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Organization:

Title:

Comments: 7705 - I would eliminate the phrase, "Also referred to as an electric mountain bike (eMTB)." Not all E-bikes are or can be "also referred to as...eMTBs." Some are trekking bikes, some are street E-bikes. Those are not eMTBs.

7715: I am highly supportive of the adoption of policies that allow for the use of the "emerging technology" of E-bikes on FS land. I have ridden them extensively while serving in the US Army stationed in Germany, and while I do not see E-bikes as an emerging technology because they are so prolifically used in many countries, they will be a great addition to USFS recreational opportunities, and (especially Class-1 E-bikes) should be considered suitable for ALL AREAS that would otherwise be suitable for "Bicycle" use.

7715.5.4: (b) Policy should reflect that Class-1 E-Bikes be allowed on any trail that a "Bicycle" is allowed on. After riding many hundreds of miles on many different types of trails in Europe, I can adamantly attest to the fact that I (at least personally) do less trail damage while riding my class-1 eMTB than I do riding my standard mountain bike. Additionally, though there are speed advantages riding uphill, riders are already equipped with the knowledge of etiquette and "right of way" while riding trails with other riders. I urge the USFS to look at the overall effect of class-1 (and likely class-3) e-bikes as negligibly different than "normal bicycles." Furthermore, they most certainly should be allowed on the National Scenic Trails to the exact extent that other bicycles are allowed.