

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/15/2023 12:52:28 AM

First name: Kim

Last name: Springer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thanks for considering public input for the proposed e-bike trails in the Bridger Teton Forest. I've read through the proposal and am familiar with most of the trails referenced. I like the idea of permits and educating e-bike users but only support e-bikes where other motorized vehicles are allowed on two track terrain.

The trails bordering the Palisades Wilderness Study Area WSA which allow biking should be minimized, not increased, they should not be considered for e-bikes. Unfortunately the boundaries of the WSA are poorly marked and enforced. Few people understand what is compatible in lands with Wilderness qualities. Mechanized use is not one of the compatible uses. During the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative, the conservation groups were willing to accept existing trails in the WSA such as Black Canyon but not for electric bikes.

I don't believe e-bikes should be allowed on single track trails, they're incompatible with other users including non-electric bikes. Which biker has the right of way, an e-biker or non e-biker? It's already difficult on the valley's pathway system to negotiate the different user groups.

When will there be enough trails for motorized use in the Forest? I'm a biker and find no shortage of places to go, each summer I realize I haven't visited all my favorite spots. I'd also like to think we can build support for protecting the Wilderness qualities in the Palisades WSA and one day it can become Wilderness. Electric bikes bordering the WSA would set a bad precedent. Please keep e-bikes on existing motorized roads.