

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/9/2022 7:00:00 AM

First name: Tom

Last name: Murphy

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi and thanks for the work being conducted by your agency - great stuff.

While perhaps not an entirely appropriate comment I would urge the USFS to consider adopting the approach the BLM has toward ebike use on natural surface trails. I realize that CBMBA has an ideological problem with the use of ebikes and is aggressively posting no ebike signs everywhere - I presume with the blessing of the USFS - however, I would ask reconsideration on behalf of your agency. In 40 years of MTB riding the last 3 on an ebike, I can say that the purported conflicts and issues said to manifest with the introduction of ebikes are mostly contrived, based on my experience. These bikes are not that different from a standard bike other than they give assistance on the uphill and only work if you pedal the bike (Class 1). It really is less about the bike and more about the rider.

The Federal Bureau of Land Management's Nov 2020 final ruling has declared that eBikes are now to be considered non-motorized and allowed where traditional bicycles are allowed. Where existing non-motorized trail regulations are in place, the local agencies regulating these places are encouraged to review the non-motorized designation particularly as they relate to eBikes as they are no longer considered 'motorized'.

Thank you - Tom Murphy 30 year Gunnison County resident.

---

USFS Added for coding of attachments:

ATTACHMENT: BLM E Bike Final Rule 10.2020