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Organization:

Title:

Comments: re: FSM 7700 and 7710 E-bikes #ORMS-2619

Bicycles are already an issue with walkers, hikers and horseback. They are quiet and can startle people or horses with potential injuries. EBikes allow much faster approach, much larger "vehicle"/personal/horse speed differential which increases the chance of startle/injuries.

EBikes, especially the fat tire bikes allow bikers to use much more difficult terrain as well as speeds in doing so. This means more of a chance of horse/bike interaction. Even my horse, being mounted and highly trained horse, can result in a startle response as a bike rapidly approaches, from either direction.

Human powered bicycles result in slower speed, especially when going up rugged terrain. Going down rugged terrain, there is still the speed factor and much less control with potential of startle response from horses or people and less time for bicycles to react.

Powered bicycles will be able to penetrate further into protected areas, cause more erosion as they would now be able to travel into poorly accessed areas that would require too much effort to reach presently. I consider any approval of eBikes a safety issue on many levels as well as detrimental to trail maintenance.

Please DO NOT pass this directive.

Dr Bruce Meyers, also Deputy, Saginaw MI Mounted, also CERT and a few other titles.