

**From:** [Theresa](#)  
**To:** [Clerk of Board](#)  
**Subject:** Against motorized bikes on trails  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 6:20:50 AM  
**Attachments:** [Pines to Mines letter #5.docx](#)

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Sent from my iPhone

## Sample Letter

To: Chair and Members of the Nevada County Board of Supervisors (or your Supervisor as an individual)

From: (name) Nevada County resident, member of Gold Country Trail Council (GCTC)

Date:

cc: Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board

I am writing to express my deep opposition to including any and all references for allowing motorized bikes on the Pioneer Trail and the proposed Pines to Mines trail system in the Environmental analysis funded by Nevada County.

I am one of the 400 local members of Gold Country Trail Council. I hike and ride my horse on the non-motorized Pioneer trail. I volunteer during trail work days and contribute financially to maintain the trail. I feel safe when I hike and ride my horse on the Pioneer trail. I'm grateful to the Nevada County Pioneers who, in 1981 had the inspiration and vision to build this trail for the recreational enjoyment of all Nevada County residents. The Pioneer non-motorized trail is truly one of Nevada County's most treasured jewels.

When I heard the Tahoe Forest Service Supervisor intends to change this wonderful non-motorized trail to allow motorized bikes I could not believe it. The Forest Service's classifies motorized bikes as motorized for good reason.

The vast majority of these trails on Pines to Mines, both the current and proposed trails, are single track and all are bi-directional. Adding higher speed motorized bikes will create user conflict, not to mention serious safety and hazard concerns for the current low speed non-motorized user groups. Motorized vehicles have their place. There are literally hundreds of miles of motorized trails in Nevada County.

Trying to insert a provision in the hefty \$100,000 County-funded Environmental assessment to suddenly allow motorized bikes on non-motorized trails for the Pines to Mines project is absolutely unacceptable and underhanded.

We built the non-motorized Pioneer trail. It was our hard work, dedication and drive. Under no circumstances should a non-elected mid-level bureaucrat unilaterally make this change.

I'm asking the Board of Supervisors to show leadership and not succumb to this dishonest tactic. If the Forest Service wants to consider changing its non-motorized trail policy, it needs to do so independent of the Pines to Mines project and with full transparency and mandated public comment.

Please vote NO on spending tax-payer money for the Environmental assessment if it includes changing non-motorized trails to motorized trails.

I look forward to your support of the GCTC position.

Thank you,  
(name)

**From:** [Willis](#)  
**To:** [ed.scofield@c0.nevada.ca.us](mailto:ed.scofield@c0.nevada.ca.us)  
**Cc:** [Clerk of Board](#)  
**Subject:** E Bikes on non-motorized trails  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 8:02:11 AM

**Dist 2**

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: Nevada County Board of Supervisors  
From: Janet Willis, Nevada County resident, member of Gold County Trails Council (GCTC)  
Date: 7/27/2021  
cc: Clerk of the Board, Julie Patterson Hunter

Nevada County has a rich heritage of agriculture. We celebrate it each year at our renown County Fair, always with a large Equestrian component. Each September we celebrate our Equestrian heritage, when we show off our draft horses and their contribution to the logging and other industries. We have a strong contingent of horse enthusiasts in our community. Forty years ago a group of Nevada County families, both hikers and equestrians, conceived of a trail from above Nevada City to near the Pacific Crest Trail in the Sierra Nevada. Portions of it are along the old Emigrant trail. From that dream they built what became to be known as the Pioneer Trail, all non-motorized.

Many years ago we settled the debate between motorized trails and non-motorized trails (hikers, backpackers, horses, and mountain bikes). Today in our area there are roughly as many motorized trails as non-motorized. Trails were designed and built, with everything in harmony.

Now, the Forest Service is trying to change that harmony and the cooperation between user groups that has developed over the years in Nevada County. Motorized bikes were not the impetus when building the Pioneer trail or contemplated on the Pines to Mines trail. The Tahoe Forest Service Supervisor tried in 2019 to include motorized electric bikes on the Pioneer Trail without due process, were sued and lost. Motorized bikes are now prohibited on the Pioneer Trail.

Once again, the Forest Service supervisor is trying to use a back-door method to add motorized bikes onto non-motorized trails, using the Nevada County Board of Supervisors as his vehicle, through an environmental document. This is a damaging ruse.

The Forest Service has indicated they do not have the manpower to enforce motorized bike classes. Illegal motorized bikes have already been observed on the Pioneer Trail, often at unsafe higher speeds. Increasing motorized bike usage in the area in turn increases safety concerns and decreases the enjoyment of other users. The risk of collision and personal injury with the introduction of high-speed motorized bikes with low-speed users is extreme, resulting in negative outcomes. Improved technology over time will only increase motorized bike power, with no one to regulate it. This will only disenfranchise the original low-speed user groups, such as families with kids, strollers, and dogs. Sadly, our own Nevada county residents will be

overrun by outsiders coming up using the trails. Our GCTC members see it every day, as fewer courtesies are shown on the trail and there are more uneducated users. Legalizing motorized bikes, along with social media marketing of the area, means the trails that we built will be overrun. The vast majority of the current out of area users, drive up for the day, use the trails, and go home.

Ironically, the Forest Service already recognizes combining high-speed users with low-speed hikers, kids, and equestrians is a problem. They are proposing a trail system optimized for bikes on the south side of Highway 20 using Forest Service and NID land.

Nevada County is proposing to spend \$100,000 on an environmental document that will benefit outsiders and destroy our non-motorized trails. Why not allocate those funds to benefit the residents of Nevada County and put it towards fire safety, clearly a higher priority for Nevada County.

The Pioneer Trail will be just fine and continue to be useable by Nevada County residents.

Sincerely,

Janet Willis

**From:** [jeanine wolf](#)  
**To:** [Clerk of Board](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to motorized e bikes on trails  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 9:38:58 AM

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**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: Chair and Members of the Nevada County Board of Supervisors  
From: Jeanine Wolf- member of Gold Country Trail Council (GCTC)  
Date: 7/27/2021  
cc: Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board

I am writing to express my deep opposition to including any and all references for allowing motorized bikes on the Pioneer Trail and the proposed Pines to Mines trail system in the Environmental analysis funded by Nevada County.

I am one of the 400 local members of Gold Country Trail Council. I hike and ride my horse on the non-motorized Pioneer trail. I volunteer during trail work days and contribute financially to maintain the trail. I feel safe when I hike and ride my horse on the Pioneer trail. I'm grateful to the Nevada County Pioneers who, in 1981 had the inspiration and vision to build this trail for the recreational enjoyment of all Nevada County residents. The Pioneer non-motorized trail is truly one of Nevada County's most treasured jewels.

When I heard the Tahoe Forest Service Supervisor intends to change this wonderful non-motorized trail to allow motorized bikes I could not believe it. The Forest Service's classifies motorized bikes as motorized for good reason.

The vast majority of these trails on Pines to Mines, both the current and proposed trails, are single track and all are bi-directional. Adding higher speed motorized bikes will create user conflict, not to mention serious safety and hazard concerns for the current low speed non-motorized user groups. Motorized vehicles have their place. There are literally hundreds of miles of motorized trails in Nevada County.



Trying to insert a provision in the hefty \$100,000 County-funded Environmental assessment to suddenly allow motorized bikes on non-motorized trails for the Pines to Mines project is absolutely unacceptable and underhanded.

We built the non-motorized Pioneer trail. It was our hard work, dedication and drive. Under no circumstances should a non-elected mid-level bureaucrat unilaterally make this change.

I'm asking the Board of Supervisors to show leadership and not succumb to this dishonest tactic. If the Forest Service wants to consider changing its non-motorized trail policy, it needs to do so independent of the Pines to Mines project and with full transparency and mandated public comment.

Please vote NO on spending tax-payer money for the Environmental assessment if it includes changing non-motorized trails to motorized trails.

I look forward to your support of the GCTC position.

  
Jeanine Wolf  




**From:** [Susan Pinsker](#)  
**To:** [Ed Scofield](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk of Board](#)  
**Subject:** Just Say No to Motorized Bikes on the Pines to Mines Trail System  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 8:01:08 AM

Dist 2

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: Ed Scofield, District 2 Supervisor  
From: Susan Pinsker, Nevada County resident, member of Gold County Trail Council (GCTC)  
Date: 7/27/2021  
cc: Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board

I'm opposed to including any reference to allowing any motorized bikes on the proposed Pines to Mines trail system, including the Pioneer trail, as part of an Environmental analysis being paid for by Nevada County taxpayers.

I'm a member of the Gold Country Trails Council, with a membership of over 400 members. I ride my horse on the non-motorized Pioneer trail, and help contribute to its maintenance, physically as well as financially. The Pioneer non-motorized trail is one of the jewels of Nevada Co. I'm grateful to the Nevada County residents who came before me and had the inspiration to build the trail, for their families and Nevada Co. residents, using good old Nevada County ingenuity and perseverance. When I heard the Tahoe Forest Service Supervisor wanted to make our non-motorized trails accessible to motorized bikes I was totally dismayed. The Forest Service considers motorized bikes as motorized vehicles for good reason. Most of the trails are single track and bi-directional. Adding high speed motorized users will create a serious safety and comfort issue for the current designated users. Technology will continue to improve with motorized bikes going faster and covering longer distances, with no Forest Service enforcement. Safety concerns will continue to increase. Slow moving individuals and animals don't mix with fast moving motorized bikes. Furthermore, motorized vehicles pose a fire hazard, something we clearly need to avoid at all costs.

Trying to insert an item in the Environmental assessment the County is paying for to allow motorized electric bikes on non-motorized trails for the Pines to Mines project is a totally unacceptable way of allowing motorized vehicles on non-motorized trails. We built the non-motorized Pioneer trail in Nevada County. It was our inspiration and drive that got it done. If the Forest Service wants to consider changing its non-motorized trail policy, it should do so independently of the Pines to Mines project. Instead of the Board of Supervisors spending \$100,000 on an environmental analysis that will allow electric motorized bikes on non-motorized trails, why not put the money toward fire safety instead?

Motorized vehicles have their place and we currently have hundreds of miles of motorized trails in Nevada County. Please protect our non-motorized trails and keep any reference to motorized bikes on non-motorized trails out of the environmental assessment for Pines to Mines.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan Pinsker