

## SOUTH DAKOTA'S E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- » E-bikes are classified as electric bicycles. The same rules of the road apply to both e-bikes and human-powered bicycles.
- » E-bikes are not subject to the registration, licensing, or insurance requirements that apply to motor vehicles.
- » South Dakota designates three classes of low-speed electric bicycles:
  - Class 1: An e-bike equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20mph.
  - Class 2: An e-bike equipped with a throttle-actuated motor, that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20mph.

- Class 3: An e-bike equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 28 mph.
- » Class 1 or Class 2 electric bicycles are allowed on any bicycle path or multi-use path in this state. Class 3 e-bikes are not allowed on a bicycle trail or path or multi use trail or path, but are allowed to ride on the road.
- » Persons under 16 years of age may not ride a Class 3 e-bike, unless as a passenger.

\* The following South Dakota laws are referenced: S.D. Codified Laws §32-20B, §32-3-1, §32-20-1, §32-35-1, §32-38-2, §26-21.1.

## 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.

## CHECK OUT

- » A map of great eMTB rides at [peopleforbikes.org/emtb](http://peopleforbikes.org/emtb)
- » eMTB "Adventures" at [peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes](http://peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes)

## SOUTH DAKOTA'S E-BIKE LAW FOR TRAILS

- » LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.
- » STATE: The South Dakota Division of Parks and Recreation has stated that eMTBs with an electric assist unit are allowed where bicycles are allowed. Contact the department for the most up to date information. PeopleForBikes is monitoring this policy and will update this document as needed.
- » FEDERAL: The majority of public lands managed for recreation South Dakota are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service, where eMTBs are considered motorized vehicles and have access to motorized trails. Contact the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Regional Office, or the state's National Grasslands for more information.

## GREAT eMTB RIDES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

- » Centennial Trail - Boxelder Creek
  - » Mickelson Trail
- Nemo | 6.6 miles  
Deadwood | 113.3 miles



## Learn more at [PeopleForBikes.org/e-bikes](http://PeopleForBikes.org/e-bikes)

- » Blogs and webinars
- » Buying guide
- » E-bike laws around the country
- » Retailer materials
- » E-bike statistics and research
- » eMTB management resources

## 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 and the Bicycle Product Suppliers Association are 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.