

***Comment requested on proposed changes to the directive listed below:***

FSM 7700 – Travel Management

CHAPTER 7710 – TRAVEL PLANNING

7710 - Incorporates new criteria for designating Class 1, 2, and 3 e-bikes to facilitate designation of those three classes of e-bikes on National Forest System (NFS) trails, on NFS roads, and in areas on NFS lands.

**7711.3 - MVUMs and OSVUMs**

6. Use the following eight categories to identify classes of motor vehicles on an MVUM:
  - a. Roads Open to Highway-Legal Motor Vehicles Only. These roads are open only to motor vehicles licensed under State law for general operation on all public roads within the State.
  - b. Roads Open to All Motor Vehicles. These roads are open to all motor vehicles, including smaller off-highway vehicles that may not be licensed for highway use, but not OSVs or vehicles that are oversized or overweight under State traffic law.
  - c. Trails Open to All Motor Vehicles, Including Both Highway-Legal and Non-Highway-Legal Vehicles.
  - d. Trails Open to Motor Vehicles 50 Inches or Less in Width.
  - e. Trails Open to Wheeled Motor Vehicles 50 Inches or Less in Width.
  - f. Trails Open to Motorcycles Only. Sidecars are not permitted.
  - g. Trails Open to E-Bikes Only. Specify the class or classes of e-bikes allowed (Class 1, 2, and/or 3).
  - h. Special Vehicle Designation. This category includes any classes of vehicles that are not listed in FSM 7711.3, paragraphs 6a through 6g.

**7715.03 – Policy**

9. Consider emerging technologies (such as e-bikes) that are changing the way people access and recreate on NFS lands. For example, where suitable for use, e-bikes may provide new opportunities for individuals who might otherwise be prevented from experiencing an NFS trail without assistance from an electrical motor.

### **7715.5 - Criteria**

3. Specific Criterion for Trails. In addition to the general and specific criteria in FSM 7715.5, paragraphs 1 and 2, consider and document existing Trail Management Objectives (TMOs) before making designations of motor vehicle use under Subpart B or OSV use under Subpart C that would add vehicle classes on NFS trails.
4. Specific Criteria and Guidance for Designating E-Bike Use on Trails. In addition to the general and specific criteria in FSM 7715.5, paragraphs 1 through 3, when designating trails for e-bike use (FSM 7705), consider and document the following:
  - a. Whether and the extent to which the trails are managed for bicycle use or bicycle use is allowed (FSM 7705) under the applicable TMOs.
  - b. For trails that are managed for bicycle use or where bicycle use is allowed, the extent to which effects from e-bike use are comparable to effects from existing bicycle use, accounting for, as appropriate, differences in speed; potential effects from increased or concentrated use; and any site-specific considerations.
  - c. Whether a programmatic environmental analysis may be feasible and more efficient due to similarities in effects of bicycle use and e-bike use.

Consider designating a class or classes of e-bike use, as appropriate, on NFS trails managed for bicycle use or where bicycle use is allowed, where effects from e-bike use would be comparable to effects from bicycle use.

E-bikes are not allowed on a National Scenic Trail unless a regulatory exception authorized by the National Trails System Act is met or there is an exception in the enabling legislation for the trail.

### **7715.72 - Road and Trail Jurisdiction and Coordination**

8. On routes crossing multiple jurisdictions, coordinate travel management decisions and operational practices with appropriate Federal, State, county, and other local governmental entities and Tribal governments to provide continuity of recreation experiences.