Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/30/2023 1:20:11 PM First name: Jesse Last name: Stover Organization:

Title:

Comments: The introduction of e-bikes on Teton pass is a slippery slope of use. We already have many e-bikes violating the rules in many areas of the BTNF. Allowed use on Teton pass will inevitably lead to mis use in adjacent areas that do not allow bikes. If e-bikes are allowed, more people will purchase and utilize e-bikes. I've already had multiple interactions with e-bikers letting them know the use is not allowed, their response is usually, "I know it's not allowed but who's going to stop me or ticket me?". No one is going to police this across the BTNF, the USFS simply does not have enough staff to accomplish this.

My greatest concern is rental bikes. E-bikes rented to inexperienced users will allow penetration into the backcountry by users who do not know about right away, ethics, and the rules of the trail. Imagine a rental company at the bottom of the pass with 100 rental bikes unleashing waves of beginner bikers who can suddenly access many technical trails that are beyond their ability. Local user experience by all user groups will suffer.

I would support a permitting system for older users or people with mobility problems so they can enjoy the trails in a responsible manner.