

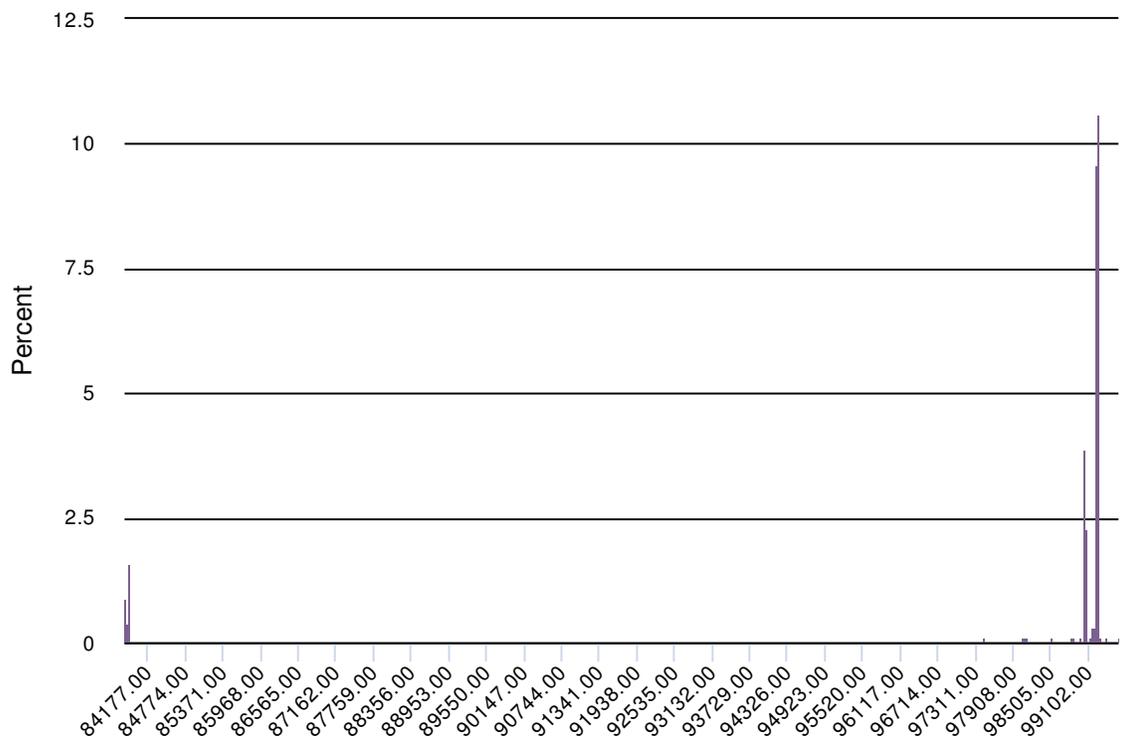
Report for Spokane County Parks E-Bike Advisory Survey

Response Counts

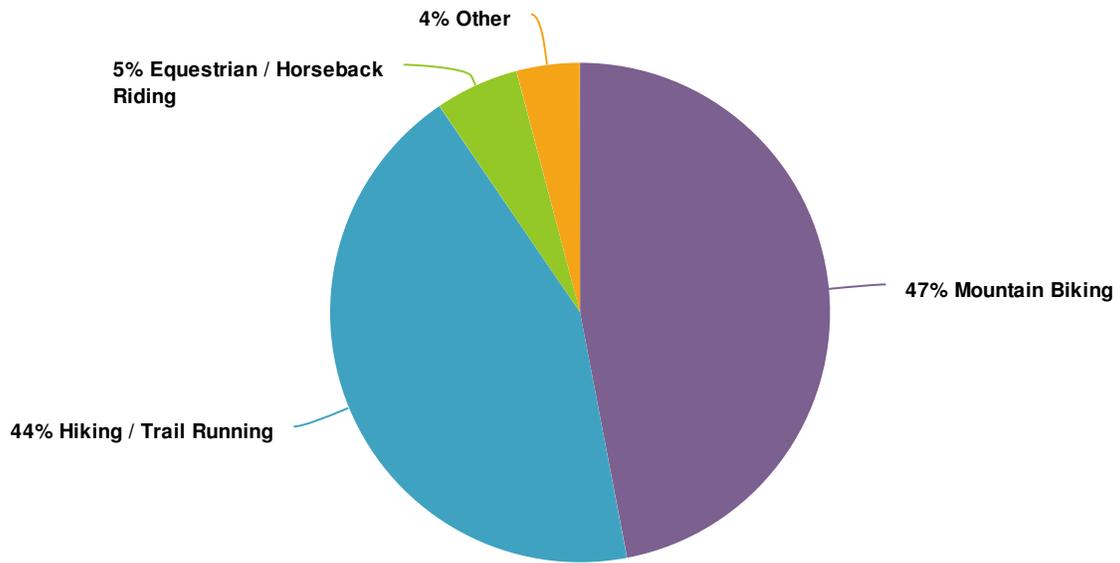


Totals: 874

1. Please enter your zipcode.



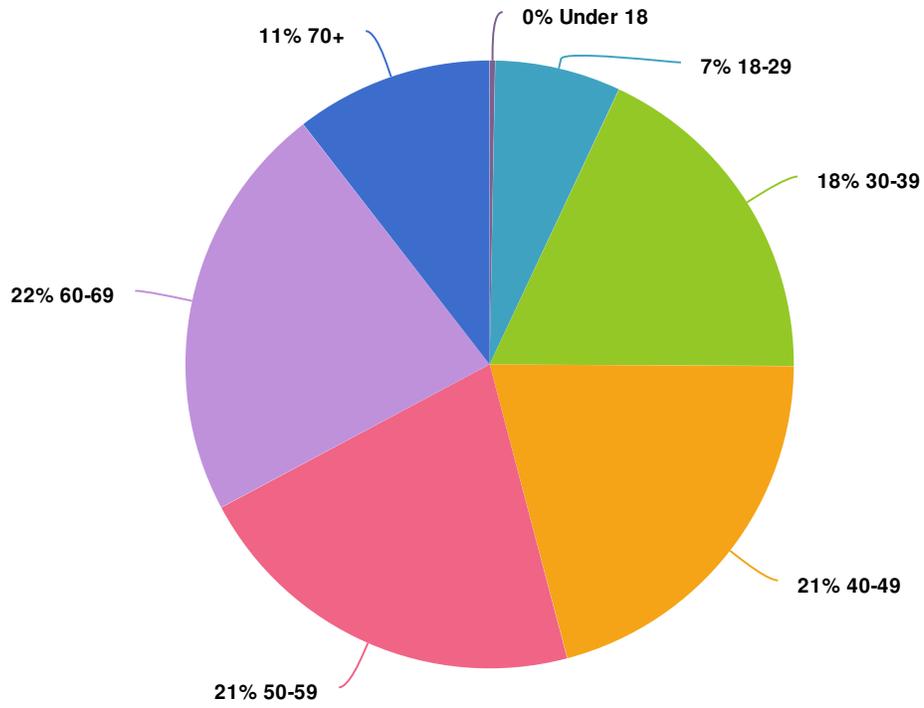
2. What is your primary trail-based recreational activity?



Value		Percent	Responses
Mountain Biking		47.0%	363
Hiking / Trail Running		43.5%	336
Equestrian / Horseback Riding		5.4%	42
Other		4.1%	32

Totals: 773

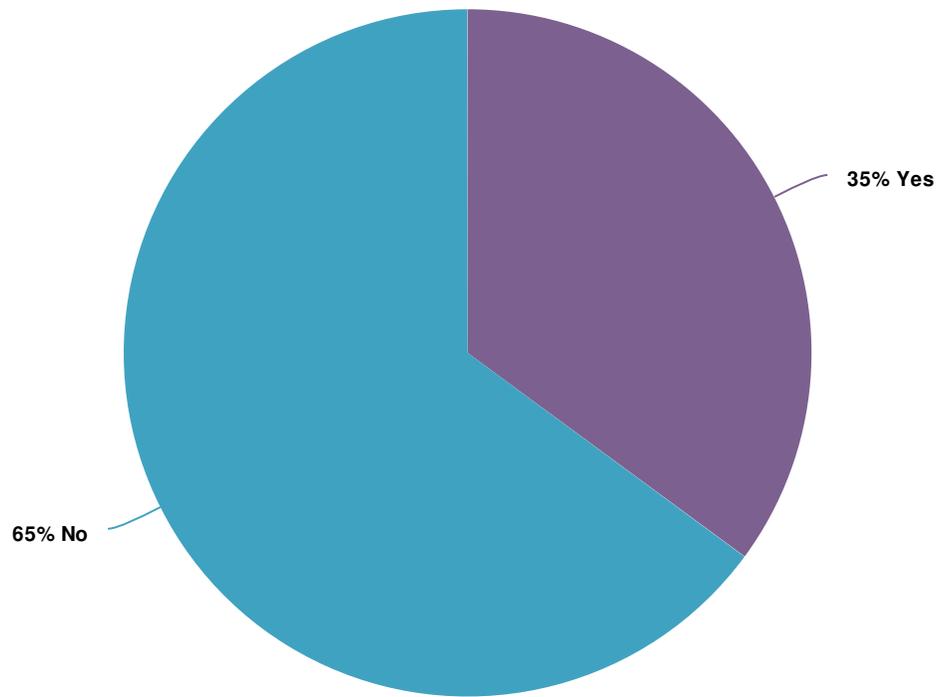
3. Please select the age range you fall into.



Value	Percent	Responses
Under 18	0.3%	2
18-29	6.7%	52
30-39	18.1%	140
40-49	20.8%	161
50-59	21.3%	165
60-69	22.3%	172
70+	10.5%	81

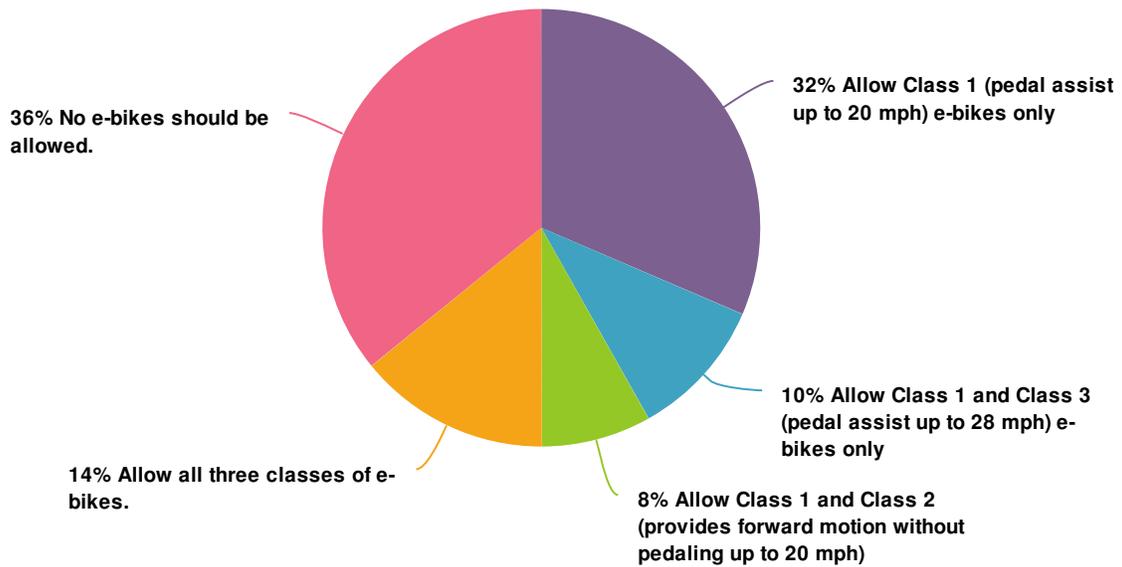
Totals: 773

4. Are you an e-bike owner or plan to purchase an e-bike in the near future?



Value		Percent	Responses
Yes		35.1%	271
No		64.9%	500
			Totals: 771

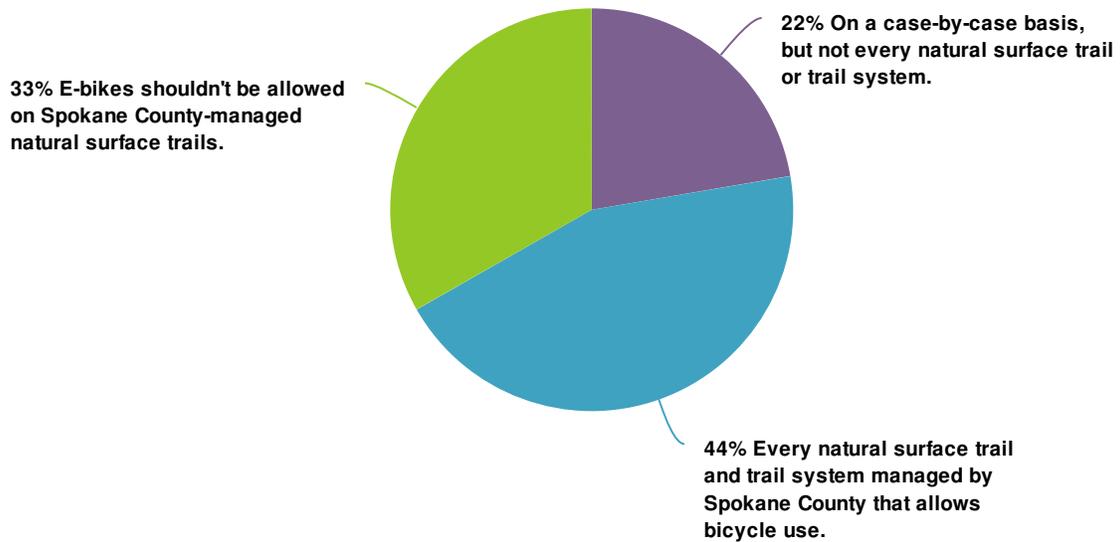
5. Which types of e-bikes should Spokane County allow on natural surface trails?



Value	Percent	Responses
Allow Class 1 (pedal assist up to 20 mph) e-bikes only	31.5%	242
Allow Class 1 and Class 3 (pedal assist up to 28 mph) e-bikes only	10.4%	80
Allow Class 1 and Class 2 (provides forward motion without pedaling up to 20 mph)	8.1%	62
Allow all three classes of e-bikes.	14.2%	109
No e-bikes should be allowed.	35.9%	276

Totals: 769

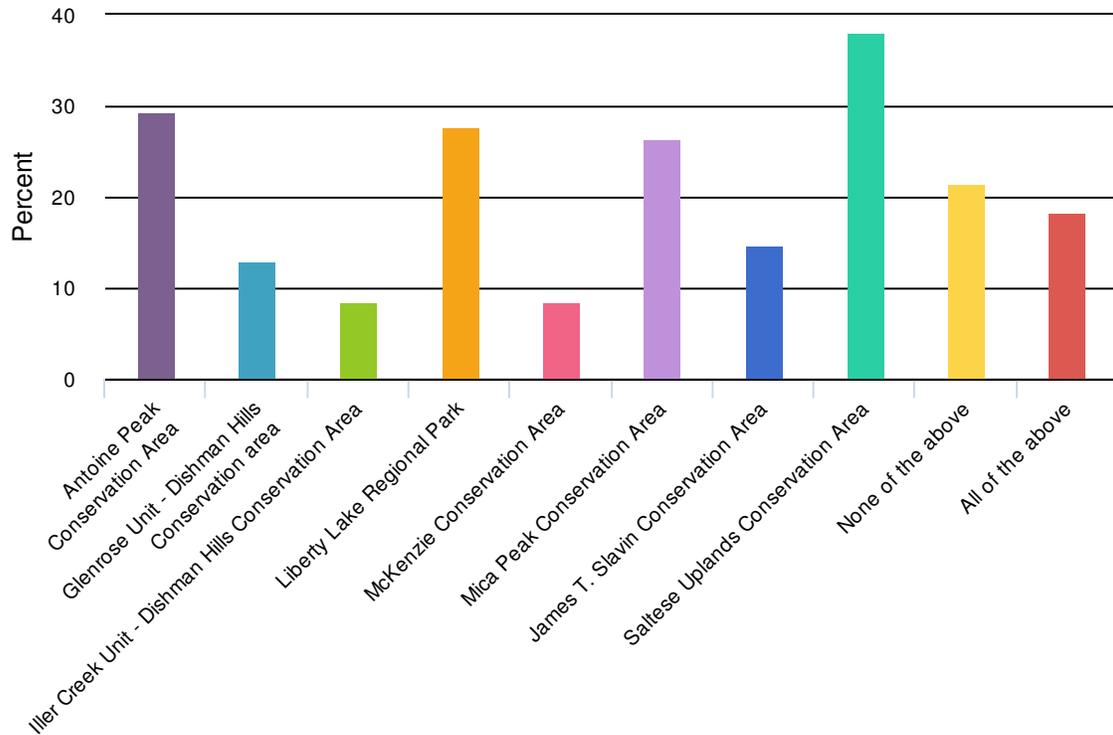
6. Where should e-bikes be allowed on Spokane County-managed natural surface trails?



Value		Percent	Responses
On a case-by-case basis, but not every natural surface trail or trail system.		22.3%	170
Every natural surface trail and trail system managed by Spokane County that allows bicycle use.		44.4%	338
E-bikes shouldn't be allowed on Spokane County-managed natural surface trails.		33.2%	253

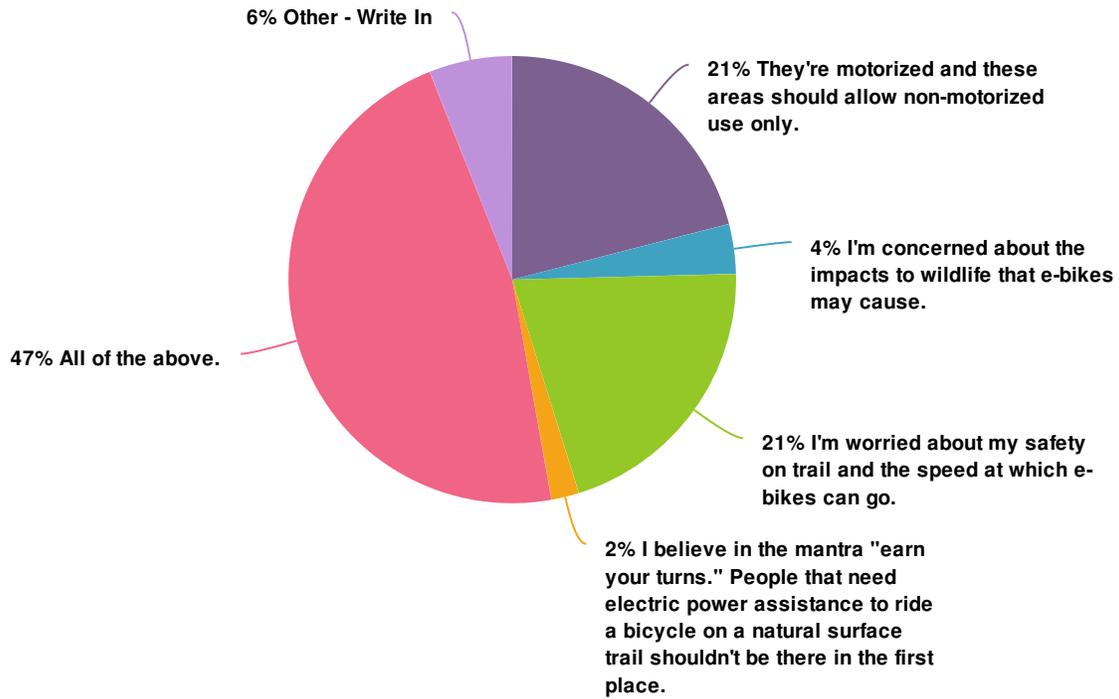
Totals: 761

7. Which Spokane County-managed natural surface trail systems do you believe are most suitable for e-bikes use?



Value	Percent	Responses
Antoine Peak Conservation Area	29.4%	48
Glenrose Unit - Dishman Hills Conservation area	12.9%	21
Iller Creek Unit - Dishman Hills Conservation Area	8.6%	14
Liberty Lake Regional Park	27.6%	45
McKenzie Conservation Area	8.6%	14
Mica Peak Conservation Area	26.4%	43
James T. Slavin Conservation Area	14.7%	24
Saltese Uplands Conservation Area	38.0%	62
None of the above	21.5%	35
All of the above	18.4%	30

8. In Question 6, you selected that Spokane County should not allow any class of e-bikes anywhere. Why shouldn't they be allowed on Spokane County-managed trail systems?



Value	Percent	Responses
They're motorized and these areas should allow non-motorized use only.	21.0%	53
I'm concerned about the impacts to wildlife that e-bikes may cause.	3.6%	9
I'm worried about my safety on trail and the speed at which e-bikes can go.	20.6%	52
I believe in the mantra "earn your turns." People that need electric power assistance to ride a bicycle on a natural surface trail shouldn't be there in the first place.	2.0%	5
All of the above.	46.8%	118
Other - Write In	6.0%	15

Totals: 252

Other - Write In	Count
1 & 3 from above	1
Totals	15

Other - Write In	Count
1,2 and 3. plus I anticipate blatant disregard of the rules by a certain segment of the population that would be riding these. and some places where they're allowed and some that they're not makes for a lot of confusion. people won't even keep their dogs on a leash, they're sure not going to keep off of the trails with e-bikes if they're allowed some places	1
1. 20 mph is too fast. Drop it to 12. 2. I'm concerned ebikes will evolve the same as ORVs and soon there will be side-by-side and tandem ebikes. 3. Required an electronic warning system that sounds a horn when the ebike approaches from the rear of a biker, hiker, jogger. 4. Limit torque so ebikes can't go faster uphill than a hiker. 5. Have mandatory governors. 6. Have weight limits so people can't haul loads on an ebike.	1
A combination of many of these reasons - on a natural trail with hills and roots, I as a mountain biker often am limited in my speed. But if ebikes provide a mechanical assist, then it is easier to hit high speeds going up hill or on flats where the surface is dangerous. So I'm both worried about being a hiker and having quiet bikes fly around the corner as well as more injuries to riders.	1
All of the above, as well as the damage they will do to trails.	1
All of the above. In addition to trail maintenance concerns. Many new riders riding large heavy bikes will put lots of strain on trails that have not seen this use before	1
Ebike should be allowed on all trails. Some of us wouldn't be there without them.	1
I am worried about my safety and the safety of my children with the speed of the bikes. I'm also worried about environmental impacts.	1
Its a slippery slope, if you let one class people will likely take advantage and ride all class bikes on trails, e bikes will undoubtedly be made more powerful and the problem will become more pronounced.	1
Let's save some areas for non-mechanized use. I like the solitude, not whoops and hollers.	1
Make big ruts	1
Regular Mountain Bikes cause damages to trails as it is. Also, regular Mountain Biker travel at high speeds and velocity anyways, we wouldn't be able to regulate others speed making it very dangerously close proximity to others on narrow trails. The last thing wildlife needs is more electronics in their habitats.	1
Safety of myself, my dog, and wildlife.	1
Safety, exclusive non motorized use, wildlife impact	1
These are non motorized trails, there seems to be a better to not have lithium batteries out in our nature whether someone going into water or damages it causing a fire.	1
Totals	15

9. Do you additional comments you'd like to share? Please do so here!



ResponseID Response

3 ...

10 I feel that the specific bike trails at Mica peak would be appropriate for all classes of e bikes because I think all other user groups would stay clear of that area. They would have appropriate signage so users could make the decision to avoid the area. Saltese uplands has a pretty clear line of sight so that they could slow down and avoid running over other people. Antoine Peak is heavily used by horses and they would have to be very careful the trails do not have a clear line of sight. Thanks Michelle

25 ebikes should be accepted cautiously and on a case by case basis as they will dramatically increase speed and crowding on natural trail systems. Some areas should be ebike-free. Expect ebikes to get even more powerful as technology advances.

27 Paul Knowles is my hero.

28 Class 1 ebikes only. Or follow state parks and allow class 1, class 3.

29 Antoine and Mica/Liberty Lake are vastly large areas acreage-wise which would benefit from formally allowing class 1 e-bikes. Increased disturbances from class 1 pedal assist bikes to other users and wildlife are unfounded and not backed by facts.

32 Follow state parks excellent example, by allowing pedal assist bikes.

33 E mtbs have allowed my wife and I to share the love of the outdoors and biking at the same time. I've Mt biked for years and have only been ebiking for a few months, and aside from riding more, I don't believe ebikes negatively impact nature any more than Mt bikes.

ResponseID Response

36	E-biked allow greater access to enjoy our great trails
38	Horses leave huge piles of waste on trails but are allowed on most trails and nobody bats an eye. When a bicycle leaves such a skinny trail with no waste left on the ground and zero emissions polluting the air, there should be no question the ebike needs to be unregulated. The smiles that it leaves everyone of all ages that have ridden one is enough of a testament
39	While I don't currently own an e bike, I think that any trail that allows bikes should also allow e bikes. They allow for those with physical challenges to enjoy the same great natural resources that I do.
43	We own horses and ebikes. There is no difference to our horses what bike some around a corner. Its about how you train your horse and bike etiquette on the bike rider.
44	eBikes are not intrusive and do not emit pollution... they tread lightly and are inclusive.
45	Nope
46	Safety is biggest concern. Other trail user won't hear them. And speed
47	Keep nature natural.
51	It's a matter of access! old legs and knees don't work as well. Ebike allows enjoyment of resources that access list due to aging.
53	No
57	Dangerous Pollutant Belongs on pavement
59	E-bikes are the greatest equalizer for those who want to explore the outdoor world who may not be able to do so because of limited mobility or disability.
60	E-Bikes present a great hazard to hikers and equestrian users on trails in Spokane County. E-Bikes should not be allowed.
62	Dont punish the bike; punish the rider. Set a speed limit if that's the issue. For those of us not in great shape or getting up there in years, the is invention of e-bike is allowing us to continue to ride hills, distance, and terrain we would NEVER be able to ride. My bike has truly changed my life. I only need a car for winter or rain, I can ride ANYTHING, i get GREAT exercise, and the throttle that allows the no pedal is an enormous SAFETY mechanism for me. I can stop and start on a hill, I can get across an intersection with traffic, etc. It's unrealistic to think anyone rides that way for long periods of time because you have to hold the throttle down the entire time. Again, if you have hotdoggers speeding or being careless, punish them. But the e-bike makes such a difference for the better.

ResponseID Response

- 70 These bikes are not moving much faster on the downhill than regular bikes, if trail issues exist they should be looked at for design issues, blind corners, high speed double track (trail design flaws), or if specific trails are heavily trafficked by a certain user group (lack of multiple trails focused congestion)
- 71 Class 1 only
- 75 Ebikes are here to stay and are getting more people into riding. The more people that ride the more support we have for the biking community.
- 76 NATURAL AREA CONSERVATION AREA HUMAN POWERED ONLY
- 79 Keep e-bikes away from downhill areas or make trails directional. E-bikes are hazardous when they go up trails primarily used in the downhill direction.
- 80 ebikes have started to cause many issues at beacon hill. from ebike climbers that are cutting the switchbacks while climbing to people with class II ebikes going far too fast and arguing with other trail users. as their use gets more widespread, im sure the impacts will as well.
- 83 I think ebikes should be everywhere we as mountain bikers are. Why the problem? They don't hurt the trails and it allows people who may not have the physical abilities of others to join in the fun, yay for ebikes?
- 84 I know there are a lot of "old school diehards" but in my experience, I feel like class 1 EMTB's don't pose much difference wear on our trail systems. Every EMTB that I have seen up on the trails, has been riding and respecting the area just as we always have. The main wear issue comes with the ability to climb more easily which could mean more use. But in my experience, generally there are groups that are mixed with traditional bikes and EMTBs, therefore they are all going up as a group. Meaning they aren't flying up and "destroying" the trails. Obviously there are always bad apples, but most E riders have been very respectful and courteous on the trails. Including right of way with all trail users. I think there is much potential to allowing these class 1 riders, as it adds more potential for donations and volunteers to help with all the upkeep of the trails.
- 86 E-bikes, like anything still need to follow the normal rules of the trails. I see many cutting trails and going straight up the mountain. Whatever's not allow for standard MTB shouldn't be allow for e-bikes either.
- 88 No e-bikes.
- 90 I don't mind Pedal assist bikes. If it gets people to get out and exercise!! In all honesty it makes me feel better to know I don't need that technology to climb up... ?

ResponseID Response

93 I use my class 1 emtb to reach areas that I can no longer access due to age and disabilities. I have ridden non emtbs for 30 years. My class 1 emtb has no larger impact than a regular mt bike. I actually ride slower and more carefully due to the weight. However, my class 1 emtb allows me to do more trail maintenance since I can ride further in less time. Thank you for your consideration of class 1 ebikes.

104 Let them ride, they won't be any worse than the irresponsible, trail ruining horseback riders.

105 I'd say I'm 50/50 trail running and regular mountain biking. The more people that can be encouraged to create and maintain trails in this region, the more positive the experience and maintenance will be for all. E biking may bring a new subset and increase trail use a bit, but it is also likely to generate more dollars for the groups that do trail maintenance.

106 E-bikes are motorized. Simple as that. Keep them off the trails.

109 My biggest concern is trail user conflict between traditional bikes and e-bikes. Specifically on climbs in which the unassisted rider is working significantly harder than the rider on the e-bike. A rider on a regular mountain bike will inevitably be approached from behind by a rider on an e-bike who will likely be moving at a much higher rate of speed. My concern is the potential for rudeness on the part of the e-biker because now the traditional cyclist is "in their way" or "slowing them down." I think a precedent needs to be established clearly and early that e-bikes DO NOT have right of way over regular bikes simply because they move faster. Another issue that I have witnessed first hand that is alarming and needs to be addressed immediately is the practice of not only departing from the established trails but actually riding straight up the fall line of a hill simply because the e-bike will allow them to due to the assist function that an e-bike provides. Frankly, I feel that e-bikes will prove to be an opportunity to ride irresponsibly for some and it could cause ALL cyclists to lose access to areas that were previously open to them if this is not mitigated and addressed immediately.

112 Horseback rides and E-bikes should not be allowed on the same trails as equestrians are not safe when an E-bike comes up behind them because they are hard to hear thus becoming a danger to horse and rider

115 As an avid cyclist and new ebiker I understand and respect trail etiquette. Many new ebikers are also new to the mountain bike community and don't know the rules of the trail yet. This can cause issues for those that do and jeopardize trail access. An educational campaign might be a good idea for trail users.

ResponseID Response

- 117 I've been mountain biking for 30 years and just bought aEMTB this year in March. There are plenty of misconceptions about EMTBs include how fast you can ride, the weight of the bike (which in my case it's 50 lbs plus my 157 lbs less than many users weigh without their bike and horses are allowed on most of those trails. Horses have caused more damage for the amount they use them), noise (which most don't hear until you are next to them if they even notice), the idea that ebikers do so much more damage (I've ridden 1000 miles since March and have noticed less spinning on technical terrain than on my previous non e-bike), and so much more. Everything you do on an EMTB takes the same skill and trail manners that are needed for all other users.
- 118 Ebikes are on all Spokane trails right now, and there have not been any problems. Let's make it official.
- 119 I only travel to Spokane to ride and drink beer/eat food. I understand the need for e-bike trails, but would start by saying no to all then decide slowly which individual trails you are fine with allowing motorized vehicles on. Honestly I probably would go to Spokane less and spend less money if all or most trails allow ebikes.
- 120 Class 2 and 3 bikes should be limited to paved trails and roads and motorized orv parks.
- 122 I think e-bikes will be the majority of bikes soon. It is time to welcome them into the community.
- 123 E-bikes allow lots of people to mountain bike who otherwise might not be able to, which is great! Also, they are very popular and public land is meant to be enjoyed by the public. There should be some rules for ebikes though, like they need to stay on designated trails.
- 124 E bikes allow more people to ride which is a great thing. They still have to pedal. We allow people to shuttle so why not e bikes?
- 126 While emtb do significantly lower barriers to mountain biking I am not sure they should be allowed everywhere. Specifically in relation to trail degradation while it might not be significantly more than regular mtb what concerns me is that riders will be doubling or tripling their daily rides which will in turn drastically increase the burden on the trails leading to worse conditions over a riding season and more crowded trails!
- 127 It's simple if one uses a button or something else to make the bike go other than the pedals then it's not a bike but if one uses pedals to make it go then it's a bike easy
- 128 Ebikes are not appropriate for natural surface trails with any sort of mixed use. Uphill speeds of ebikes create a dangerous hazard and potential for serious injury. Ebikes and equestrian use do not mix and the same hazards exist when combining ebikes and equestrian uses. Furthermore, it will be nearly impossible to enforce the rules concerning the different classes of ebike and people will break those rules. The potential for serious conflicts and injuries isn't necessary. Ebikes are motorized equipment and should be used where motorized equipment is used.

ResponseID Response

130	This decision highlights the clear need to separate modes in some cases, and be very smart when it comes to trail planning. Giving some trails bike-only access is smart. Being extra clear in maps, kiosk and trail signage is really important.
132	Just get people outside.
135	Only with ADA permit for use.
140	There is no difference between e bikes and motorcycles. A bike with a motor is, by definition, a motorcycle. They should be allowed only in motorized areas.
142	Rules also need enforcement. There are eMTB riders already at Beacon park and nothing done about it.
145	I am a 30 year mountain biker that is now 50 years old. My ebike is no harder on the trails than a normal bike. I am simply able to continue riding and staying active as I age. Ebikes are great and yes there are some people that ride them with no trail manners just like there are people with traditional bikes that ride with poor manners.
146	E-bikes are only safe where trails are one-way (bikes meeting in opposite directions each at 20 mph can be dangerous; usually this isn't possible on regular bikes).
147	It is already a presence in most trails. Class 1 e bikes can and do easily co exist with other forms of trail use. Class 2&3 have no business on trails as they go too fast and could cause damage to trails.
148	E Bikes are here to stay, just like Mt. Bikes were to hikers a few years ago.
151	The amount of bicyclists on the trails has risen significantly with the rise of e-bikes. I trail run 5 days a week, and every single week I almost get hit by a mountain biker. The more we allow e-bikes, the more the trails will be crowded and more dangerous. I am extremely frustrated with the amount of people taking up biking and crowding trails simply because they created these e-bikes that allow people to lazily bike. The trails are more dangerous now, this year, than they have ever been for runners because of this. Runners seem to be the last priority for the city/county and for some reason vehicles and their riding rights on trails have taken priority. Please help the runners out, regulate the amount of riders or the amount of trails e-bikes can be used on.
152	E-Bikes are cool! They allow access to people who wouldn't be able to ride otherwise (see Basagoitia in TGRs film Accomplice). Coexisting all comes down to the same rider etiquette that everyone should be applying already.
153	I love to climb (100k Mtb biking and 100k trail running this year) and otherwise enjoy our amazing trails! I bought my wife a Levo SL (class 1) and now we rode together often. It has been incredible!! Our riding is comparable, almost equal, thanks to her pedal assist. She wouldn't join me otherwise. It has been an almost unbelievable blessing! ❤️🙏

ResponseID Response

156	I appreciate that you informed survey takers of the difference in classes of ebikes. With pedal assist only and no throttle, an e-mtb is practically indistinguishable from any other mtb and surely causes no difference in trail impact. I ride over 1000 miles of local trails per year on my non electric pedal only mtb and look forward to electric assist to help me keep that up as I get older.
157	e-bikes are motorized vehicles. There is no difference between an electric motor and a gas powered one. I have nearly been run over a number of times by people on those things going way faster than 20 mph. Someone, perhaps a child, will get hit or killed. It's only a matter of time until that happens.
160	I was a volunteer trail builder for 12 years. After a couple health issues, my class 1 e bike is the only way I can get out and enjoy trails that I helped build.
161	I think it's wonderful that people can use ebikes to go further than they could normally or to keep up with other riders when they're not as strong. Getting out and getting exercise is the important thing!
165	I am only voting for the option with class 2 Ebikes because I would like to see adaptive riders in Spokane. Most of their bikes would fall into category 2.
172	Although they add inclusivity, the trails are already crowded and the increased use we are experiencing from e bikers is not sustainable.
175	Keep ebikes OFF all natural trails. They are already a nuisance on the Centennial Trail!
180	Like not allowing motors/gas powered boat on all lakes, the idea of managed ebike access to select areas is a really good one! Preserves the bike experience and opportunities, one way and/or the other for everyone.
182	I've ridden with many full suspension e.bikes over the last year and they have no more impact then any other bike (pedal assist only) These bikes are making it so people can enjoy the trails who could not have otherwise. As an avid rider I'm all for it. My wife can now ride with me even with her hip problem because of her e.bike.
184	Rather than blanket eliminating E bikes, address the issues they may cause... appropriate speed limits, increasing number of trails, etc. It is wonderful that they are getting more people outdoors to enjoy Spokane's trails.
185	Trail users of ebikes should meet qualifications for infirmity such as health issues. I am ok with them on streets.
186	I haven't seen any problems with e-bike use.
190	I have tested the pedal assist type, don't see any greater wear issues than traditional bike
193	Class 1 bikes should be allowed anywhere a regular bike is for sure.

ResponseID Response

195	This bike allows me to go with my son's and grandchildren. I bike all the trails they do and they are on regular bikes. I wouldn't be able to go without my ebike.
196	Why would you want to lock out a certain user group?
200	If it were not for e-bikes, a lot of us seniors would not be out there. They make us feel young again. Best "toy" I have ever bought
201	E bikes should be on paved surfaces only
204	Thanks for this!
205	Ebikes do not damage the trail any more than a normal mountain bike.
206	Expand the community to expand the efforts to keep trails clean and managed.
207	Pedaling or not, these bikes sound a great way for people to explore the outdoors and enjoy their surroundings.
210	I see no difference between a class 1 and standard bikes, as long as both are managed to minimize erosion and protecting other users, it's okay.
212	I've seen a few E-bike users on the trail. So far they tend to be older gentlemen and absolutely having a blast. They are respectful and enjoyable trail companions. I'm glad that they can use E-bikes to get access to the trail system.
213	I am a disabled vet and could not ride without the assist of the motor. And having ridden an eMTB for years, these type bikes are the future of the sport. They act and feel the same as a non electric MTB. All in all there is no reason not to open the same trails to those of us who would not be able to enjoy them without the assist.
220	E-Bikes are giving physically un-fit people access to areas that they would not be able to safely exit without the aid of a motor. Our public lands should be open to human powered means only. E-bikers are increasingly defying known trail etiquette.
221	e bikes are motorized and therefore are motorized, they present real danger when coming up behind a horse because number 1: people are not educated to speak up when approaching a horse from behind, 2. not even pedal bicyclists speak up when approaching a horse. 3. e bikes are even more silent than the people riding them, the HORSE will not detect the approach and then the horse will SPOOK OUT OF FEAR, the rider will be thrown from the horse and land on a rock maybe not wearing a helmet and perhaps die or become cripple for life. IF YOU WANT TO PUT ALL THESE WHEELS ON ALL THE MOUNTAIN SIDES, THEN YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO EDUCATE THE PEOPLE ON THESE WHEELS ON HOW TO SHARE THE MOUNTAIN TRAILS WITH OTHERS, ESPECIALLY HORSES AND HORSE RIDERS.

ResponseID Response

223 eBikes are only going to grow in popularity and allow more folks to enjoy our amazing trails. They should only be limited in highly congested trail areas where user conflicts already exist (such as Iller). The users are typically extremely courteous and simply want to enjoy the trails like everyone else. Bad users can come in any form, but ebikers are typically very respectful. Also, ebikes dramatically aid in trail work and maintenance. The rules will struggle to keep up with technologies that continuously blur the lines. Keep restrictions to an absolute minimum.

230 Use will diminish hiking experience, they should not be allowed.

232 The E-MTB riders that I know yield to ALL other users ALL the time. We are the minority and realize that many mountain bikers and other trail users are reluctant to want e-mtbs on trails. Also, there are many older riders, some retired, that travel often to e-bike friendly areas. This increases tourism to our trail systems. While many cities are opting to ban e-bikes, Spokane can be e-bike friendly and welcome the tourism that will come if riders all of the USA know that Spokane is e-bike friendly as well as having so top-rate trail systems. Embrace E-bikes and stand out in the crowd of snobby west coast cities that want only elite riders to enjoy their trail systems. Retired older riders also often are willing to donate more funds than younger riders to trail building in the county.

233 Just need to add a another level to the yield system most users need a refresher on anyways. Horses/Hikers/Bikes/E-Bikes. Also noticed to hikers that dogs off leash makes the owner of the dog liable for broken bikes/riders, I don't want to hurt your pets but I'm not going to the hospital for your pet you don't care much about, if ya did it would be on a leash.

234 Ebikes expand the amount of exploration a rider can do in a single day. People have worked so hard to build all these great trail may as well let everyone enjoy them and they don't put any additional ware on the trails. Pulse they'll help with maintenance. We're all on the same team

237 On many trails many mountain bikers come around corners so fast it can be difficult for hikers to get out of the way fast enough; e-bikes would be even faster. Natural areas should be a place to get away from noise and speed

238 More pros than cons. Allows older riders, or riders that may have a physical impairment to ride our wonderful trails, especially up hill. For recreation an e-bike can be a wonderful equalizer To bring disparate abilities closer together so families and friends can ride together.

239 They should be allowed on designated non single track trails. And for SURE no more than Class 1 anywhere.

244 I enjoy mountain biking, but ebikes don't count. Being motorized, they're far more akin to a motorcycle than an actual bike, and they have no business in natural areas, just as cars, golf carts, enduros, and ATVs have no business being there (unless required for trail maintenance, emergency response, etc)

ResponseID Response

- 245 Despite my jealousy for how easy they are to pedal uphill and not owning one, I think people should be able to use them.
- 247 I used to own an E-bike and I appreciate them for certain situations. Trail riding is not one of them. In general, people don't pay enough attention and that's an easy way to tear up the trails, or cause an accident.
- 250 More reasons to get people outdoors, let's do it!
- 251 My concern when you are mixing bikes of any type and horses, is the chance of accidents. Bikes are so quiet. I have head of the two meeting on a curve of a trail and it causing an accident. Both could be going at a pretty good rate of speed, when meeting. Just a concern
- 252 I am firmly against e-bikes in natural-surface areas, primarily due to speed. Mountain bikes as it is are fast enough to have on trails with hikers/runners, but e-bikes adds a whole other dimension to that. If I had to be okay with e-bikes, I'd pick Class 1 only, but I really am not for any of them when I can't walk up to 20 mph when they are on the same trails.
- 254 e-bikes let more people cycle, which can only be a good thing. Overly restricting them at this point is too soon. Let's get people outside first!
- 256 Nature is for peace and quiet. If you need an engine to ride your bike then stay on the pavement. The rest of us are out in nature to enjoy the quiet and peacefulness. My horses will not appreciate a 'motor' bike neither will I. If you MUST have a motor to enjoy your ride then go to the ORV park or where Motorcross is allowed. I am in nature to enjoy the quiet, wind through the leaves, bird song NOT the sound of an engine.
- 258 E-bike users need to be educated on trail etiquette. (I've yet to see one obey the guidelines) And, they shouldn't record their rides on Strava! Other than that they should be allowed to enjoy our beautiful trails like everyone else
- 260 I think it's important to sort out the people who are looking to take an electric motorcycle to the top for giggles from those who are genuinely looking for exercise and recreation. The class 1 and class 3 restriction would help, but I think the natural state of having technical trails will weed out the casuals from the dedicated.
- 262 I think Class 1 and 2 should be treated as regular bicycles,
- 265 Concessions should be made regardless of your input, allowing people with disabilities or less than abilities, to access THEIR LANDS.
- 270 My father purchased his first ebike 8 years ago and now rides every day. Before ebikes he was not an active person and hes now in the best shape hes ever been in. I would hate to see trail access removed or limited for people who have found this new form of fitness and joy.

ResponseID Response

- 273 I hope we can do our best to get everyone using the trails fairly, but considering ALL environmental impacts FIRST. These are conservation areas for a reason!! We have to keep them as "wild" as possible.
- 274 The speed E bikes can go and since they don't make lots of noise, I think they could come up on both hikers and horses and cause an accident. They are motorized and should be governed as motorized vehicles on a designated roadway,
- 275 Class 1 E-bikes are not much different than mountain bikes Are use one because I have a bad knee and now I can pedal uphill. They don't tear up ground any different than any other bike they're just the same in my opinion
- 279 Mute point... it's a bicycle...similar mentality as when snowboards were introduced.. they brought more people into the sport. Ask someone from Europe, it's not going away
- 280 I have been riding a Class 1 eMTB for three seasons now and enjoy the bike immensely! It's just a mountain bike.... plus!
- 284 My own ability to use trails becomes increasingly limited with age and disability. Nevertheless, I'm a purist, and want natural areas to remain ... natural, peaceful, serene, with abundant wildlife and trails in good condition. When I bike on paved trails, I find electric bike riders to be obnoxious and naive about trail etiquette. They share a culture with jet skiers and snowmobilers, not with hikers and snowshoers. OK, generalizations, I know. But I do like the way that Mt Spokane St Park has separated the cross-country skiers from the snowmobilers. Spokane County should do the same with hiking and mountain bike trails. This reduces conflict and allows everyone to recreate in their own territory.
- 287 After being an avid "acoustic" cyclist I Had to switch to ebikes after some surgery complications that limited my heart and lungs. I also use cycling for my mental health. If I couldn't ride my ebike on the mtb trails I know and love I would definitely be negatively affected.
- 289 My feeling is if bikes are already allowed, Class 1 (slowest) bikes should be OK
- 291 Yield to horses. We will try to move, but unpredictable animals are just that. The 20 mph is pretty quick...
- 293 Bikes are ruining all our trails. They are grinding everything to silt
- 294 I only think class one pedal assist bikes should be used on natural surface. I could see some parks being set aside for class 2 and 3. But nobody wants electric bikes which are basically motorcycles on mountain bike trails unless you are riding them. The trails will be overcrowded, and full of obnoxious people. We are all out there working for it. I like motorcycles, too, I would just rather have them in designated areas and on roads. Pedal assist only on trails!

ResponseID Response

- 297 Please allow class 1 e-bikes on all soft surface county trails. Most trail users can't even tell the difference between e-bikes and normal mountain bikes.. mountain bikers included. Most negative feedback you'll hear from non-mountain bikers is simply due to their negative feeling towards bikers in general with no distinction between e or non-e mountain bikes. That's not reason enough to ban class 1 e-bikes.
- 298 I've almost been hit by an e bike on two separate occasions on county trails. They are too fast and not appropriate for pedestrian trails.
- 299 Spokane has done such an amazing job setting aside close-in access to nature. I feel allowing motorized vehicles of any kind ruins the peaceful environment that we treasure and that many other cities don't have, as well as creates challenges for trail maintenance (creating erosion problems, etc).
- 302 I am strongly against eBikes on natural trails!
- 305 I am primarily a hiker. Areas that allow mountain bikes like salt ease flats are ridiculous trying to walk with bikes whizzing by. One day this spring, I counted- I stepped off the trail 18 times for mountain bikes to pass. With bikes, that will be more impact.
- 306 E Bikes are becoming so much faster as technology improves, it's hard to guess what they will be like in 5 years. Just today I met a woman going up a trail that is primarily a down route. She was going 10-15 mph and was barely pedaling. As these bikes continue to increase in power and range, they will become more of a nuisance and danger to people who earn their laps.
- 309 Both non-motorized and electric bikes pose a serious injury potential to hikers on trails due to the high speed at which they travel. Often hikers don't have sufficient time to get off the trail before they are right on the hikers and dogs on leashes. Non-electric and electric bikes can be nearly silent and many bike riders of both types of bikes never announce themselves as they come down in elevation on a trail at extremely high speeds and then surprise hikers that don't have sufficient time to get out of the ir way. Bikes cause more erosion to hiking trails than hikers do and this is a detriment to the ability of using the trails by hikers. The County should specifically build new trails that are designated for use only by non-electric and electric bicycles.
- 310 Like anything, responsibility is key. We've nearly been plowed over by trail runners coming around a bend. We've also experienced issues with irresponsible non-electric mountain bike users. e-bikes should be allowed, but used responsibly.
- 315 Please continue to allow E-Bikes. I appreciate the ability to explore the outdoors more as I continue to lose weight with my e-bike. Spokane County is so beautiful and it's ease of use with my e-bike is amazing! Thank you!
- 316 Rider safety is critical regardless if the bike is powered or not. Following safe rules of the road and taking care of natural trails is the responsibility of all riders. Education is key. Let riders know how they can help maintain the roads and trails they like to ride on.

ResponseID Response

320 Keep the rules simple and consistent with other land managers.

323 Ebike should not be judged by young gonzo riders. That number is small and can be held accountable for their actions. Older riders like me use our ebikes to get out on the trails and enjoy our park system. We cause no added damage or safety concerns. Class 1 ebikes should be allowed on any trail that pedal power bikes are allowed.

326 Sharing the trails is already a safety issue. I was hiking at Liberty Lake last week and had numerous bikes come speeding around corners with no bells or any type of warning device. I was lucky to not be injured. Allowing another type of user with a motorized vehicle will only increase the danger for everyone.

327 Please keep these area natural.

328 Last year I was diagnosed with a medical condition that I thought would end my riding. I tried an Ebike (class1) and can now ride (allowed) trails with my friends again. I ride it the same way I rode my stump jumper. You would not know an Ebike had been on the trail. Please allow Ebikes on trails where bicycles are allowed. Thank you!

330 I have been biking in the area for over 20 years and have supported the activity in multiple ways. I recently had knee replacement surgery. A class 1 ebike allows me to ride with my 12 yr old son. Not allowing class 1 bikes seems ignorant. We should follow Europe's lead.

331 Every year I have near-misses with human-powered mountain bikes where I must jump off of a trail to avoid a collision. Bikers don't seem to realize how long it takes to stop at speeds exceeding 10 mph, nor do they seem to understand that they must always yield to other trail users. Motor assistance will only make this problem worse.

333 While I personally would prefer that e-bikes (and in certain cases, all bikes) be disallowed on natural trails, I recognize that e-bikes enable some who would normally not be able to access our trails to get out and enjoy nature. Thus, for inclusivity, I support allowing them, with rules for sensible use (not too fast, stay on trails, understand trail rules).

334 There are several well done studies primarily out of Europe that have shown ebikes, especially classes two and three cost increased erosion on trail systems. As we consider what trail networks and natural trail services e-bikes are allowed on we must take this into account. Areas that are at risk of high erosion should prohibit e-bikes. Finally, on a personal note, I am an avid mountain biker and have ridden a trail loop by myself then immediately while doing another lap I have followed a group (#3 e-bikes) and to say that they're bicycles cause damage to the trail was an understatement. I have had this experience several times and know of other riders who have had a similar experience. As e-bikes continue to grow in popularity we must observe and study how these motor powered bikes affect trail conditions over the long term. While it is great that these riders are wanting to do trail Network and contribute to riding in our area we must be aware that the bikes themselves might be doing harm.

ResponseID Response

- 335 Impacts to wildlife/other users are unfounded - no greater than a mountain bike without pedal assist. Follow the State Parks model and allow pedal assist only (class 1/3), and support inclusive recreation opportunities for all. As a trail user and volunteer trail builder I strongly support the formal allowance of pedal assist ebikes.
- 336 I think you should classify ebikes according to watt power, not speed. Ebikes with greater power might be able to go at a higher speed on flat ground, but they also make it possible for older people to enjoy steeper or more challenging biking terrain (without going at a high speed).
- 338 I think all people should be able to recreate on all the trails even ebike users. It's not a motorcycle it does not act or work like one. You still have to work very hard to ride one. Because it doesn't work like a motorcycle you have no business taking it on a trail for motorcycles. If they can't go where the bike trails are then where can they go? People need to learn to accept a little change and embrace these new people.
- 341 Ebike user on high drive bluff when the trail was wet and soft after rain. Made a 10 inch rut in a trail. That rut extended and today that trail segment is unusable. ebike user destroyed a trail
- 345 On concept I don't actually have a problem with ebikes. I recognize that will be a time that I may want one. However it may be necessary to consider a educational course/licencing upon purchase, to ensure the integrity of our trail system. Essentially a course in trail use, stewardship and trail etiquette to ensure sustainability and user support. Because ebikes are capable of going up steeper terrain, I have witnessed significant off-trail routes being established, going around obstacles, up fall lines, new routes all together. Moreover, a blatant disregard for other users in communication, passing, and general trail etiquette. Places like Iller and Beacon are crowded and may not support speed, conservation areas like Slavin and MacKenzie attract user that move "slower". So choosing areas like Mica, Liberty Lake, Antoine may better support all users as this sports develops. But honestly increased trail use this year has seen an influx of poor trail etiquette and post holing of new/existing trails by horse man, and over using wet/muddy trails by hiker/bikers/horse has also been a problem. Maybe a free//required license with parks pass would help all of these situations.
- 348 If it has a throttle, then it's not a bike. Pedal assist is not only fine, but it provides access for elderly riders and others who may otherwise be unable to pedal themselves up a trail.
- 349 I run, walk, hike on local natural trails and Centennial Trail. I have been nearly run over by people on e-bikes going too fast and not warning of their presence. People on e-bikes will be traveling too fast for the safety of others and maintaining the natural state of the environment and the trail maintenance itself
- 350 Class 1 e-bikes are great to help older riders stay fit. No problem with allowing these.
- 352 If bikes are allowed they should be required to use reduced speeds and have some form of constant noise

ResponseID Response

- 353 I have an e bike and love it for roads and commuting. I think trails like the Columbia plateau trail are perfect for it I am concerned about the amount of mountain bikers on hiking trails in our area. They are destructive to the trails and becoming a danger and I don't think adding more bikers with e bikes is a good idea
- 356 Ebike use can be updated yearly depending on crowding on trails
- 361 I'm also concerned about erosion on natural surface trails. E bikes could result in more users and users going faster which could erode the trails significantly faster than normal.
- 364 E-bikes are detrimental the quality of the trails and pose a threat to land use agreements people in the mountain bike community have fought for. There are plenty of dirt bike trails north of Spokane and in Cour d Alene that people can ride on. E-bikes are not mountain bikes and should not be allowed on mountain bike trails
- 367 The only impact of these bikes will be that more people will be riding, and further.
- 368 E bikes are sweet!
- 372 E-bikes should be allowed. I have spent a lot of time on them and they are no more harmful on the trails than a normal bike. I suffered a bad leg injury and an ebike is the only thing that got me back to being able to ride.
- 374 There should be a speed limit set and emphasis on general bike rules of the trail. Shared use trails should have a lower speed limit. NEVER 20 mph.
- 380 I'm a horseback rider and it's tough enough getting out of the way from bicycles. My grandchildren are now walking trails with their children. They've been literally knocked off the trail by bicyclists. E bikes would only be worse.
- 384 It provides greater accessibility to those who otherwise might not be able to enjoy those trails! I think a speed limit cap should be implemented.
- 387 With the continued popularity of the trail system and additional use to foot traffic it would be best to not allow motorized anything on these trails. Thank you for asking for input!
- 389 E-Bikes will allow so many more people to get outside and enjoy all of Spokane's awesome bicycle riding options. Please allow access for everyone, everywhere. Thank you.
- 395 Allow use on all trails for type 1 bikes only. Selected trail use for type 2 bikes. Type 3 bikes should not be allowed on off road trails. Thanks!
- 399 The big question is how are you going to enforce the law? I have never seen any kind of enforcement on county lands. For example, go to Saltese Uplands and 90% of the dogs are off leash. I keep mine on leash, but it feels like the Wild West out there. The poor wildlife that is impacted by lack of enforcement will soon be gone. Do something!

ResponseID Response

- 404 Trails need to be for hiking only. Mountain bikers significantly contribute to the degradation and erosion of trails and do not give the right of way to hikers; I have practically been run over by mountain bikers, so I can only imagine how much worse it would get with the addition of electric bikes on the trails. Keep nature natural and don't allow any motorized vehicles of any kind on any hiking trail.
- 405 A few years back, my physicians discovered several congenital spinal abnormalities which affected my ability to ride a bike and to live a normal life. I was in constant pain and lost the use of one arm and hand. I tried many modifications to my bike, I purchased a different bike, and went through a lot of physical therapy. None of those things kept me on a bike. I even had spinal surgery and that restored the use of my arm and hand but, it wasn't enough to keep me on a bike. When I bought my E-bike, I found I could ride again. Being able to ride my E-bike keeps me active, my spine supple, and being able to ride in different places keeps me mentally engaged. Please allow pedal assisted E-bikes in all the places where bikes are allowed.
- 408 E-bikes should be subject to the same right-of-way rules as pedal bikes
- 413 I have seen a completely electric 3-wheeled bike on the trails used by a disabled person. I would like to continue to see any disabled person out on the trails!
- 414 E-bikes should be limited to trail systems that are wide enough to allow them to pass a hiker without them having to jump off the trail for fear of being run over. That would eliminate all single tracks from consideration for e-bikes. It's already dangerous avoiding mountain bikers coming down.
- 415 Just use common sense ! These are the future and just needs good outlines for all of us to share the trails !
- 416 Ebikes aren't bad they are just misunderstood.
- 420 If bikes are allowed, pedal-assist e-bikes should be allowed. However, I think natural surface trails should be of a certain width to allow bikes, as I have frequently seen bikers hurtling down narrow trails with little regard for who might be coming up.
- 422 I would only allow these bikes (or ideally any bikes) in areas that have wide trails where it's less of a risk of bikers running into hikers when they come too fast down a trail or turn a blind corner.
- 423 None motor on trails means no motorized at all
- 428 Too much damage to natural environment. Dangerous for all animals
- 429 I think pedal assist ebikes are not much different than a mountain bike and typically wont do as much damage. I own a mt bike, Tri bike, gravel bike and class 1 ebike. I still have to work during the ride. but find I have much more control on an ebike than my other bikes just because of the pedal assist. going up a steep hill is not as dangerous as I wont flare out:)

ResponseID Response

431 I get that they are a great tool for folks with disabilities to help them get and stay mobile and out there in the outdoors. That's a great thing. I'm not convinced that means that e-bikes should be allowed in places that expressly prohibit motorized vehicles. Wildlife are experiencing unprecedented levels of disturbance by humans year round, this will only add to the problem. We are at the point where we have to choose between competing values. I think it's important to keep what little wild space we have left as undisturbed as possible for as long as we can.

433 e-bikes are great for paved trails like Centennial Trail or on streets, but NOT on natural surface areas, They are motorized vehicles are should be regulated as such, like lime scooters, etc.

435 EBikes are great on roads and paved trails but not on natural trails.

436 I'm not particularly an advocate of e-bikes but I do see that people of advances age benefit from riding them. I have seen abuses on the trail by both e-powered and human powered bikes abuse the rule; education is essential. In no way should class 2 & 3 level e-bikes be allowed on the trail due to the speed differential on the uphill climbs. Even the class 1 bikes can be problematic because non-motorized riders often have to pull over on the uphill to allow them to pass which causes the loss of momentum.

437 E bikes are a great way to help maintain the trails. And caused no additional damage or safety issues to other user groups

439 Moscow Mountain made a decision to not allow eBikes, even though some trails might be suitable. This is private land fwiw.

444 I think ebikes are an open door to destroying our trails.

449 I've been an active mom for 15 years but my health is catching up to me. I'm realizing I can no longer trail run with my kids and I'm worried that my family will travel further and faster than I can keep up. I currently want to purchase an E-bike so I can still be as active as my body is physically able to. However, a pedaling bike is out of the question because one of my conditions doesn't allow the pedaling motion. I see an e-bike being a way to connect to the outdoors to be with my family.

454 Ebike users should give preference to hikers and human powered mountain bike users.

455 I came across a 65 year old man with an E-bike on the trail. He explained how he has had Angina or Heart Pains for 10 years UNTIL he started riding his E-bike mountain bike regularly. After one month of a lot of E-assistance he is riding his bike stronger and has no more Angina, no more heart pains. If they are ridden like a mountain bike with a little assistance I think they are great to get more people out there enjoying it. They also need to be respectful, as we all need to be, of the trail and other people.

459 It would be great to have some trails designated for horses only. Maybe some with E bikes only too

ResponseID Response

- 460 I don't believe that anything motorized should be on the natural terrain as the impact on the ground could be compromised. Also I have been on my horse when a regular peddle bike (no motor) came around a corner & almost hit me & my horse lucky he stopped I don't feel that a motorized vehicle of any type should be on trails that are used by equine or on foot hikers... it is a safety issue for me. Sorry. I know there are PLENTY of places they can ride the motorized bikes or what have you that horses can not go. All the rails to trails are put in for these types of bikes, skateboarding. Walking etc. we all want to enjoy the outdoors wether it be by horse, bike, motorized bike or quad/side by side. Thank you.
- 461 Horses and their entitled riders do far more trail damage than any e-biker. Take a hike at, or around Mica Peak and you can see their impact. Good luck trying to find trail damage, or any negative trail impact as a result of e-bikes.
- 462 I've been a mountain biker for over 20 years in Spokane Area. I love getting out and doing long rides still to this day. However, with nagging long term injuries and sometimes limited time having the option to us an E-bike on the same trails would be a great benefit. I've still ride a regular mountain bike but am looking at biking my first E-bike next spring to cut down on my commuting via automobile to and from trails.
- 463 Wildlife concerns are number 1, but secondly as a trail walker i don't want to constantly live with fear I'll have a ebike suddenly barreling towards my back.
- 466 It is probably too late for this, but the federal land mgt agencies are currently doing the same outreach. It would sure make it easier if you used the same definitions for the 3 classes as they have adopted. as a hiker, I don't really want any kind of bike on a trail. but as a new e-biker, I would like access to gravel roads, wide trails, not mtn. bike trails
- 467 I'm generally ok with expanding the user base to certain types of e-bikes. As long as they still seem like "bikes"--quiet, not too crazy fast, requires some physical effort (pedaling).
- 469 I feel strongly that the very popular trails that see a lot of different user groups are not appropriate for ebikes and may lead to user conflicts. Mica is a gema nd would very much lend itself to ebikes. I don't think they belong on all trails.
- 470 Class 1 only, solely at Slavin. No e-bikes of any class on any other natural surface trails.
- 471 I think the increase in traffic on trails could be dangerous and if someone is not able to bike into some of the more remote locations on mica peak how can they safely remove themselves if their machinery breaks. I appreciate you setting input from the public
- 472 Thanks for inviting feedback! It's challenging enough, as a hiker, to not get run over by mt. bikers. It would be much worse with e-bikes. Please keep them off natural surface trails.

ResponseID Response

- 473 Because they do not make enough noise to warn other users, the higher the speed allowed, the more dangerous they are. Putting up speed limit signs isn't the answer. Only allowing the slower speeds isn't either. Separate trails for equestrians and e-bikes is essential along with serious fines for being an e-biker on the equestrian trails.
- 479 E bikes with pedal assist cause no more damaged than a regular bicycle. Certainly less than a horse.
- 482 Ebikes allow people that couldn't normally get to places access. Some might argue that's the point, but there's a lot of older people or ones that are getting into shape that want to get to those places. I would never buy one because I'm fit and able bodied so I prefer to go under my own power but maybe in 20 years I'll want one
- 485 I believe Class 1 (20 MPH) e-bike is sufficient for any person on a natural trail. The power generated is enough for most uphill situations and you do not need the extra help going downhill.
- 486 For older individuals, E-bikes may enable them to get out and get exercise and utilize trails that they may not be able to do without the bump in power.
- 488 These are recreational trails, mainly used by people on foot. e-bikes only will add to any problems already associated with the trail.
- 489 I really don't have any problem with e-bikes but I guess you need to decide what the purpose of the trails is. If you're just out to enjoy the sites paved trails should be sufficient. Non paved trails tend to be more serpentine so the rider would need to be experienced in off pavement trail riding for their own safety. If the assist limit was closer to 5 mph that might be safer. Motoring up a winding trail at 20 mph assist seems risky.
- 491 As people age and want to stay active the Class 1 ebike is helpful. I commute on one . I have friends who have e mountain bikes. For safety I think class 1 should only be allowed on the trails
- 492 People can be jerks on trails regardless of what activity they're doing or what they're riding. I don't think we should penalize people who only have one bicycle (that happens to be an e-bike), or that have a disability or other physical impairment (including age) that is helped by their e-bike, or that have a long or uphill ride to the trailhead that is easier with an e-bike. I'd much rather see speed regulated than type of bicycle; as long as your vehicle is quiet, relatively lightweight, doesn't produce emissions, and is traveling at a polite speed for the trail conditions, I don't think the an electric motor makes a difference.
- 494 eBikes are becoming more popular FAST, and before long will probably represent 50% or more of all bicycle use. Please accommodate them!
- 495 Top speed of 20 mph is way too fast.

ResponseID Response

- 497 As long as you have to pedal in order to use battery assist, you're not much different than a regular bicycle. We don't need speed on trails, therefore only Class 1 e-bikes should be allowed.
- 499 I think if you wanted to have e bikes on the trails at the before listed places, you could have A trail that doesn't intersect with hiking trails where e bikes could be. I think it's a good idea, but tough for people hiking and horses to get out of the way if going quickly.
- 501 We LOVE our class one ebikes and use the centennial trail several times a week. As older adults, our bikes open up many more opportunities for use of the trail system. We bike much more carefully than many of the "spandex" riders on racing bikes who frequently endanger kids, dogs, and adults with their high speeds. We would be broken hearted to have to give all that up! Talk to the bike shops. They will tell you of ebikes popularity. The trail would lose many supporters if evokes were banned.
- 502 Class 1 E-Bikes should be allowed anywhere mountain bikes are allowed. I primarily run Riverside State Park trails but I see E bikes as an equalizer allowing for a greater number of citizens to get out of their house, move and enjoy the natural resources of our State Parks. It's a free health benefit that all should be allowed to benefit from. Irresponsible trail users that don't use trail etiquette need to be educated and regulated (equestrian, biker, e-biker, runner, hiker).
- 503 From my experience the people on the centennial trail that use E bikes are not capable of riding at the speed they are. I am scared they will hurt pedestrians.. i have had them pass me in congested areas where children are. Bottom line its a motorized vehicle.
- 504 The e-bikes off-road are dangerously fast for all other trail users.
- 505 conceptually i like all having the attempt to ride on trails; realistically, these are motorcycles how to strike the balance is very difficult.
- 508 Just a thought. I have nothing against class 1 eMTBs. I think of people that might have a harder time riding a regular bike due to medical conditions. Case in point. My wife was a very avid mountain biker and then she got cancer. Unfortunately she passed away but had she survived the only way she would have been able to bike again would be through some assistance. I believe others could have similar conditions and this is an ideal way to get them out in nature. Even getting someone out that stopped years ago. The only point of what we do is for our own pleasure and satisfaction. With class 1 bikes I don't see any issue on the trails.
- 511 Trail use is up and we are already looking at a situation where folks are not taking care of the trails like they should e.g. Pack it in, pack it out. Including even more users with motorized capabilities doesn't seem logical. Furthermore, if you don't have the physical condition to navigate these trails old school, because of the technical aspect, I suspect you shouldn't be riding these trails. And what about the erosion from the motorized bikes and increase in trail usage? What does that look like?
- 512 Since ebikes bring new riders to natural trails, signs explaining trail etiquette and best practices need to be posted when ebikes become allowed.

ResponseID Response

513 With all the covid stuff the parks are already way too busy. The last thing we need is some idiot on an e-bike blasting down the trails at 20 mph. or 28. With his earbuds in blasting music. Spooking horses,

514 It is vital to leave a few recreational areas free of motorization, both to better preserve the natural world and to provide a peaceful and natural experience for humans. Soon we will have no place where we can escape the encroachment of speeding motorized vehicles.

516 Throttle (type 2) ebikes should be considered a mobility aid or enhancement and allowable subject to strict speed limitations.

517 As a hiker, I have encountered many situations where even regular mountain bike riders pose a danger. While I have no problem with ebikes on paved trails, I think they would detract in the no-motorized experience inherent in hiking and mountain biking.

518 This is a difficult issue. I know there are some people who might otherwise not be able to access trails who could use them with e-bikes, and it's hard to deny those folks access. But I also feel strongly that trails are intended for non-motorized vehicles. I've already had occasions when I've been out for a run and had some guy on a racing bike barrel past me without warning and just about run me over - the thought that there could be bikes on the trails moving at speeds up to 28mph is terrifying to me. What about parents hiking with little kids, or older people out for a walk? What if they can't get out of the way of someone on an e-bike in time? And what about the wildlife? It's already stressful enough to have people in their territory, without those people moving at speeds that resemble that of a car. I vote no.

519 It's an electric engine instead of a gas engine. Does this functionally make it less of a motorized vehicle? No. Does the fact that the user has to paddle make it less of a motorized vehicle? No. should eBikes be allowed on paved surfaces? Absolutely. Should they be allowed on dirt trails designed for mountain bikes and trail running? I don't know and it's too early to tell. I also don't think we should shut them out entirely. We should have a study area or sample area where they're allowed to ride and understand user impacts and conflicts and trail degradation in that area. Let's study this and get some data!

520 E-bikes get more people out exercising and doing healthy habits. That's a good thing. I do think it may increase trail use but not damage the trails any more than a non-eBike. EBike users need to follow the same rules as others including slowing down when passing bikers and non bikers alike.

521 e-bikes should be allowed but with the understanding that they always yield to slower traffic.

ResponseID Response

525	I have back and knee problems and I am over 50. E-bikes have changed my life and I ride every day. I have also rode horses most of my life on trails and I enjoy hiking. I believe all these uses can be enjoyed.
528	Only bicycles powered by humans should be allowed on the trails.
532	E-bikes do not damage trails any more than traditional bikes. Politeness and courtesy on the trails should be practiced by all users.
534	My E bike is not officially classified, since it was built before Washington state adopted the classification system. However, it was purchased from a Washington state vendor (RadPower bikes). It is a throttle-bike with a variable and adjustable top speed up to 25 mph before the motor assist stops. That said, it is probably a class III, even though it is throttled, which would make it a class II. I have ridden 100's of miles on natural surface trails throughout Spokane County, including county parks and state parks. Regardless of the 25mph maximum speed I have set the regulator, so I can ride faster on streets, it is almost impossible to exceed 20 mph on natural surface trails without endangering my personal safety and that of other trail users. Therefore, I urge that all three classes of bikes be allowed on County natural surface trails. Riding skills, trail conditions and respect for other trail users come into play and therefore all classes and bikes should be allowed. There may be the occasional abusers, as there are in all sports; but, they would have to be highly skilled mountain bike riders in order to exceed 20 mph on natural surface trails.
535	It is already hazardous to share a walking trail with bicyclists going at high speed. And Spokane cyclists almost never announce themselves as they zoom past and weave around walkers. E-bikes are a terrible idea. Please don't approve them on the same trails as walkers/runners. You might as well just allow motorcycles.
536	Thee main conflict and danger is created by mixing of speed groups. Walkers/Runners, nonE cyclists and E cyclists are 3 different speed groups. Adding e bikes on narrow trails will do nothing but create conflicts.
537	e-bikes are too fast for conditions
538	It's the rider controls the bike- not the bike. All users should be aware and ride with respect to all users- doesn't matter what they're riding 'E-bikes have no more impact on the county resources than bikes"
541	Where e-bikes are allowed on natural surface trails (after case-by-case analysis; NOT everywhere), should be Class 1 bikes ONLY; NO Class 2 bikes anywhere on natural surface trails, since these are electric motor powered without needing pedaling. Class 2 are (electric) motorized vehicle (not appropriate for non-motorized trails)
542	I think ebikes are wonderful. I don't want one, but it opens up possibilities for me to ride with friends who are older or disabled and need the assistance to enjoy the sport. This is good for everyone! Saves money and is healthy!

ResponseID Response

543 I have not yet seen ebikes on the mountain bike trails that I use, but I have see many on the Centennial Trail. The riders are often using excessive speeds. They actually frighten me when they come around the corner, or pass me. I imagine this to be the same on the mountain bike trails. I think we should encourage people to get exercise, not use electricity to get them up a trail!

548 Trails can not support the greater # s and heavier bikes.

550 I'd foresee difficulty enforcing the different classes of ebikes. Also for the people that have already invested in ebikes, it would be a shame to force them to get another bike to participate. I would maybe recommend having speed limits vs trying to enforce different types of bikes. There are also ebikes that do not have restrictions to them that are meant to be used off road. I've met several people with bikes that are 1000 watts. They can be ridden just as slowly and responsibly. People who own these bikes shouldn't be restricted from trails. Less restrictions will get more people outside using the trails. I don't think that allowing ebikes will make the trails any more dangerous than having normal bikes.

551 One thing I've never understood about e-bikes falling under the banned group of "motorized vehicles" on trails in Spokane is that the same bike can be ridden if one simply removes the battery. I fail to see how the few extra miles per hour provided by a battery will harm trails any more than the bike would on its own with just the rider pedaling.

557 Bicycles are hard to hear and they go too fast on the Centennial Trail and somebody is going to get killed. They need to slow down.

558 My concern is the speed at which these bikes can go and the possibility of accidents with other member of the public. Plus if some bikes are loud, that's a nuisance to people and wildlife. The County could post a speed limit but without enforcement the limit may not be effective. I am a cyclist and think ebikes should only be used on roads or paved multiuser paths. So I think the most accommodating the County should be is to start by doing a pilot program and specifying one trail system for e-bikes, make it known to the public that there will be e-bike users on the trail, impose a speed limit of no more than 15mph, and monitor how it goes by putting out another survey. If there's harmony among the ebikes and everyone else, keep it and maybe expand. If not, don't expand and potentially prohibit ebikes on all unpaved trails. Thanks for asking my opinion!

559 No motorized vehicles in natural areas, allow one, others shall soon follow

561 Let's get with the trend. I am over 70 and need the assist if an e bike. Class 3 isn't about speed it's about batter batteries and motors which often are class 3 bikes

ResponseID Response

563 Please do not allow e-bikes on any natural surface trails! There are lots of little old ladies like me (age 68) who want to walk and hike safely outdoors without having to worry about being slammed into by some 250-pound guy going 20mph on some electric bike! Seriously, the two uses are incompatible. It's bad enough that I can't walk on the paved trails anymore for this reason. I've been a hiker for many years and have seen many of my favorite places taken over by mountain bikes and frisbee-golf. I don't want to lose the natural surface trails as well! Thank you for your consideration.

564 I mountain bike on many of the natural surface trails but not with my ebike. An ebike's Speed with restricted visual distance trails is a safety issue.

566 I'm afraid that I'll lose the ability to hike freely as the trails will be packed with ebike riders, who otherwise wouldn't be there. As it is, mountain bikes on the trails are already problematic.

567 I am a mtn bike rider who also owns an ebike. I think our trails can handle both, but I do worry about it. So I voted for allowing all three types, but I definitely don't want dirt-bike type activities - spinning tires, tearing up trails, etc. You guys have a real job in front of you figuring out how to do it right. I'll be happy with whatever you decide. Anything to get us all outside enjoying nature!

568 In general I support shared use trails, but the uses have to be compatible. I once backpacked to what I thought was going to be an earned wilderness experience, only to arrive and find vehicles who had approached on a logging road. I think motors in general are not compatible with trail use. But it seems Class 1 could be a minor exception unless that leads to more motors.

569 I am an avid cyclist. I have noticed that e-bikes can be dangerous on the Centennial Trail since other users can be unaware and surprised by their speed. However, I think they'd be ok in the larger, more remote parks and expand the usage of those wonderful parks. Kudos to the county for acquiring these lands!

570 I live by the Centennial Trail in the Valley and walk it daily. And we hike throughout the area. The increasing number of e-bikes are going faster on trails and making them feel more like roadways. If e-bikes are allowed, will you next allow gas dirt bikes and small motorcycles? We already have problems with those on the trails. How will you allow e-bikes for affluent seniors and forbid dirt bikes for teens? It seems like a slippery slope. Plus 20 mph is too fast for shared trails. I think e-bikes are great for on the road commuters, much like vespas. If you can't ban them entirely, please limit them to paved trails.

573

574 in stead of class you should go by watts, which should stay be low 600 marks. to 500 watts. then that will control the speeds better.

575 As e bikes become more popular they will negatively impact the trails, they are also more dangerous with the high speeds and often a lack of technical skills.

ResponseID Response

576 Thank you for taking the time to consider the community's input. E-bikes are great for in the city, around town and on paved surfaces. I do not think they belong in relatively fragile natural spaces and on narrow trails. No thank you.

577 I am 69 years old and a very active person. I rode 800 miles this last summer between my petal Mt Bike as well as a Class 1 E Mountain Bike depending on where I am at, and who I am trying to keep up with. I see more and more E-bikes on the trails, and most of their riders fall into the senior citizen category, or close to it. Banning E-bikes from these multi-purpose trails, I think is quite discriminatory and most people that are against them probably want all bikes off the trails. I would agree that there are always a few that wreck it for everyone, no mater what the sport is...

579 I believe more people can enjoy our bicycle trails with e-bikes. My concern is the speed and etiquette of the people that don't follow the rules. There should be some form of enforcement for both regular bikes and ebikes. Ebikes are not the only bikes that exceed practical speeds. Type 3 bikes are just too fast.

580 It is a well known fact that with a slight modification a class 2 e-bike can reach speeds of 28-30 mph, presenting a very real danger to other trail users. It would create an enforcement nightmare to allow certain classes of e-bikes and not others

581 I recently purchased ebike. I have lower back issues from years in the construction trade building the homes and businesses everyone today uses. Do to my lower back issues I can not longer hike/walk very far and I can not peddle a standard bike. The ebike lets me get out in nature farther and with less effort. I find most ebike owners do not ride fast and are people with health issues and/or are elderly. The cost of ebikes are significant so you are less apt to destroy them. Ebikes are heavier and are not near as nimble as a standard mountain bike. They also do not have the suspension. As a previous hiker and horse back rider I have had many issues with mountain bikes on trails such as not yielding to peds or horses. I really like my ebike, it is quiet, and is enviromentally healthy. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

583 Riding a bike requires balance and trail riding requires additional skills. Prepare for people to get hurt who haven't developed those skills and their experience is based on grocery store scooter.

584 I might distinguish between a wide trail (e.g. forest service "road" vs. single track trails (Iller Creek, etc.). Watching for non-powered bikes on single track trails is challenging enough. Twice I've had to jump off the trail into the bushes to avoid a regular bike headed downhill that clearly would not have been able to stop or pass by. The only choice is jumping out of the way. Adding motorized bikes to single track trails will add to issues.

585 Ebikes allow access to biking trails generally only accessed by super fit athletes. Ebikes, especially in classes 1 and 2, allow aid to people not as fit, while allowing them to enjoy the outdoor recreational opportunities. These bikes are generally silent and are not used for jumping or off trail use. This allows the county to keep the trails open to as many tax paying users as possible.

ResponseID Response

586 Having jus turned 70 I have found myself unable to ride my "regular" MTB bike. I have ridden bikes all my life, road, mountain and now a pedal assist bike. I do no damage to the trails, ride courteously, safely and with consideration to other users. You would never know I am riding an e-bike if it weren't for the larger bottom bracket. My e-bike allows me to continue to do something I love, to enjoy a healthy and fun activity, outdoors for as long as I can.

587 I totally support motorized assistance if a person has a disability that requires it, but allowing motorized bikes on trails would allow significantly more people on the trails causing even more deterioration of the trails and habitat. Allowing E bikes on paved trails give those who can't power the bike to the level required for off pavement plenty of "nature" on the Centennial Trail.

591 Several years ago, the Federal Gov made the rule that class-1 ebikes are legal on all trails and paths that regular bikes are, and cannot be superseded by other local governments or public entities. What happened to that existing rule?

592 I love my e-bike and I'm very respectful of are trails, I also don't ride out of control which in my opinion helps destroy the paths and makes for a bad reputation for all bikes on our system. Class 1 should be allowed on the trails in my opinion as going faster is very dangerous to both rider and others using the trails

594 E-bikes are a wonderful addition for access to the outdoors. We got an e-bike 3 years for my wife to ride with me. It has been wonderful for her/us. I take the Ebike out when I want to explore. Ours is a class 1 which, for trials, is appropriate. Class 2 and 3 are too much. Pedal assist, in my opinion, should be a requirement for trail access. Class 2 e bikes are nothing short of a motorcycle.

595 E bike riders should have the same privileges and be subject to the same rules as human powered bike riders.

596 Ebikes should be allowed virtually everywhere bicycles are allowed. Not everybody is an athelete

597 I'm worried about people who walk their dogs on the narrow paths (on leash) and the speed of Bikes,,both e and manual

599 Traditional mountain bikes and hiking are a tenuous combination at best. I've been nearly hit having to jump out of the way multiple times. E-bikes only bring in less capable riders with a heavier vehicle going faster. In short, E-Bikes only make a poor situation worse. It has gotten to the point that if there are bikes allowed, I don't hike there anymore.

600 We are seniors who enjoy bike riding on paved and unpaved trails. We have fat tire e-bikes and would love to ride on all trails in Spokane County. It keeps us healthy and we get to enjoy our beautiful area! Thank you.

601 Cat 1, not different from standard mountain bike.

ResponseID Response

- 602 The growth of E bikes shows this need on all trails.
- 603 I am concerned about the potential damage to trails on hilly portions within the Spokane County Parks when being used by E bikes.
- 604 There are plenty of places for people to ride e-bikes but vanishingly few places in the Spokane area for quiet walks and where wildlife is less disturbed. Those of us (a majority, I think, even if many won't see this survey) who prefer muscle-powered recreation, quiet walks, and nature observation are increasingly being excluded from local public lands.
- 606 I'm an AVID road biker, 2500 miles a year but when I'm on a TRAIL I want NO PART of having a motorcycles charging up behind me in the middle of nowhere. Make no mistake, THESE ARE MOTORCYCLES! The reason I go on trails is to ESCAPE the motors of the world! Just because there's a cute little "e-" in the name, doesn't change a darned thing. NO DON'T allow them on ANY trails!
- 607 Older folks like to ride ,but age slows many down. E assist gets folks out doing what they love. We are both in our early 70's. My wife rides daily. however do to a leg injury i cant go with her very far. I got a E-Bike & now we can go together & enjoy our golden years.I run into many older folks or people with handicaps riding E-bikes..
- 608 I live on the centennial trail and many bike riders go really fast and it's hard to get out of their way. Plus bike riders park illegally and don't purchase discover passes. I Love Riverside state park but we have a lot of riders and drivers that don't follow the speed limit rules or allow you to cross 7 mile road. Thank you for considering neighborhood input.
- 610 e-bikes have plenty of paved trail and street options for use. Natural surface trails should in general be reserved for people-powered use. It might be nice to create specified areas for e-bike use on natural trails, akin to the ORV areas in some of our state parks. In general, leave the natural surface trails for hikers, runners and traditional mountain bike riders.
- 611 Yes for ebikes.
- 612 We have enough problems with the reckless mtn bikers who do not follow the trail rules. As an ultra runner I have to really worry, not about the trails, but the reckless bikers and this will only add more problems!
- 613 E-Bikes allow people of all abilities to enjoy our bike trails and outdoors. They have the same impact a regular bike would have on any trail so if a regular pedal bike can be used there so should an E-bike.
- 615 Please no E-Bikes where non-motorized vehicles are not allowed!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

ResponseID Response

616 Just a comment about the mountain bike ruts at Saltese Conservation trails. So deep you can't walk on them. Also, I would hope to be able to go to these parks to get away from noise!

617 Class one bikes don't put any more wear and tear on the trails than regular mountain bikes, and they allow for a greater diversity of skills and ages to continue to enjoy the park system.

618 I am a 73-year-old senior and having an e-bike has allowed me to continue riding even as my body gets older. I enjoy riding the Spokane natural areas, especially Saltese Uplands, Antoine Peak, and Liberty lake area. I don't ride any different now that I ride an E-Bike than I did when I rode a regular mountain bike. I have a throttle but always pedal and only use the throttle to add my desired amount of assistance on inclines. My primary source of power is pedaling. Unless you spotted the battery you would never know I was riding with a little assistance. E-Bikes do not peel out or damage the trails in any way. Most skidding (which is discouraged as a bad riding habit) occurs while proceeding downhill and E-Bikes do not go faster downhill than regular mountain bikes because both are assisted by gravity. It is not uncommon for regular bikes to exceed 20 miles per hour while downhill and I would be in favor of posting a 20 MPH speed limit on all-natural trails. I have been passed by regular mountain bike riders many times while proceeding downhill. I have been riding mountain bikes for 45 years and will tell you that other than slightly faster uphill speeds on steep slopes there is NO DIFFERENCE in the riding habits of mountain bikes and E-Bikes so they should both be allowed on the trails approved for bikes. I have never ridden a type 3 bike so my remarks apply to type 1 and 2.

619 Because e-bike speeds are similar to normal bikes being pedaled as fast as possible, they should be regarded as a bicycle and given speed guidance when pedestrians are likely to be at risk. Since riders are the dangerous component in both cases, treat all bikes as equal.

620 Class 1 e-bikes are compatible with and have the same capabilities as non-electric bikes. I think that should qualify them to be used on all trails currently allowing non-electric bikes. Class 2&3 e-bikes are more comparable with the speeds and power associated with motorcycles, and therefore should not be allowed on trails currently allowing non-electric bikes.

621 Please keep some areas free of e-bikes. I'm fine with them on a limited number of trails. Thanks!

623 Trails that allow horseback riders As well as hikers small children bicycle riders would provide a safety issue I've been run into by bike riders on regular Bikes not adhering to safe operators. Trails Are already congested Next it will be electric scooters Then electric side by sides So just don't go the path

ResponseID Response

- 624 As the use of eBikes has increased over the last 2 years, I think they should be allowed on trail surfaces. There are so many of us seniors riding them now. Most of us are careful and responsible riders. I don't see it as a problem in regards to tearing up the trails. It's not like an eBike is a motor bike! I think we should definitely be permitted to ride our eBikes on the surface trails in our city and county parks. I am 66 years old woman. I ride a commuter Class 1 eBike. I just purchased a Class 2 eBike because it has front shocks on it for gravel trails, of which there are many in our Inland NW. It was one that was available in a step through style with front shocks. I didn't buy it to go 28 mph without peddling. I don't think most people are reckless. I think most people who are riding on trails love the trails/parks and want to sustain them for future generations. EBikes enable seniors to enjoy our parks, and recreation areas and to exercise and maintain our health. It would be so great to access more trails. What a great plus to our community for residents and visitors to our county.
- 625 It would be sad to see e bikes not allowed.
- 626 We have too many different uses going on with the existing trail system ie.horses runners walkers mountain biking cross country skiing don't open the door for something else. The trails are congested enough as it is plus there is insufficient parking at trailheads
- 627 Ebikes cause no more damage or sound than regular bikes. I ride regularly with regular bike riders. There is little difference.
- 629 E-bikes must adhere to all the rules and regs that apply to regular bikes and should really be limited to ten mph for compatibility with other users. Note that I am a bike rider though mostly prefer to walk in conservation areas and natural park areas. Maybe you could put a restriction on powered bike use restricting them to disabled people only.< G>
- 630 E-biking allows my aging father to stay in the sport and remain healthy.
- 632 The E-bike has opened up the ability for my wife to accompany me via bicycle. Our bikes do not stress the trails any more than an ordinary bicycle. It allows those of us who are older to continue to remain active which provides valuable health and fitness benefits for us.
- 633 There should be NO difference in rules between e-bikes and regular bikes!
- 634 As an Avid Mountain Biker, I fully accept the concept of Ebikes. They are the future. They cause no more harm than a non-electric mountain bike. They allow those unable or incapable of peddling to enjoy the outdoors. Ebike do not leave a carbon footprint like internal combustion motor cycles. They are quite and do not disturb wildlife. If Speed is a concern, speed limit signs can be posted, as are done for motorists. That is the only established and approved method for attempts to regulate speed.
- 636 Class 1 bikes are wonderful, my wife's road/gravel bike allows her to enjoy her life-long passion of bike riding now that her back would limit her ability.

ResponseID Response

637 28 mph unassisted seems too fast for folks sharing trails with regular and the pedal assist e bikes, definite no on class 3 for me. Thanks for doing a survey!

641 Most e-bikers are environmentally friendly and conscious commuters. We ride safely and should be treated the same as mountain bikers, don't ticket everyone because of a few morons :).

642 Spokane County only wants to accommodate the people that are lazy and don't want to use the land as it is intended. What about all the people than can't afford one of these expensive machines. Leave conservation land as it is. also if electric bikes are allowed when are you going to make golf carts legal or are you going to discriminate against them???

644 We are over 68 yrs. old. We ride Class 1 E bikes. I have knee issues and cannot walk on lengthy trails. I can however ride my ebike. It allows me to get outdoors and enjoy the animals and scenery of our beautiful public lands. We average 8-12 miles an hour ourselves and have not seen anyone on e bikes abuse the parks.

645 At 76 years old, I and many other seniors who enjoy trail riding no longer have the physical endurance to operate a pedal only bicycle, especially when steeper inclines are involved like the Beacon Hill trail system in Spokane. But the ebike which provides electric assist up these trails have opened up a whole new world to us. I can do the Beacon Hill trails on my ebike. We don't go fast, we don't tear up the trails, the name of the game is to get there safely. We pay for these properties via taxes; there should be no reason we can't use them. A class 2 ebike should be allowed to go anywhere a pedal only bike can go.

646 Damage on trails is speed and operator ...not e-bike vs. other bikes.

648 Strongly support allowing pedal assist ebike use on county parks property. Inclusiveness is good. Contrary to some misconceptions: a pedal assist is NOT a motorized vehicle and has no throttle nor the option to add one. State parks allows all pedal assist bicycles, and county parks should also.

651 My 80 year old mother and 50 year old disabled sister both recently purchased e bikes and now have the ability to enjoy many trail adventures with myself and my children. It has been life changing!

652 By looking at an e-bike you can not tell what class it falls into. On hard surface trails I've noticed regular bike going faster than any e-bike can go. On my natural surface rides with a class 1 mountain bike I average around 5 mph. The mountain e-bike has allowed me to ride trails I never would have known existed, it has opened up a whole new riding venue for me and people my age.

654 Please consider that any restriction on e-bikes should be based on documented environmental impacts or documented user safety issues. In my experience this issue quickly becomes one based primarily on emotion exacerbated by lack of familiarity with the technology. Great survey! Thanks for asking.

ResponseID Response

655	I am not opposed to providing separate trails for E-Bikes but I do not think hikers and E-Bikes should have to share the same trails.
656	Damage to the flora & fauna, noise pollution. We need sanctuary from the noise and speed of city life.
660	The most damage I see on trails is from horses. If a trail allows mountain bikes, then ebikes will not wear out the trail any faster than mountain bikes, and allows older, less physically able people to enjoy the trails.
662	We can all share the trail (e.g. share the road) with rules for safety.
663	I was only allowed to choose one reason why I don't think e-bikes should be allowed on trails. My main concern is my safety. I have almost been hit once. And, startled several times. I also believe they should be banned because they are motorized vehicles. It's a slippery slope. If electric motors are allowed, then why not gas-powered motors. Keep it simple. 100% human or horse powered.No exceptions.
664	I've almost been hit by mountain bikers flying through trails at way faster speeds than these evokes go. If you allow those mountain bikes you should allow ebikes. depends on the rider to decide how they will act on the trail, not the equipment.
667	I am not an e-bike user or owner. I am considering purchasing one for my mother who is in her 60's. If there is a piece of technology that encourages anyone to get out on the trails I'm all for it. In addition there is no technology that will encourage or discourage good manners. People who abuse trails or litter will still do so. We need more efforts towards conservation and do all that we can to educate and encourage proper trail use.
668	Ebike owners pay taxes too! We support trail construction and maintenance, and pay for trailhead parking permits. These are our trails too. Simple as that.
669	Natural means non-motorized, simple as that.
670	the biggest issue could result in higher speeds from the e bike. this can be regulated by speed limit laws on the trail. these bikes allow older people such as my self a chance to still get out and enjoy the outdoors and still give me as much exercise as my old body will allow. They're a great ride.
672	Question 5 is wrong, the 3rd description is misleading. (On a class 1 you must peddle).
673	Dangerous for the e-bike user too. Control of a bike with assist can lead to very dangerous situation of losing control among other inherent dangers of throttle based recreation. No physiological limitations open the doors to many who don't learn riding skills through a natural process of native exertion.

ResponseID Response

- 674 If an area is designed to accommodate bicycle traffic in general, ebikes should be allowed. This opens up more accessibility to the areas for people who might not be able to use traditional bicycles. Speed limits may be appropriate for safety concerns, although that is true with non-ebikes as well.
- 675 An E-Bike is a motorized vehicle. It's bad enough having mountain bikes sneak up behind you.
- 676 E-bikes open up and give access to our great outdoors to those who might otherwise not have the ability or endurance to explore.
- 678 I am of the generation that mountain biking became very popular (60 years old) and now that I am older I am not able to enjoy the extent of mountain biking as much due to age. If e-bikes are not allowed on trails, you are creating people who have biked their whole adult life to not being able to enjoy the trails any longer, or have a ton of offenders, of which I would be one.
- 681 E-bikes on natural surface trails conflict with ANY other users such as walkers, hikers, and horseback riders. They go too fast for other users to avoid or for the e-bike riders to react to other users of trails. They should not be allowed on natural surface trails in general. It is hard enough to avoid them on paved bike trails in Spokane, Spokane Valley, and Spokane County.
- 682 Our wild areas are at risk from all sides: development, over-use, and mis-use. I am formally trained in erosion science, and I seriously worry for the nearby waterways, rare and delicate plants, and wild critters who would be impacted by motorized (even if it's electric) travel on these natural surfaces. The decision to allow any kind of e-bike on natural surfaces WILL lead to more erosion, and our environment cannot handle it. There is no more money allocated to maintenance, seeding, or restoration with this decision. So it is not a trade-off with any benefit to the environment or to those already using these trails.
- 683 While everyone should have access (and they do via bipedalism), cycling should require some effort; Class 2 bikes are really just electric motorcycles, and Class 3 bikes which assist up to 28 MPH are way too fast & due to their speed endanger walkers/hikers, equestrians & other mtn bikers
- 684 We are moving to Spokane area next year and my ebike is my primary exercise, entertainment and focus of avoiding vivid problems. I am 67 years old
- 689 Assist bikes should be allowed anywhere for anyone over 65 years of age.

ResponseID Response

690 I hike with my family every weekend in the area, from County Parkland to State Parkland and everything in between. Ebikes have run us off the road, come into contact with my children, and generally go much faster than regular bikes. Although some of the ebike riders have been gracious, many are NOT and have told my family that we should get out of their way. I am an avid mountain biker too, and I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to ebikes being used on any natural trail system. They already are using the trails and have put my family in danger multiple times. What recourse do I have? Why should an 8 year old have to be in danger because of some nitwit with an ebike comes crashing on the trail? This isn't just a lack of education on the part of the ebikers, but an arrogance and entitlement. Please put the majority of people in mind, and do NOT allow ebikes on any natural trail system.

691 How will the County enforce whatever decision it makes? I'm not a big fan of unenforceable mandates. What is the State Parks position on e-bikes? How about the city of Spokane? How are you going to avoid confusion?

692 Fees or permits are acceptable for use of eBikes. Keeping to Class 1 bikes and maintaining lower speeds will assist in potential trail damage. The bikes are heavier and could do damage to the trail surface at higher speeds.

693 ebike riders tend to have power that propels them beyond their skill level

694 Ebikes too easily allow novice bikers to access terrain beyond their ability.

695 The equestrian users don't clean up after themselves, spreading non native species. Why are they ok almost everywhere.

697 I am very concerned about the increased congestion, erosion, and impacts to wildlife as a result of e-bike use in natural areas that are accessible only by natural surface trails.

698 E bikes are here to stay and we need to amend our outdated regs. E bikes get people out exercising and we should doing everything possible to support this. Insist on speed lmts for regulation rather than outright bans as human powered bucyclists can be just as dangerous when riding at high speeds!

700 E-bikes (and mountain bikes) increase the human footprint (the distance one can travel), thereby harming the wildlife by driving them out of their preferred habitat. That is UNACCEPTABLE!

701 No

703 Mixing motorized and non-motorized bikes on shared trails is a recipe for conflict.

705 I am 84 and stopped riding at 75 because of bad knees. With my e bike I am back riding. Pedal assist keeps me going.

708 Trails need to be marked well and consistent rules.

ResponseID Response

709	e-bikes will help more people access our trail system. this will create more trail users.
710	Ebikes provide a way for older riders to enjoy the trail. I think that there is no significant difference between an e-bike to a standard bike. Most other trail users I meet have no idea I am riding an e-bike.
712	They're actually motorcycles. Their weight can't be handled by a lot of riders and put so much risk of injury to both the rider and experienced fellow riders on the trail. Thank you for having this survey.
713	Do not cave to the push by mountain biking special interests that is pushing people to take this survey. Most hikers do not even know about this survey -- you need to do a better job of getting out the word! Otherwise you will be bombarded by bikers pushing their agenda which is in direct conflict with what is best for the environment, wildlife and pedestrians. Thank you.
715	Studies should account for the fact that bikers cover 4x the miles of hikers and e-bikes cover 6-8 times the miles - so their impacts to trails are 4-8 times that of hikers. Add to that their custom of "shredding" on curves and the damage is intense.
717	Some of us would not be able to participate without our ebikes, so you're basically deciding weather to exclude us or not.
718	I would recommend the stipulation that e-bike users be required to yield to all other trail users including traditional mountain bikes, but they should not be prohibited.
720	If individuals want to use their e-bikes then they should do so on paved and designated areas. Our natural trail systems shouldn't be allowed for any motorized vehicles unless designated.
721	This area is primarily bikers, that is why it seems acceptable here. Other areas where hikers/horseback riders are seem like a big area of conflict.
729	My feedback on which areas should allow ebikes is not very informed. I checked 'yes' on the ones that I am familiar with, and which seem open enough that they would probably not cause a conflict with hikers. Some of the others may be OK as well - I just don't know.
733	I think the slower e-bike should be allowed anywhere mountain bikes are allowed
737	Thanks for asking for the public's input!
738	My reasoning behind letting class one only is that those individuals who normally would not be able to recreate outside on a bike or anything in general ebike is essentially a tool to assist them to recreate outside it breaks down a barrier so they can get outside and get active and I can support that

ResponseID Response

740 eBikes will maintain/extend my ability to use trails as I age. Would like to be allowed to use them on all trails/surfaces that allow bikes. Class 3 bikes may be appropriate for paved trails, but have some concern regarding top speeds they can attain on natural surface trails. At top speeds can they stop in time to avoid collisions with other users on a natural surface trail?

741 Thank you for asking for public comment

742 With e-bikes allowed on all trails more people are going to have the capabilities to attempt ridding beyond their level. This leads to safety issues for them and anyone else on the trail

743 My 75 year old father purchased an e-bike so that he can remain active. He's unable to pedal up sustained hills anymore without assist and is perfect example of a case where we should not tell him that he can't use the trails that he's been supporting his whole life.

746 Most users utilize E-bikes for going uphill and rely on gravity for going downhill. No need for any regulations. Allow PEDAL ASSIST E-bikes on all trails and areas that allow bicycles. Put a speed limit on specific trails that have documented conflicts with other user groups.

747 We don't need additional regulations, management of ebikes should be same as bicycles. Allowed everywhere bicycles are allowed. Unchecked ATV motorized use and abuse at Antoine and Mica Peak should be curbed and enforced before beginning any discussions on adding regulations to non motorized users! Ridiculous!!!

750 I'm concerned about the speed and the noise and the danger to hikers and wildlife.

752 I have enough issues with disrespectful bikers on trails not calling warning, going to fast near people and animals, and cutting new trails. Most parks have NO way to deal with these issues - no enforcement until a person actually gets hurt, IF the bicyclist gets caught. Keep nature protected- there are plenty of other places to ride bikes, E or otherwise.

755 Allowing E bikes on all Spokane County trails that allow mountain bikes will open up these areas to people who could not otherwise access them. I do not believe the arguments against E bikes overrides the benefits of increasing trail access for more people.

758 I feel that is the same rules for bicycles are followed it is ok. There are going to be users that normally could not use the trails that now have the opportunity with power assistance.

762 I don't like any bikes on the trails, there should be separate mountain bike trail areas

765 E bikes do not damage the trails, they help riders get out and enjoy nature

766 They would be great on gravel roads and some paved roads

ResponseID Response

767	I believe e-bikes can create new biking opportunities for people with physical limitations. Many assisted cyclists can now join their friends and families on bikes, which previously wasn't possible on un-assisted bikes. Spokane County should continue to support inclusive sports like biking.
770	had a very close call on mt spokane, where bikes were riding a trail at very high speeds...these are not Ebikes.just regular bikes the dirt trail was so messed up by the bicyclists that it was difficult to walk on. We ended up hiking the 'edge' almost into the brush....just to stay out of the way of a 'bike' if it came, because the bikes were coming to fast, and we were having to 'jump' aside as soon as we heard or saw one. 'sharing' the natural trail with walkers/hikers/ and small children would be dangerous.
772	Please no!!
773	Allowing e-bikes on these trails only opens the door to more motorized activity. There would be no way to police the speed or class of bike. Most of the trails already have a 15 mph speed limit which is frequently surpassed by bikers.
775	Education at trailheads is important. Share the trail, be considerate as everyone has a different experience they desire from their outdoor experience A horse accessible trail should not have ebikes Ebikes may offer active people with injuries or disabilities to enjoy the outdoors. having a place for the adrenaline seekers that is set up for them would help avoid some clashes of interests.
776	I'm an amputee. my younger days of hiking has passed. I would love to be able to get out in nature and have a little extra power to get up the hills
780	Allow pedal assist on every trail
781	N/A
782	I believe that the trails should be all none motorized. Period.
783	E bikes are motorized and should only be allowed on paved trails.
785	The impact on wildlife is detrimental.
789	Nature trails should be for hiking and running only! Horses should be kept off of trails also since they leave large piles of manure that people have to walk around. Bikes of all kinds and horses should be restricted to designated areas only.
793	I live in Idaho and I would travel over and spend tourist dollars if officially allowed to use trails on my electric pedal assist mountain bike.
794	Anyone who opposes class 1 has probably never ridden one. It's a gentle assistance, not a full blown engine. I still have to pedal hard to make it up the hills! I also see this as an equity issue, allowing more access to our nature areas for people with disabilities.

ResponseID Response

- 797 Nature trails are there to engage with and appreciate nature. An e bike takes away from all of this. Please don't allow these to pollute these natural spaces.
- 801 While fine on hard surfaces, e bikes allow unconditioned, unexperienced, and unskilled people to get to areas skills, experience, and condition are important to safely recreate. They then endanger other trails users on foot or by bike, as well as themselves. This is a safety issue and that is why I feel they should remain on paved surfaces.
- 802 trails are crowded now. Don't need congestion.
- 803 Ebikes are great for paved trails! We have tons of paths and the Centennial Trail that ebikes can zoom down. But let's leave places like Riverside for those that enjoy the solitude of nature at safe speeds.
- 805 People can ride just as fast without assistance from an ebike. Don't discriminate and limit outdoor recreation Especially for those who need ebikes to continue enjoying their outdoor hobby. Why make things complicated ?! Who will be regulating all of this?
- 807 Just like there are minimum speed limits on a highway in order to keep people safe, our trails used for foot traffic need to be managed to keep people safe. A collision between a pedestrian and an e bike at Max speed would be catastrophic for the pedestrian. I also have lots of children with me when hiking or walking and children can be hard to predict in their movements. I hate to think what would happen if an ebike hit a small person.
- 810 I have spent countless days hiking 5 miles at a time and elevations of 2400' around Spokane. Many times I have encountered mountain bikers on hiking trails who do not follow trail use rules and it's frightening. An ebike can go at increased speeds and becomes even more of a safety factor. I hike for the peaceful outdoor experience, the opportunity to see wildlife and escape motor sports. The very word 'motor' should be enough to distinguish from self powered outdoor activity and access. The wildlife is already being pushed out of their habitat in areas allowing motorized recreational vehicles. If ebike assist is needed on hiking trails then they shouldn't be there and one might expect an increase in injuries among those needing assistance on such trails. Lots of unexpected obstacles exist in forested trails. There are plenty of paved roads and dirt/logging roads for motorized bikes. They should be separate from hiking trails where self powered walking or biking is expected. Is it possible to be content with our ability to ride where we are able to do so under our own muscle power? I'm sure there is quite a bit of pressure and money being offered by the makers of ebikes and bike shops to allow this new use, but there is a place for them and it's not on existing non-motorized trails.
- 811 In another 10-12 years as I age, I'll probably use an ebike myself. I think pedal assisted is fine most anywhere, but class 2 and 3 really blur the lines with motorized vehicles. How are they really different in kind than a motorcycle? If you aren't at least pedaling, it isn't really a bike at all. It's a motorcycle.
- 813 These are not much different than dirt bikes, just slightly smaller. They should not be allowed on trails that don't allow dirt bikes.

ResponseID Response

814 Freedom should be the default.

816 I dont hate e-bikes. they just dont belong on trails. It doesnt even make sense. Trails are not roads... so nothing motorized should be on them at all.

817 It is dangerous enough to be hiking and to have a mountain biker come upon you at a high speed. With an e-assist bike, this only makes the encounter that much more dangerous for hikers. I know, I have encountered people on e-bikes at Dishman and Glenrose. If there were dedicated, posted, trails for Mountain bikes, like at Beacon Hill, then that would be different.

819 ebikes aren't a problem and allows more people to get outside, get fresh air and sunshine, and be healthier. There's room for all of us

820 I think there should be separate equestrian trails, where horses can be kept away from any sort of bicycle.

821 I go on trails to bird and enjoy wildlife. It should be a peaceful place. I am concerned that the motorized bike would disrupt the wildlife and erode the trails. The last thing I want to encounter on a trail is a motorized bike.

828 I would like to see enforced speed limits on ebikes when they are used on sidewalks or the centennial trail. Especially the "Lime bikes" and scooters.

829 Bikes destroy the trail surface and create dust and grooves. Also some people shot cut trail to destroy nature. If we allow them in nature area, we should charge extra text and/or fee.

830 Difficult and costly to repair trail damage from motor vehicles

831 I've got hit by mountain bikes screaming down trails a few times while hiking, this seems like it would make that worse. I'm not as hard line on this when it comes to people with disabilities using them that need an ebike just to access an area that's otherwise inaccessible, but general use of ebikes on trails seems like a bad idea.

839 Trails are becoming more and more crowded. With all of the developments coming in that usage will only increase. There has to be some place to go that is still "natural".

840 I plan to buy an e-bike for use on paved surfaces only.

841 I might be ok with Class 1, but you really can't trust people to be honest about what they are riding so NO EBIKES.

843 E bikes allow those with limitations to access natural areas. They should be allowed anywhere a bicycle is allowed.

845 Ebikes are quiet and not that much different from regular mountain bikes, just faster when going uphill. They should be allowed and encouraged everywhere.

ResponseID Response

846	Responsible users are the key. I'm not against e-bikes, just "crazy" people on e-bikes. That very small percentage could ruin it for everyone.
848	Increase the budget for trail maintenance and allow class 1 e-bikes.
849	I am also concerned for the degradation of the trails under motorization and also for the sounds of motorization disturbing the natural habitat.
853	I'm concerned about impacts on wildlife and the trails condition. Keep motorized vehicles off the natural areas and trails. Earn your turn!
859	Bicycles are bicycles. Citizens are citizens. E-bikes are simply a means of allowing (assisting) elderly or disabled people (who don't have the physical stamina that younger able-bodied bike riders have) to enjoy the publicly owned lands (all accessible trails, both paved and natural surface) with the same opportunity as younger and more able-bodied citizens. This is exactly the same logic that the ADA applies to require lifts on public transportation vehicles. Everyone has equal rights on public facilities.
862	I also trail ride and am concerned about safety for horse and rider.
864	I think they should be allowed on paved trails only. Definitely no single track. Super dangerous to mix these bikes with equestrian used trails.
865	Well I appreciate the popularity of e-bikes and I believe we should provide access to all potential trail users, allowing e-bikes on popular hiking trails will just stretch an already strained relationship between trail users. The sustained speeds that can be maintained on even the class one e-bike are much higher than you'll see by other mountain bikers. While not all issues between trail users are related to speed, certainly the increased speed of these bicycles won't help.
866	All of the reasons listed in the previous question are relevant. Bikers using natural paths should be reliant on their own power and ability to undertake a trail. Allowing e-bikes also completely misrepresents what getting back into nature is; by relying on an electric vehicle to mountain bike you are essentially making more people reliant on nature polluting electricity!
868	You will never be able to have humans comply to rules, regulations, the law. Example: driving while using a cell phone, humans drinking & driving or smoking pot while driving. Good luck on banning E bikes on dirt trails, this Questioner was what this is all about.
869	I love my bike and use it for commuting and fun. I think Spokane could benefit greatly by allowing others to use their bikes freely, regardless of type.
873	Not safe at all on natural surfaces
874	There are plenty of trails for e-bikes. Allowing them on trails where people hike, run, ride horses, etc is absolutely dangerous! THERE IS NO REASON FOR THEM TO BE ALLOWED! ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPENING

ResponseID Response

875 They should be allowed anywhere horseback riding and mountain biking are.

877 I feel like some trails don't have enough room for all and ebikes pose a risk.

878 I think not allowing any e-bikes on natural surface trails makes a cleaner dividing point than trying to figure out what a class 1,2 or 3 bike is and gee, is that legal here, should I say something, etc. Another aspect is that e-bikes are quite heavy which has two consequences: presumably more trail wear and tear; and if one breaks or runs out of batteries way in on a trail, who is going to schlep it out?

880 No bikes should ever be allowed-leave that to the blacktop

881 E bikes are bikes. Don't over think it

882 The only difference my ebike gives me is the ability and pedal assist to get up steep hills without having to get off and walk.

884 e-bikes should only be allowed on natural surface trails for those individuals who are physically disabled, and NEED the assistance to enjoy the outdoors.

885 Just about every time on the trail a bike is flying by and almost hitting me. Bikes should be on certain days only.

886 I am an avid Mountain Biker, but also a hiker. I believe bikers going deeper into natural areas can effect wildlife. I do not ride an Ebike at Mica for this reason, I figure I need to earn the distance I'm reaching. However, I strongly believe rules should have some exceptions. My wife is a cancer survivor who sometimes rides the road portions of Mica with me. The ebike allows her to see areas she would certainly not be able to see without the bike. She needs the Ebike, I don't

889 81 years old. Need some help on the hills.

890 County officials in charge of this decision should try out e-bikes if they haven't already. E-bikes are not a nuisance nor are the dangerous. They do allow us seniors to get out and enjoy more of the outdoors.

896 I am a senior and this allows me the mobility to get out and enjoy nature whereas before it was too strenuous.