

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/27/2020 3:58:22 AM

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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity for the public to engage on FSM 7700 and 7710, which would revise Forest Service directives to update and clarify guidance on management of electric bicycle (e-bike) use on National Forest System lands.

I strongly urge the Forest Service to consider the realistic enforceability of any new rules and definitions regarding e-bikes. My concern is that in practice any trail open to mountain bikes will be de facto open to all classes of e-bikes, since enforcement of detailed rules will not be feasible in most areas. Any trails open to bicycles will become de facto motorized trails, with significant implications for user experience and trail funding.

E-bike use has large potential to impact the experience and safety of other non-motorized trail users, especially hikers with children or pets and equestrians. Trails open to bikes which access Wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas will have increased potential for wilderness violations. The Forest Service should prioritize a realistic view of enforcement in all related planning, and should consider pilot programs to test these new rules in appropriate areas before rolling them out nationwide.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Andrew J Frishman

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