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Title:

Comments: I am a mountain biker and off road motorcycle rider and I also ride a class 1 E MTB. I believe the USFS needs to evaluate access to trails and roads for E bike separately from other motorized vehicles. The Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3 categorization of E bikes is known system that can help designate use fairly and clearly. In my personal opinion I would love to see Class 1 E MTBs allowed on any trail that allows a standard bicycle. I understand that there would be value in still allowing or denying Class 1 E MTB separately from standard bicycles because the access to all the same trails should not be assumed. Likewise, allowing a Class 1 E MTB (or even Class 2 or Class 3) should not automatically group other motorized vehicles under the same policies.

Bicycle (AKA MTB)

Class 1 E MTB

Class 2 E MTB

Class 3 E MTB

Motorcycle (Singletrack)

ATV (48" width trail)

Each specific machine or user group has it's own requirements for an enjoyable experience as well as it's own unique set of complications and impacts on the environment. Those factors need to be considered completely independent of the other user groups.

I would love to see more USFS trails open to Class 1 E MTB use. A Class 1 E MTB will, on average, ascend trails faster than a non-motorized MTB. However, when descending, they are unlikely to travel at any higher speed than a standard MTB. Therefore under bi direction trail use a Class 1 E MTB is no more likely to create user conflict than a standard MTB. Impact on trail surfaces are still being studied, but the relative low power of a Class 1 E MTB points to negligible difference compared to a standard MTB>

Thank you!