

NZ Cycle Trail e-Bike Policy



April 2015

NZCT is supportive of responsible use of e-bikes on the NZCT trail network, under certain conditions (as outlined below). This is a rapidly evolving area and one that will require a consistent approach across the NZCT trail network, as well as recognition of both the evolution of e-bikes, and the expectations of trail users.

Definition

An electric power-assisted pedal cycle is a pedal cycle to which is attached one or more auxiliary electric propulsion motors having a combined maximum power output not exceeding 300 watts.

Note: Any cycles with motors (electric or combustion) over 300 watts are classified as a motorised vehicle as per the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) definition and therefore are only allowed where a motor vehicle is allowed.

NB: The use of electric bikes should continue to be supported by trails on a case by case basis. This could result in electric bikes being allowed on all trails open to cycling and mountain biking, only on some of those trails, or only on roads.

Principles

A trail within Nga Haerenga, The NZ Cycle Trail, will allow electric bikes:

- where no known conflicts occur with other users or conflict is able to be mitigated or managed.
- where there is enough capacity on the trail.
- where trails cross more than one land ownership or management, the policy for electric bikes is agreed by all owners/managers.
- where trails consist of primarily lower grade biking trails and cycle ways.
- on access roads or anywhere motorised vehicles are allowed.

A trail within Nga Haerenga, The NZ Cycle Trail, will **not** allow electric bikes where:

- bicycles are not allowed.
- trails are of a higher grade (Grade 4+).
- conflicts occur with other users that cannot be mitigated or managed.
- there is not enough capacity on the trail.
- trails cross more than one land ownership or management, the policy for electric bikes is not agreed by all owners/managers.