

The Future of E-Bikes on Public Lands

Call for Case Studies



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Background

Recreational use on public lands is constantly evolving, driven by economic and societal factors coupled with advances and changes in technologies. Recent and popular advancements include the introduction of electric bicycles (e-bikes) to public lands transportation and trail systems. Public land managers and agencies across the country have reacted in different ways to these new technologies, some in support and others seeking to prohibit access. The e-bike industry and advocates have pushed for increased access and integration of e-bikes into existing public lands transportation and trail systems. Further study is needed to understand the impact of e-bikes on public lands to inform data-driven decision making and effective management practices.

The purpose of this [Federal Highway Administration research project](#) is to analyze the impacts of e-bikes on public lands by synthesizing the existing knowledge base and conducting outreach to public lands managers and user groups to identify priorities and opportunities for research.

Call for Case Studies

Do you know of an example of how public land managers, advocacy groups, and public land users (both in favor and opposed) have addressed the topic of e-bikes on public lands? If so, the project team wants to hear from you. We are looking for case studies that touch on one or more of the topics listed below.

1. **Natural (Ecological, Cultural, and Historical Resources):** impacts on ecological, cultural, and historical resources, and opportunities related to environmental and preservation benefits
2. **Safety:** injury risks both for e-bike users and other (non-e-bike) public lands users, and opportunities related to e-bike use for emergency response and safety management administration
3. **Social:** impacts to current public land uses and user experiences; risks related to evolving e-bike technology; challenges related to communication, education, and enforcement; and opportunities related to increased access and accessibility
4. **Process:** responses related to the alignment of users, activities, and public land locations, and coordination among multiple agencies

Submit Case Study Idea

Case Study Ideas are due by June 25, 2021

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