With an e-bike, bicyclists can ride more often, farther, and for more trips.

Electric bicycles are designed to be as safe as traditional bicycles, do not compromise consumer safety, and benefit bicyclists who may be discouraged from riding a traditional bicycle due to limited physical fitness, age, disability or convenience.

In many states, e-bikes are regulated under antiquated laws primarily aimed at combustion engine vehicles such as mopeds or scooters. PeopleForBikes is clarifying state laws governing the use of e-bikes in the U.S. Every state’s law is different, but the objective is to ensure that low-speed e-bikes are regulated similarly to traditional, human-powered bicycles.

OREGON’S E-BIKE LAW

OREGON’S E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD

» E-bikes are classified as “electric assisted bicycles,” and are regulated like bicycles, so long as the bicycle’s motor has a maximum power output of 1,000w, has pedals that propel the bike with human power and the bike doesn’t exceed 20mph.

» E-bikes are not subject to the registration, licensing or insurance requirements that apply to motor vehicles.

» E-bikes are allowed on bike paths but are not allowed on sidewalks.

» The age minimum for e-bike riders is 16 years.

» E-bike riders are not required to wear a helmet.

OREGON’S E-BIKE LAW FOR TRAILS

» LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.

» STATE: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department does not allow e-bikes on mountain bike trails. Class 1 and 2 e-bikes are allowed on trails that are eight feet or wider, including natural surface trails. Contact the department for the most up to date information.

» FEDERAL: On federal lands, eMTBs are considered motorized vehicles and have access to motorized trails. Contact the US Forest Service Pacific Northwest Regional Office or the BLM Oregon State Office for more information.

eMTB GUIDELINES

» On federal, state, county and local trails, e-mountain bike (eMTB) access varies significantly.

» Generally, any natural surface trail that is designated as open to both motorized and non-motorized uses is also open to eMTBs.

» eMTBs may not be allowed on trails managed for non-motorized activities.

» Do not ride your eMTB in areas where the local rules are unclear. Ride legally and only on authorized trails to show that mountain bikers are responsible trail users.

» When in doubt, ask your local land manager about access to specific trails. Local land rules change frequently.

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* The following Oregon laws are referenced: Or. Rev. Stat. § 801.258; § 814.405; § 814.410; § 807.020

GREAT eMTB RIDES IN OREGON

» Post Canyon
  Hood River I 20 miles

» Elkhorn Crest Loop
  Sumpter I 38.1 miles

» South Fork Walla Walla
  Umatilla National Forest I 18 miles

» Umatilla Rim
  Umatilla National Forest I 35.3 miles

» Little Greyback - Mule Mtn. Loop
  Rogue River National Forest I 17.6 miles

CHECK OUT

» A map of great eMTB rides at peopleforbikes.org/emtb

» eMTB “Adventures” at peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes

Learn more at PeopleForBikes.org/e-bikes

» Blogs and webinars

» E-bike laws around the country

» E-bike statistics and research

» Buying guide

» Retailer materials

» eMTB management resources