Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/26/2023 12:56:02 PM First name: Dave Last name: Simpson Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to oppose opening trails that are currently closed to motorized use in order to allow ebikes. E-bikes have motors, and even class 1 e-bikes allow riders on them to travel at faster speeds than riders on human-powered bikes, bringing users into conflicts and creating hazards between people traveling at different rates of speed. Look no farther then the ongoing conflicts that have been happening on pathways in and around the Town of Jackson for proof of that. Even if this proposal is only to allow e-bikes on limited sections of trail, and only to allow class 1 e-bikes, it sets a precedent to allow more kinds of motorized uses in more places. Moreover, who will police that riders are only using class 1 bikes? Enforcement of regulations on national forest land is already extremely limited, and I have seen riders multiple times in the last couple years on e-bikes up Cache Creek, an area that is theoretically closed to e-bikes. It's already not being enforced due to extremely limited forest service budgets, so trying to distinguish between types of e-bikes on the trail makes things even more challenging and complicated. Trails that are currently open only to walkers, human-powered riders and livestock use should stay that way.