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Comments: I have been hiking, riding, and helping to maintain many miles of trails in the Crested Butte area for more than 24 years. During that time I have observed quite a bit of change in the amount and types of uses. There has been a fairly recent but increasing appearance of class 1 pedal-assist e-bikes on trails both where they are allowed (e.g. Hartman Rocks) or not explicitly allowed (most of the USFS trails).

I have yet to observe or hear from others about even a single occurrence of any kind of problem or negative impact due to their use of the trail system. From my observations, they behave no differently than a human-only powered bicycle. Actually they riders I've met actually seem even more polite and considerate than some of on human-powered bikes.

Not only do they allow access to some who otherwise might not take advantage to our natural assets, for example, due to the age of the rider or elevation and/or grade of the trail (most of which are both high and steep in our area), but they also seem to be spreading the load to some of the underutilized trails which actually helps reduce the traffic on some of the most popular and heavily trafficked routes.

I strongly support treating class 1 pedal-assist e-bikes the same as a non-motorized bicycle and for them not to be considered a "motor vehicle". In my opinion, they are an effective and appropriate way to utilize our trail assets.