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Comments: I would like to thank you for taking the time to address ebike use on USFS lands and trails. First of all I would like to say I am a hiker, biker, and ebike rider. I hike and ride USFS trails/roads and BLM areas. I have never had a problem with ebike riders and have found that opening access to them allows a greater range of riders on the trails. Older people as well as those with disabilities are able to enjoy the USFS lands on ebikes.

My major comment on your proposals for classification of ebikes is to remove the "motorized vehicle" statement. Several states have adopted the classifications that you list (class 1, class 2, class 3) BUT have designated that pedal assist bikes are "bicycles" NOT "motor vehicles". The assist-motor on a class 1 ebike cannot function alone the rider must continue pedaling and assist is only based on the rider input. All major bicycle manufacturers have adopted this torque based assistance application. By definition a motor vehicle is one that is self propelled, an ebike does not meet this definition.

Thank you for time and consideration