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Comments: As an avid hiker, active volunteer hike leader, and enthusiastic road biker, I am very much against allowing e-bikes on USFS trails. It is difficult enough to contend with the mountain bikes that have led me to abandon close-in county parks such as Jefferson County's parks in Golden, CO. Some bikers are rude, most are nice but all cause trail erosion and the need for hikers to constantly hop off the trail.

We visit the back country frequently for the solitude and ability to hike without interruption. Covid shut-downs have brought more hikers to the backcountry and so long as they comply with Leave No Trace Rules, we welcome them. But many don't and some have trashed easily reached back-country areas. I fear that e-bikes will bring more people who do not understand backcountry etiquette and allow these folks to travel far into the wilderness. It just doesn't make sense. I have been in many OTV and snow-mobile permitted areas and think e-bike behavior will be closer to ATV users than to mountain bikers.

Thank you.