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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments to your proposed new rules 7700 & 7710. As a cyclist and hiker, it's important to me that we are careful in how we manage electric-assist bikes on trails to protect the user experience of those recreating on non-motorized USFS trails.

I do not support opening non-motorized trails to E-bikes. I believe that e-bikes are in fact motorized and should be confined to those trails and roads which are open to motorized vehicle use. To do otherwise could lead to further motorized use of trails.

Use of motor driven or motor-assist bikes on non-motorized, "primitive" trails will likely lead to further degradation of trails, greater conflicts with other user groups who are seeking the slower non-motorized experience, greater disruption of wildlife and potential for off-trail incursion and habitat destruction.

Current law and policy is simple; non-motorized trails are not for use by motored machines. There are ever fewer areas to find the truer wild lands experience, and these lands, once harmed, are difficult if not impossible to repair, and are not a renewable resource! We must preserve these areas and the critical habitat and wildlife thereon, for future generations and for the good of our planet.

Thank you!