



FACT SHEET: Electronic Bikes

GENERAL INFORMATION

The State of California passed AB 1096 which now defines electric bicycles with electric motors of 750 watts or less, also known as e-bikes, as bicycles that have fully operative pedals by human power with an electric motor.

E-bikes are popular with older adults, and with people with limited endurance or who struggle to ride a bike uphill. The electric assistance gives them the boost they need to access trails they might not otherwise be able to enjoy.

E-bikes have been defined in three classes:

CLASS 1	Pedal Assist System (PAS)	Motor Powered Speed Limit (MPSL) 20 MPH
CLASS 2	PAS and Throttle Element	MPSL 20 MPH
CLASS 3	PAS	MPSL 28 MPH

Class 3 e-bikes and e-bikes without a Class 1 or 2 attached label continue to be defined as a motorized vehicle by AB 1096 and are not permitted on bicycle paths or trails. They may be used as a motorized vehicle and are permitted on park roads following all state and county vehicle rules and regulations.

The Department has restricted the use of Class 1 and 2 e-bike at 17 parks and preserves. Signs have been posted at trailheads where e-bikes are prohibited. Class 1 and 2 e-bikes are permitted on all other DPR trails.

DPR is studying the impact of e-bike use on all trails over the next year (May 2019 – 2020) to determine the appropriateness of their continued use in these areas.

There are more powerful electronic bikes that do not have these wattage limits and are not defined by these classifications. These electronic bikes are not permitted on County of San Diego Trails.

The parks listed below are closed to use by e-bikes during the one-year evaluation period for safety and maintenance concerns and will be reevaluated for future use at the conclusion of the evaluation period.

- [Aqua Caliente](#) (campground trails)
- [Dictionary Hill](#)
- [Dos Picos](#) (campground trails)
- [El Capitan Preserve](#) (past the three-mile mark)
- [Felicita Park](#)
- [Flinn Springs Park](#)
- [Hellhole Canyon Preserve](#)
- [Lakeside Linkage](#) (Whitaker Trail)
- [Lindo Lake Park](#)
- [Live Oak Park](#)

- [Otay Lakes Trails](#)
- [Potrero](#) (campground trails)
- [Ramona Grasslands Preserve](#) (Old Survey Road Trail)
- [San Elijo](#)
- [Santa Margarita](#)
- [Sweetwater Regional Park](#) (campground Trails)
- [TJRV Trails](#)
- [William Heise](#) (campground trails)

For more information, contact Dave Knopp, Chief, North Operations, County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation, at 858-966-1371 or dave.knopp@sdcounty.ca.gov.