

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/12/2023 3:57:49 PM

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Comments: The proposal to allow e-bikes on more multi-use trails in the National Forest is a dangerous proposition that will reduce access for anyone who is not into downhill biking.

Allowing e-bikes on more trails will limit access, not increase it. As a hiker I have had several close calls with bikers flying downhill on the Ridge and Phillips Canyon Trails, among others. These are the trails close to my home. At least the riders I encounter are skilled, athletic riders who had the reflexes to stop quickly. They were also not riding motorized bikes which are heavier and thus harder to stop. Being heavier, they also go faster downhill. That's basic physics.

Hiking is pretty much free and available to anyone who can walk. E-bikes cost several thousand dollars and up. They are heavy and I can't imagine anyone unable to walk or with a serious physical disability could safely ride one down the steep, rocky trails of the Teton Pass system.

Keeping trails safe for hikers is a far simpler and more effective way to make the forest accessible to more people. It's also much less impactful for the creatures living there.

Riding uphill on an e-bike isn't just an endurance exercise, it also requires skill to pedal over obstacles. Allowing e-bikes will increase the number of bikers on multi-use trails and, more importantly, of less capable riders on these trails thus making them significantly more dangerous for hikers like myself, especially for those hiking with small children who are almost impossible to see in time to stop given the steep downhills and sharp turns on most of the Teton Pass Trails. I would like to be able to hike with my toddler grandson and not worry about him being killed by a biker, when he gets down from his backpack.

I am skeptical of the sticker/enforcement argument. I regularly hike and bike on several of the trails mentioned. I rarely see any Forest Service personal on these trails. It's also really easy to forge stickers.

Anecdotes about the number of e-bikes on pathways does not translate to the number of people who wish to e-bike in the National Forest. I have an e-bike I ride on pathways and I have absolutely no desire to ride it in the forest. Like most people in Jackson who buy e-bikes, I use mine on the pathways to avoid traffic jams.

Advocates for e-biking on more National Forest Trails use the argument that many e-bikes are sold. Even if you count mountain e-bikes only, what about how many pairs of hiking shoes and backpacks or child carrier backpacks are sold? I'm sure there are orders of magnitude more of these things sold than of mountain e-bikes.

I am 67 years old. I have been hiking, climbing and mountain biking for decades. I get off my bike and walk it over tough spots. I don't climb or ski big mountains anymore. There are peaks in the Tetons I no longer summit. That's a natural process of aging. I don't expect anyone to provide a motorized way for me to get up a peak. I do other things now, like hiking. I especially enjoy taking my grandson in the forest and showing him the natural wonders that abound there, an option that will no longer be available if it becomes too dangerous and unpleasant due to motorized travel.

E-bikers don't like sharing trails with dirt bikes. How do they think the rest of us feel about sharing trails with e-bikes? Please keep non-motorized trails, non-motorized, especially the Phillips Canyon and Ridge trails which are beautiful hiking trails.