 eBike I can now keep up with all of them again. MY eMtb gives me that little bit of help I need to keep up with my crew. I have a lot of experience as a responsible mountain biker. After riding my eMtb (in friendly areas) it is my experience that it is no more disruptive or harder on a trail than my pedal power only bikes were. I would add that you have to look closely to even tell that I am riding an eMtb. I have always been the type of rider that followed the rules, no poaching trails or riding off trail. It is my position/opinion that considering Class 1 eMtbs as anything but regular mountain bikes is a mistake. They simply assist the rider when the rider is already working.

While I realize that an eMtb has a motor I would argue that putting it in any other class is a mistake. I see what typical motorcycles and OTVs do to trails, it's not pretty. My experience with my eMtb is nothing like that, I leave only a tire track, just like my friends.

Please write the regulations to consider Class 1 eMtbs as regular bicycles.