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Title:

Comments: I have been enjoying biking, hiking, and skiing on Teton Pass since 1990 and this area is very important to me and my family. Most of my comments here reflect Teton Pass as my primary area of use even though I sometimes use the other areas involved.

Please do not allow use of e-bikes on the trails of the Bridger Teton National Forest in the Teton Pass, Munger Mountain or Horse Creek areas. These trails are all easily accessible to many user groups and, in the case of Teton Pass, very easy for people to access via Hwy 22 where no uphill pedaling is needed to enjoy these amazing mountain bike trails that our community has worked to create.

I currently feel that these areas are very well managed, well signed and the current mix of hiking and horse only trails, downhill only trails and shared use trails are excellent improvements that have minimized user conflicts and increased the quality of experience for most everyone who enjoys these areas. While I do enjoy e-bikes for commuting on the pathways along the valley floor, I recognize their use has added a level of danger to these pathways and the speeds e-bikes travel at is often inappropriate for busier parts of our pathway system. I feel strongly that their use on the BTNF is not appropriate and will lead to increased user conflicts and more accidents. These areas should be reserved for human or horse powered recreation only.

Furthermore - while the intent is only to allow a limited class of e-bikes - any type of enforcement in these areas is currently very limited and would present a huge management challenge. Even now, I have personally observed the e-bike restriction on the Old Pass Road routinely broken and there are no consequences. The idea that there is going to be enforcement and someone checking what class of e-bikes people are riding is not a level of management that the BTNF is able to enforce. Also, high performance electric dirt bikes already exist and will likely eclipse the use of two or four stroke dirt bikes for short and medium range riding in the not-so-distant future. Who will stop these high-speed machines from being used where e-bikes are allowed?

Please keep it simple - please say NO to e-bikes where they are currently not allowed and let's focus our management energy on solving other more pressing issues like adding more vault toilets to the Teton Pass area. Thanks for taking the time to read my comments.