# **MONTANA'S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW**

# MONTANA'S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- » In Montana, an electric bicycle is defined as an "electrically assisted bicycle," so long as the electric bicycle has a maximum speed of 20mph. The same rules of the road apply to both electric bicycles and human-powered bicycles.
- » Electric bicycles are not subject to the registration, licensing or insurance requirements that apply to motor vehicles.
- » Helmets are not required and there is no age minimum for electric bicycle use. Electric bicycles are allowed on sidewalks and bike paths.

\* The following Montana laws are referenced: Mont. Code § 61-8-102(2)(g)

## **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 authroized 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.

# MONTANA'S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW FOR TRAILS

- » LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.
- » STATE: Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks does not currently have an eMTB policy. Contact the department for the most up to date information. PeopleForBikes is monitoring this policy and will update this document as needed.
- » 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.

#### **CHECK OUT**

- » A map of great eMTB rides at peopleforbikes.org/emtb
- » eMTB "Adventures" at peopleforbikes.org/electric-bikes

## **GREAT eMTB RIDES IN MONTANA**

» Bangtail Divide Bozeman | 25 miles

» Pioneer Loop NRT Wise River | 33.6 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

