

Dear Grand County Commission,

On behalf of Trail Mix, the trail advisory committee to the Grand County Commission, we are writing to express our support for **Alternative B – Class 1 E-bikes Allowed on Some Proposed Trails**, as outlined in the Draft Authorization of Class 1 E-bikes on Designated Mountain Bike Trails Environmental Assessment (EA). While Alternative B does not perfectly align with every aspiration of our committee, we believe it represents the most responsible and balanced approach to integrating Class 1 e-bikes into Moab's trail network at this time, and it closely mirrors the recommendations we previously submitted to the Grand County Commission last year.

We appreciate the BLM's being thorough and considering various alternatives in this EA. Trail Mix recognizes the increasing popularity of e-bikes and the potential for these devices to expand recreational opportunities for a diverse range of users, including those with physical limitations, injuries, or age-related considerations who may no longer be able to enjoy traditional mountain biking to the same extent. The EA notes that **83% of public comments supported the allowance of Class 1 e-bikes**, indicating a huge community desire for expanded access.

Alternative B's phased approach, authorizing Class 1 e-bikes on **114 miles of identified mountain bike trails** initially, is a strategy we support. This allows for monitoring and management, addressing concerns about public safety, user experience, and potential trail or resource impacts before increased implementation. The ability to use observations from Phase 1 to implement mitigation measures for Phase 2 is crucial and demonstrates a commitment to responsible trail management.

Furthermore, we appreciate Alternative B for its goal to **preserve 116 miles of singletrack trails for traditional mountain bike-only experiences**. This acknowledges our desires for a segment of the mountain biking community that values the perceived non-motorized character of certain trails and seeks specific recreational outcomes. This balance is vital for maintaining the diverse recreational appeal of the Moab area.

We understand the challenges of enforcement, especially concerning non-Class 1 e-bikes and aftermarket modifications. The adaptive management measures, including enhanced public outreach and a BLM/GCATT managed report system, are important steps in addressing these concerns.

In conclusion, Trail Mix believes Alternative B provides a thoughtful and adaptable system for introducing Class 1 e-bikes to a large portion of Moab's trail systems. It offers expanded recreational opportunities while incorporating essential monitoring and mitigation strategies to protect our valuable natural resources and ensure positive user experiences for all. We urge the Grand County Commission to recommend Alternative B as the chosen course of action to the Moab BLM field office

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Trail Mix Trail Advisory Committee to the Grand County Commission