Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/13/2023 3:28:53 AM First name: Brandon Last name: Barlow Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am in support for allowing peddle assist e-bikes in the Jackson/Teton area. I regularly hiking, mtn biking, and motorcycle on trails in the area. Having a multi use back ground, I can see why people may be for and against e-bikes. Below are a few reasons I support peddle assist e-bikes and response to the most common e-bike concerns I've heard.

Why E bikes:

1- Allow access to trails for those who are aging and/or with health issues, i.e. knee and hip conditions.

2- It allows riders of all ages to enjoy trails together.

3- Increase enjoyment. We have all had days we just want to get out in the woods but don't feel like working hard or sweeting in the heat. E-bikes allow this experience.

Response to the most common anti e-bike comments I've heard:

1-E bikes cause more user conflicts. An increase in user conflicts will result from uncreased use in general, not because the user is an e-biker. From my experience, the vast majority of bike/bike, bike/hiker, bike/horse conflicts result from bikers being nonattentive on the descent. E-bikes are no faster down hill than regular bikes, in fact, because most E mtn bike assist stops at 20mph and the weight associated with e-bikes, I descend faster on my regular bike than my e-bikes.

2-E-bikes have an increase impact on the trails. Peddle assist E-bikes do not have enough power to cause trail erosion any more than a regular mtn bike. If an e-bike could accelerate and "pill out" this factor would be true and may effect my opinion on E-bike use on non motorized trails.