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Comments: I oppose the Forest Service's proposed rule to open our National Forest lands to additional e-bike use for the following reasons:

E-bikes must continue to be treated as motor vehicles and must travel only where motor vehicles are allowed.

National Forest System lands cannot and should not be everything to everyone.

Critical habitat is being disrupted at an unprecedented rate and introducing a new motorized use in a new location will only fragment habitat more.

If we had only listened to Barry Goldwater back in 1973 when he said, "I hope there is some way we could outlaw all off-road vehicles, including snowmobiles, motorcycles etc., which are doing more damage to forests and deserts than anything man has ever created. I don't think the Forest Service should encourage the use of these vehicles by even suggesting areas they can travel in...I have often felt that these vehicles have been Japan's way of getting even with us."

I work on a National Forest and watch in tears as our wildlands are destroyed by the ever-increasing mechanization of this so-called modern society.

The proposed rule does in fact set up conflicts with the Forest Service's Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212 et seq).

The Forest Service should withdraw this proposal and not kowtow to every well-funded lobbyist on the hill.