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First name: Terri Last name: Plake Organization:

Title:

Comments: E-bikes are NOT appropriate for trails on public lands period. E-bikes are mostly used by extreme young males who are looking for thrills. E-bikes are popular to rent by those who cannot afford one. Or those who want to try something new out in the "wilderness" who know nothing about safe riding on trails, are not prepared if something happens like if they crash or if they break down, get themselves miles from the trailhead and then will need to be rescued. Search and Rescue is already too busy rescuing people who get themselves into trouble, with many accidents that could have been prevented. They are already overwhelmed with accidents, injuries and searching for lost people already. What about bike shops who will be renting out these electric bikes to inexperienced people. The trails are crowded enough on the busy days. This is just dangerous and a bad idea. I have almost been run over by mountain bikes and narrowly avoided what would have been a terrible crash if I had been hit. With those e-bikes they can go faster and harder. Many bike riders are respectful and follow the yield protocol. However, some are not respectful, do not yield and do not follow protocol. Lack of proper yield could lead to dangerous situations and accidents depending on the trail and visibility. Many of our trails in Mt. Baker Snoqualmie are steep and narrow. May are not built for bikes let alone ebikes. Trails must be specially built for bikes as the can cause deep ruts when wet and bikers love to skid around corners. Bike activity can cause severe erosion and destruction of water bars and normal trail drainage channels.

As a backcountry horse rider, the addition of ebikes on multiple use trails, spells disaster. They go too fast and could be coming around a corner and put everyone at risk. Who is going to monitor their speed? Traffic cops? This proposal is dangerous and reckless putting many people in harm's way. With more and more people going outdoors to the trails with COVID-19, many trails are overcrowded already. E-bikes should be restricted to ebike trails only. NOT multiple use trails and not on federal public land. Thank you.