OREGON’S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- Electric bicycles 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.

- Electric bicycles are not subject to the registration, licensing or insurance requirements that apply to motor vehicles.

- Electric bicycles are allowed on bike paths but are not allowed on sidewalks.

- The age minimum for electric bicycle riders is 16 years.

- Electric bicycle riders are not required to wear a helmet.

OREGON’S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW FOR TRAILS

- Local: Consult your local land management agency.

- State: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department does not allow electric bicycles on mountain bike trails. Class 1 and 2 electric bicycles 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 U.S. Forest Service Northern Regional Office or the BLM Montana/Dakotas State Office for more information.

eMTB GUIDELINES

- On federal, state, country and local trails, electric 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.

GREAT eMTB RIDES IN OREGON

- Post Canyon
  Hood River | 20 miles

- Umatilla Rim
  Umatilla National Forest | 35.3 miles

With an electric bicycle, 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, electric bicycles 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 electric bicycles in the U.S. Every state’s law is different, but the objective is to ensure that low-speed electric bicycles are regulated similarly to traditional, human-powered bicycles.

Learn more at PeopleForBikes.org/electric-bikes

- Blogs and webinars
- Electric bicycle laws around the country
- Electric bicycle statistics and research
- Buying guide
- Retailer materials
- eMTB management resources

PeopleForBikes.org