

**From:** [Moses Vaughan](#)  
**To:** [ebikes@marinwater.org](mailto:ebikes@marinwater.org); [Board Comment](#)  
**Subject:** I too strongly support the Board's existing position on banning e-bikes on MMWD lands  
**Date:** Monday, June 24, 2024 2:22:24 PM

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I strongly support the Board's existing position on banning e-bikes on MMWD lands. Reversing the position would be short-sighted.

E-bikes have the potential to negatively impact the environment, with uphill speeds of up to 20 miles per hour on sensitive trails and dirt fire roads.

Their presence adversely affects existing passive recreational use, especially hiking and bird-watching.

Although I am sympathetic to the desires of mobility-impaired users to gain greater wilderness access, traveling faster and faster could result in much more serious accidents that put greater strain on emergency services.

I would also remind the board of the economic impact for the district, as e-bikes on the watershed would require additional financial and staff resources to enforce compliance and maintain trails.

With an eye to the future, as the use of e-bikes becomes more prevalent, the damage and dangers would grow exponentially. What might seem like a small change in policy could have great long-term negative ramifications as e-bike design is enhanced to be faster and more powerful, and popularity and usage grows.

Thank you.

-Moses Vaughan

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**From:** [terry\\_balestriere](mailto:terry_balestriere@marinwater.org)  
**To:** [ebikes@marinwater.org](mailto:ebikes@marinwater.org); [Board Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Bike access to trails  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 26, 2024 3:35:31 PM

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I just read the MMWD is planning to allow access to bikes/ebikes to 14 trails. You folks must not get out on the trails very much. Because if you did, you would know that people have been riding their bikes on trails for years. They like to ride off trail, make their own trails, and ride recklessly as it is. I know I've had to jump out of the way of a speeding bike plenty of times over the years which is why I stopped hiking in the watershed a few years ago. They have created so much erosion they make it impossible to walk on trails without turning an ankle. They have disregarded the watershed rules and disrespected other trail users and so for this remarkable behavior, they are now rewarded with sanctioned access to trails. And why stop at bikes/ebikes, how about motorcycles. After all, there's not much difference between an ebike and a motorbike, aside from size and speed. I guess this is in perfect alignment with all the other bad decisions made in this county and state as a whole. Unbelievable.

I remember some years ago MMWD stated they were "not a recreation provider". So when did that change? And, more importantly, why did that change? So because ebikes are a trend, you knuckle under pressure from certain groups who swear they will be "stewards" of the land. Right. People who like to just walk the trails, bird watch, and just be quiet can go to hell, I guess. I don't need to go on about the degrading of the environmental quality and aesthetic character of these fragile ecosystems because you know all about it. Bike users have not followed rules in the past so why would they bother to start now, now that they are being given permission to continue what they have been doing. And, of course, everyone knows there's pretty much no patrolling of trails as it is, so who exactly is going to ensure everyone follows the new rules?

At least use some common sense and make it mandatory that bikes and ebikes, in particular, be licensed and insured because I've no doubt there will be lots of injuries to pedestrians and cyclists alike. You folks are real geniuses.