Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/26/2020 6:56:42 PM First name: Ken Last name: Neumann Organization:

Title:

Comments: I was very disappointed to find out that all of the roads, (in our hunting area near Winthrop, WA), that are temporarily closed to "Motor Vehicles" every year between October and I believe March, have now been posted as "NO E-BIKES". For years I have walked in on these roads to hunt and many times been passed by hunters on mountain bikes and/or horses. I can not see why these modes of transport can be allowed with e-bikes being singled out as not allowed. I believe that all three modes of transport make it easier for people to access the areas with only one mode being allowed to travel off of the roads thus making it even easier - that being horses. What reason could be given for not allowing e-bikes when the other two modes of transport are allowed? I would find it a stretch to say that e-bikes would damage the roads any more or any less then the mountain bikes and the horses, or for that matter, the motorized vehicles that use these roads the remainder of the year.

I do find it heartening that the Forest Service is looking into designating some roads and trails as being open for E-Bike travel. I hope that the roads I referred to can be studied as possible E-Bike accessible roads also. I am 61 years old and am finding it harder to access these roads without the assistance that my E-Bike gives.