Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/26/2020 4:12:16 PM First name: Charles Last name: Thompson Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support the recent official classification of "E Bikes" as motorized vehicles. I am an avid mountain bike rider (non E-bike)and I have seen the growth of both non-motorized bike traffic and E Bike traffic on USFS lands. I do not wish to restrict E bike access totally, but my experience has shown that E Bikes and regular bikes do not mix particularly well on the same trails. I encourage close coordination between land managers and local trail advocates. Mixing non-motorized bikes with E bikes should be the exception and not the rule when considering re-designation of non-motorized trails to "motorized" for the allowance of E Bikes. Specifically, many E Bike riders are only able to access trails because of the pedal assist functionality. A majority of USFS trails are remote and specifically MTB built trails typically have a higher degree of difficulty. Mixing the two classifications creates a higher degree of conflict. I would suggest that any attempt to re-designate a non-motorized trail to "motorized" for the allowance of E bikes, be done so on an individual trail specific case basis. Blanket trail system re-designations should not be allowed. Thank you.