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First name: Roger

Last name: Cram

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been riding my Type 1 Pedal Assist Mountain e-bike, called an E-bike by many, successfully for six (6) years on Forest Service Trails. I am now 85 years old, and my "E-bike" has allowed me to continue riding moderate single tracks on Forest Service land safely in the Crested Butte area in Gunnison County, Colorado. I also ride in on single tracks on nearby BLM land, primarily Hartman Rocks. I am able to keep up with riders 15 or more years younger. I also enjoy riding with my son.

Here are my specific comments if this is part of your regulation:

i)"Class 1 motorized e-bike means electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per hour. Motor size must be below 0.75 HP.

Comment: I am supportive for this Type 1 of E-bike that has been the industry design criteria for riding single track mountain bike trails safely. My present e-bike has a 0.3 HP motor size. Normally I only use 0.1 HP assistance, except for steeper hills. My bikes have three levels of adjustable power assistance: Eco, Trail, and Turbo.

Comment: If Type 1 e-bikes continue to not be allowed; I suggest there be at a minimum be some practical exceptions like age, and medical conditions.

ii)"Class 2 motorized means an electric bicycle", I believe, equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour; and

Comment: Type 2 E-bikes are inappropriate for riding single track mountain bike trails. It is the equivalent of an electric powered moped or equal. They would be UNSAFE on a single-track mountain bike trail to both the rider and other riders and hikers.

iii) "Class 3 motorized means an electric bicycle", I believe, equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.

Comment: No Horsepower limit is mentioned for this Class 3 E-bike. Riding a mountain bike at 28 mph on single track trails is highly excessive and very UNSAFE, both to the rider and other bikers and hikers. If there are flat recreational roads on Forest Service land, then Type 3 E-bikes might be used; provided there is no pedestrian or foot traffic. Hikers would never hear the approaching motorized vehicle. Railroad grades could be an application, for example.

It is my understanding that Canada is allows only Type 1 e-bikes on all single-track trails. They are easily recognizable bicycles.

Roger Cram / P O Box 3225, Crested Butte, CO 81224 / CramRC@aol.com / (970) 275-0295