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First name: Dale

Last name: Sonnenberg

Organization:

Title:

Comments: USFS Proposed e-bike Directives

I am a 72 year old active single track mountain biker. It is my main source of exercise and fitness to maintain my balance and agility. Mountain biking is good for my mental health especially in the outdoors.

As I get older, some of the steeper and more technical trails are getting more difficult. With the advent of the Class 1 e-bike it has become the great equalizer, allowing me to ride my favorite trails with my younger and stronger friends. With the Class 1 e-bike I am able to ride longer, explore new areas and get as much or more exercise than before.

However it is very important not to classify a Class 1 pedal assist e-bike, top speed of 20mph as a motorized vehicle. It has an electric motor that if you don't pedal you will not go anyway just like a regular bike. The Class 1 e-bike make no noise, has no emissions and doesn't do any more damage to trails than a regular bike. Therefore it is imperative that

1. Class 1 bikes be classified as mountain bikes, not motorized vehicles.
2. Non-motorized tracks and trails not be reclassified as motorized.

Thank you for considering these comments for promoting the health of the large number of senior mountain bikers which all of us will be there some day. Maybe all of us someday will get to enjoy riding Class 1 pedal-assist e-bikes

Dale