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First name: Will

Last name: Pfeiffer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I believe that NO motorized traffic should be allowed on mountain biking trails for two reasons. First, that type of traffic will be less likely to interact well with foot traffic, which is more often than not the driving force behind trail funding and maintenance in our area. Maintaining an amiable relationship with hikers and runners is extremely important and mountain bikers can make a compromise. Second, attempting to open the trail to electronic mountain bikes could set a legal precedent that would allow for electronic dirt bike and various other modes of transportation that could be expected to develop in the next few decades. This is completely contrary to the mission of building hiking, running, and mountain biking trails.

As an aside, I am a competitive mountain biker. I understand that trails must be shared appropriately with all groups of recreational enthusiasts. As far as I know, there are no trails open to only mountain biking traffic in national, state, or local parks in NC. Given that these trails are all open to foot traffic, allowing motorized traffic to enter would lead to significant problems and could create a situation where parks are forced to deny cyclists entry to a growing number of trails.