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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Please do not adopt the U.S.Forest Service proposal to classify e-bikes as motorized vehicles.

Here's why:

Designating a trail as motorized would cut off sources of grant money to maintain trails that mountain biking organizations now rely on. So, too, would those who now use non-motorized trails for hiking and riding horses .

Also, if adopted, this proposal conflicts with the newly-adopted rule by the and confuse mountain bikers about which trails would allow the use of e-mountain bikes..

What's more, here in Washington, this proposal would conflict with our state law , which classifies e-bikes as non-motorized.

I'm 75 years old and far from as physically strong as I once was, but my electric mountain bike allows me to continue to not only to enjoy this sport, riding trails I would not otherwise be able to and to enjoy the comraderie of riding with others, including those much younger and physically stronger than I.

Please adopt adopt a flexible policy that recognizes the value and fun of pedaling with twice to as much qs four times my own muscle power and doesn't threaten the partnerships of current non-motorized recreation organizations. I support Class 1 eMTB access to trails based on a public review process and which reflects historic trail use.

Why not classify eMTBs as mechanical vehicles (after all Class 1 eMTBs don't move with human muscles powering the pedals) as a way to distinguish them from other much bigger and heavier off-road vehicles powered by internal combustion engines.

Thank you very much for your consideration.