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Comments: Our Nations public lands are a precious resource that should be preserved and enjoyed. I highly value the right to ride horses and mules on public lands. The fact that trails, trailheads and dedicated equine camping areas are being closed to the community that helped develop them is shocking. Our heritage of equine use and right to ride on public lands is in serious jeopardy.

I object to the proposed changes to the USFS Travel Management and Planning to allow e-bikes access to non-motorized trails. The fact that their use is being ordered by the Interior Department which violates existing NPS regulations and the required environmental review required by law is of great concern.

The FSM 7700 - Travel Management 7702 - Objective to consider emerging technologies (such as e-bikes) changing the way people access and recreate on NPS lands must follow established existing criteria concerning motorized uses. Dedicating a classification to e-bikes to the seven existing categories or classifications of vehicles used by the USFS for management and planning purposes is objectionable and inappropriate as e-bikes remain mechanical devices regardless of their power source and the fact that they don't produce gaseous emissions.

The objective that e-bikes and emerging technologies may provide new opportunities for individuals to experience a NPS trail should then allow the unregulated use of chainsaws in wilderness areas as these mechanical devices would provide a much greater number of people to enjoy those trails also. E-bikes are motorized vehicles regardless of who is using it. Trail riding opportunities already exist for e-bikes on over 60,000 miles of trails (40% of all trails) and thousands of miles of NPS roads in our National Parks. The availability of existing opportunities should negate the proposed encroachment of e-bikes on non-motorized trails.

The proposal to establish trails open to e-bikes only would reduce the number of non-motorized trails available to the muscle powered community as non-motorized trails would be the only source available when creating the e-bike designation.

Electric Bicycles are in fact motorized vehicles and should not be allowed on Non-Motorized trails or wilderness areas.