

# E-BIKE REGULATION UPDATE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING APRIL 23, 2021



**TAHOE DONNER<sup>SM</sup>**





# UPDATE PURPOSE

- No action needed today
- Provide the board with an update on next steps for e-bike regulation
- Staff plan for summer interim period



# GOAL

## Project Goal

Develop a rule change recommendation through a transparent process that includes regular member outreach. Any recommendation will be expected to be widely accepted, sensible and sustainable rule change built on an informed foundation.

- **Widely Accepted** = Wide acceptance by all major user groups (i.e. hikers, bikers, equestrian)
- **Sensible** = A rule change and policies that effectively address the issues
- **Sustainable** = Includes both sustainable environmentally and as a long-term rule/policy
- **Informed** = Based on facts and expert advice

# OUTREACH SUMMARY

## Outreach Stage 1: Education and Communication

- Webpage: [tahoedonner.com/e-bike-rule](http://tahoedonner.com/e-bike-rule)
- Tahoe Donner News stories (January and February 2021)
- Dedicated Member Email, Inclusion in weekly eblasts
- Information Forums and online feedback form

**Outreach Stage 2: Survey:** 3,400 respondents, largest TDA survey ever





# BOARD MEETING MARCH 12, 2021 SUMMARY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS DIRECTION HIGHLIGHTS

- Supports staff drafting rule change to allow for e-bike adaptive management approach
- Rule change to consider adaptive management of Class 1 e-bikes only
- Supports giving staff flexibility to manage trail system through adaptive approach taking small steps, monitoring and reporting along the way
- Completion of e-bike adaptive management plan which includes
  - Criteria for decision making
  - Detail on access/prohibition detailed by trail classification, i.e.. fire roads, single-track
  - Communication and messaging

# HOW DOES ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT MEET OUR GOAL?

**Widely Accepted** = Wide acceptance by all major user groups (i.e. hikers, bikers, equestrian)

- Flexible enough to allow fine tuning and adaptation in order to achieve wider acceptance over time through structured decision making

**Sensible** = A rule change and policies that effectively address the issues

- Gives management the flexible tools it needs to learn from experience and improve trail management for all user groups over time
- Addresses member desire to find some solution to expand access

**Sustainable** = Includes both sustainable environmentally and as a long-term rule/policy

- Gives management the flexible tools to evaluate environmental impacts and respond
- Sustainable as a policy because it is adaptable to changing conditions and needs

**Informed** = Based on facts and expert advice

- Adaptive management is considered best practice for land management, and is anticipated to be used in Tahoe Donner for all user groups and trail types in the future
- Consistent with other amenity and facilities management authority



**ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT**

PARTIAL/LIMITED/RESTRICTED  
E-BIKE USE ALLOWED



## MAJOR UPDATE SINCE LAST MEETING

- Tahoe District of US Forest Services approved 35 miles of trail for e-bike usage including Big Chief, Sawtooth and Donkey Town region.
- Began Recruiting for Director of Land Management and Open Space





# MOVING FORWARD

## MANAGEMENT LEVEL

- Hire Director of Land Management & Open Space
- Education and communication campaign
  - Trail branding and culture development
  - Trail etiquette
  - Signage – Approved 2021 Replacement Reserves Budget
- Continued efforts to disperse trail users across the trail system

## POLICY/RULE LEVEL

- Observe Forest Service Access Change
- 2021 Work Plan Goal – Open Space and Trails Master Plan

