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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a wilderness advocate and frequent trail user. I vehemently oppose e-bike use on National Forest Service trails. I oppose the Forest Service's proposed rule for a number of reasons including:

1. E-bikes must continue to be treated as motor vehicles, not bicycles. New e-bikes are being developed now that will drive up to 55 mph. E-bikes must travel only where motor vehicles are allowed.
2. Because of their speed and ability to travel much farther into the backcountry, e-bikes startle and disturb wildlife over far greater distances.
3. Because of their speed and ability to travel much farther into the backcountry, e-bikes conflict with nonmotorized trail users like hikers, horseback riders, and bicyclists.
4. Due to budget cuts and other constraints, currently there is little enforcement of existing rules and regulations. Trespass, illegal off-trail riding, and illegal trail development is already occurring by some bikers. E-bikes will exponentially increase trespass and other illegal activity to the great detriment of our Wilderness and other protected lands.
5. The proposed rule suggests likely environmental impacts that must be fully evaluated through an environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
6. The proposed rule appears to set up conflicts with the Forest Service's Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212 et seq).

Please withdraw this proposal.