FREE!

ANDY'S SKI & RIDE GUIDES

COPPER MOUNTAIN
2009/2010 SEASON

Every trail described & rated
Hints for getting around
Great for all skiers and riders
WHAT ARE ANDY’S SKI & RIDE GUIDES?

Welcome to the newest edition of Andy’s Ski and Ride Guides. This guide has been completely rewritten with all the new changes that have happened at Copper Mountain. Formally Andy’s Handy Ski Guides, these little booklets open up the world of Copper Mountain Ski Area. You will now know what happens on every run, lift and nook and crannie at Copper Mountain. It does not matter how you slide down the hill, whether on skis, snowboard, snowbike, monoski, telemark or whatever, these guides will enhance your day.

If you are new to my guides, the best way to enjoy them is to understand my rating system; it is an international rating system, not a ski area specific system like the green, blue and black rating we now have in place. There is a big difference in the difficulty of a trail such as a double black diamond in West Virginia than at Taos, New Mexico! A green at A-Basin may be a black in Vermont. My system is based on the whole scope of snowriding in the world. Check out my system on the next page. It’s important that you understand my ratings are an average and can be completely different from day to day. Please read and understand my liability statement. Hope you have fun out on the slopes and please check out www.andysskiandrideguides.com for more information on this and other ski areas...

In this guide, all trails are alphabetical and the lifts come after that. You’ll also find some information on tree lines, my top 5, where everyone should go according to their ability and more!

Find out where you are in my rating system and you will know where to go to stay in your comfort zone, or to challenge yourself! Remember that conditions change minute to minute and my ratings are a normal average.

Check out my website: www.andysskiandrideguides.com
ANDY’S SKI & RIDE GUIDES

Publisher
Fresh Powder Media, LLC
Michael Slattery
Andy Blumenthal
www.freshpowdermedia.com
info@freshpowdermedia.com

Creator/Writer
Andy Blumenthal

Art & Design
Kelly McFeely

Cover Photo
Mark Fox

ANDY’S RATING SYSTEM

1-10
The easiest of the greens. Great for learning, perfect for your first day or two but probably boring to even the 2nd day skier or rider.

11-20
A nice, easy cruiser. Perfect for the advanced beginner, or those who desire a nice run without much pitch.

21-30
For those who are making the transition from advanced beginner to intermediate. Contains both advanced beginner and intermediate pitches.

31-40
Solid intermediate run with medium steepness.

41-50
Middle of the road terrain. Intermediates will be challenged, advanced will feel comfortable.

51-60
Tough blues. Maybe a diamond for some pitches but, on average, intermediate stuff.

61-70
Single Diamond terrain. Steeper than the tough blues, but not that hard for advanced intermediates.

71-80
Solid advanced terrain. Advanced Intermediates should think twice.

81-91
Steep terrain, any type of snow, moguls, etc. Challenging but not yet extreme. Should be a solid advanced skier.

91-100
Experts only! Seriously. Anything in this category should not be skied or rode by anyone who has any apprehension...

Remember that Andy’s Rating is an average and it will vary!

*The descriptions and ratings contained within Andy’s Ski & Ride Guides are based upon average weather and snow conditions. Varied conditions such as new snow, no snow, high winds, poor visibility, etc. can significantly change the character and difficulty of the slope. Skiers and riders are strongly encouraged to evaluate the conditions and determine if the slope is within their skill level. Please ski and ride with care.

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© 2009 by Fresh Powder Media, LLC, Denver, Colorado. All rights reserved under U.S. Copyright Laws. No portion of this publication may be reproduced in any form without the written permission of the publisher. Now go read the rest of the guide, it is boring here.
Leap Frog is a super flat traverse that takes you from the bottom of Bittersweet over to the American Flyer side of the main mountain lifts. This is just a quick cut over and nothing more. Keep your speed as it is very flat.

Every trail starts with all these vital numbers for a quick look at what there is to find:

(A) **Trail Name:** I only talk about named trails so you will not find any “secret stashes” in this guide. But there are plenty of named areas that I talk about...

(B) **Rating:** See Previous Page

(C) **Snowmaking:** Either yes or no; good to know when low on snow, especially in the early season

(D) **Groom:** This has three different designations:
   - Groomed = Groomed almost every day; almost Occs. Groomed = Occasionally groomed; don’t count on it, check grooming report
   - Never Groomed = Never groomed

(E) **Color:** This is the green, blue, black system that is in place at the ski area. This is ski area specific and only pertains to the trails and areas that Copper has to offer. A blue here may not be the same as a blue elsewhere. (This is why my rating system on the previous page is better than the current rating system we have in place in this country.)

(F) **Length of trail (in feet)**
### Andy’s Encore

**Andy’s Rating** | **Never Groomed**
---|---
**Rating:** 53

Andy’s Encore is one of the best intermediate runs at Copper Mountain if not one of the best in the country. Most of the time it’s a fun long challenge for the intermediate with lots of terrain changes, with steeper pitches and flats, groomed or mogulled. From the top of the Super Bee, The Excelerator or Resolution, you’ll see signs for Andy’s Encore. The first pitch starts off pretty steep for a blue but ends quickly. Sometimes they leave bumps on the left or the right. After a quick flat, there is another steeper pitch that also ends quickly into a long flat that goes by the top of the Alpine lift. Bear a little left at the end of the long flat so you don’t go down Oh, No (unless you want to). Now comes the steepest pitch which is clearly visible from the Super Bee, so look good. This continues to a long flat section that has lots of people since this is a major intersection point. A fun, easier pitch now widens out but it usually groomed for the run out to the end. The last pitch is steeper and kind of a bottleneck that take you to a decision; left back to the American Eagle or right onto Skid Road back to the Super Bee. And no, the trail is not named after me, but Andy Daly, a former Copper employee who eventually became a major player over at Vail.

### American Flyer

**Andy’s Rating** | **Snowmaking • OCCs. Groomed**
---|---
**Rating:** 35

The American Flyer run is a wide open fun blue cruiser that starts at the top of it’s namesake lift, and then runs to the bottom of the Timberline Express. This is wide open and has a medium pitch to it. This will be difficult for a beginner but doable for a strong willed learner. This is rarely too crowded but there will usually be a fair amount of people here. The problem is the Timberline Express gets busy midday and on crowded days, all day. But the terrain is fun over here and it’s usually warmer as there are more trees to block the weather.
**Atlantic Cornice 1,000’**

**Andy’s Rating** | Never Groomed
---|---
**82**

Atlantic Cornice is a quick breathtaking cornice jump that gets big on large snow years. Find this off to the skier’s left in Spaulding Bowl. You will have almost a required air off the cornice into the trail and you will land in a wonderful steep and consistent expert trail. Too bad it’s ends so quickly... You can get a lot of air here but you need to inspect the landing first and be very careful since many rocks and slide areas are here. In the spring you may need to give this trail some time to warm up if it was warm in the days before. Copper is just a few miles away from the continental divide, where of course you know that the water from the east side goes to the Atlantic ocean where as the water from the west side goes to the Pacific. And Atlantic and Pacific peaks are right in front of you looking southeast.

**Bariloche 1,800’**

**Andy’s Rating** | OCCS. Groomed
---|---
**59**

Bariloche is a seldom open trail just to the east of the Storm King Poma. This open field is pretty fun when there is enough snow to cover it. It’s so exposed here that snow is easily blown away and then it’s just a scree field with fences and rocks. But when snow gets packed here, this is an enjoyable, easy black that has tremendous views and a consistent pitch that can be repeated often with a small Poma lift line. If the maze is full, I don’t think that it’s worth it. Sometimes they even groom this and it’s a great, fast ripper; but that rarely happens...

**BitterSweet 3,800’**

**Andy’s Rating** | Snowmaking • Groomed
---|---
**52**

This is a great name for the trail because it has a fun pitch and when groomed, this is super nice. But as the day goes along, it sees sooo many people that it get scraped off and starts to get bad. Many races are held here, so half of the trail can be closed, and the bottom part also. If not, this has a steeper pitch for a blue at the top, usually with several people over their heads trying to get down, and then it bears to the left with a flat spot and then it gets steep again, with a couple of water bars, roads, dips and such until you get to the end and it meets up with Upper Skid Road, for the trip down to the bottom of the American Eagle or lower Skid Road to go to the East Village and the Super Bee.
BLACK BEAR GLADE 3,600’

ANDY’S RATING NEVER GROOMED

Black Bear Glade is Copper’s newest trail and they just cut it last summer. It’s to the skier’s left of Formidable and is steep and moguled. If you’re here first on a powder day it will be epic if you have the ability. It has many different lines down a steep and bumpy path. Intermediates will probably be over their head here as all sort of terrain changes, trees and bumps throw you in all directions. Brings you to the bottom of the Alpine lift. Best if you bear right at the end or you end up a little low on Bee Traverse from the bottom to get to the Alpine Lift.

BOARDWALK 500’

ANDY’S RATING NEVER GROOMED

Boardwalk is the easiest way down Spaulding Bowl and if you are a good traverser you may not even have to take a turn down this short run. Traverse from the top of the entrance to Spaulding Bowl to the skiers right until you get to the rope. For those who are still scared, traverse back left and you’ll be able to see all of Spaulding Bowl until you get to Cross Cut. There are a couple of fun little pitches here for those not traversing, and a couple of rock outcroppings to look out for. The entrance to Spaulding Glades is here but this is tight and tougher so keep that in mind. Bowl conditions can vary, so be ready for all types of snow.

BOUNCER 6,400’

ANDY’S RATING SNOWMAKING • GROOMED

Bouncer is a neat trail off of the American Eagle that has lots of character. Head past Solitude Station and the bottom of the Excelerator, and you’ll run right into Bouncer. It starts off with an easy pitch that flattens and bears to the left and then there is the steepest section of the trail, which typically has people lying on the ground flailing to get up. Watch out for those who can’t, and continue on with a long flat section. Then the final pitch to the bottom which typically has bumps on the right and groomed down the middle. Again, look for people flailing because many a beginner try their luck here and are way over their head. A few years ago, the US Ski team bought this whole trail for a couple of weeks of early season training specifically for Picabo Street and she ran downhill, full speed down this twisty and terrain changing trail.

BRADLEY’S PLUNGE 2,100’

ANDY’S RATING NEVER GROOMED

A little air starts Bradleys Plunge as you have a cornice to negotiate. Keep it on your feet and you will be pleased with the upcoming steep and hopefully deep. Lots of rocks and a few tree islands make you pay attention on this Copper Bowl trail. Those who are first here on a powder day will be rewarded with face shots but this almost always has good snow. This area has poor visibility when nasty out and a short hike makes this not as frequented as other trails at Copper. Definitely you will have to have advanced ability to enjoy this trail.
**BRENNAN’S GRIN**  2,600’

**ANDY’S RATING**  SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED  **67**

Brennan’s Grin is a crazy trail in the Excelsior area that is not my favorite trail. However, I know several ski instructors who love it. Crazy world we live in. The trail itself has an intermediate pitch but is riddled with moguls, rocks, fences, bamboo markers, work roads, and it has several fall lines. There are no lines that are consistent here, and most of the time there are rocks that will ruin your equipment. I’m not sure if they have ever groomed this. This will definitely be a challenge for the intermediate and the expert might enjoy the myriad of obstacles thrown in front of you. It ends up at the Excelsior so you can do it over and over again. Look for Wolfie on this one, he loves it.

**BUZZARDS ALLEY**  1,200’

**ANDY’S RATING**  NEVER GROOMED  **80**

Formally known as Southern Star, the management at Copper changed the name to honor Jim Spenst who was a long time manager at Copper. The trail itself requires a ten minute hike from the top of the Sierra lift or you can cut the hiking time down by going around Copper Bowl and getting here from the Mountain Chief chair. This is the far side of Union Bowl with some aspects facing east. This is fairly steep and with usually good snow that has blown over from Union bowl. The advanced skier or rider will love making these steep powder turns. Almost always one of the last to get skied, the snow here stays nice longer as most people don’t like to hike and if they do they go right down the middle of Union Bowl.

**CABIN CHUTE**  4,300’

**ANDY’S RATING**  **81**

Cabin Chute is an awesome bumpy expert trail that is best on a powder day but is good almost anytime for the expert skier or rider. There are a lot of bumps on this trail at any time, so if you don’t like ‘em, get lost. If you are just learning bumps this may take you an hour to get down. Now, for those of you still here, this starts with a quick steep then a flat, then a steep then a flat, then a steep. So I guess you get a little breather between pitches. In the springtime, this is awesome with soft bumps getting better as the day gets warmer. Top to bottom this one and you’re one of the few.

**CACHE GLADES**  1,200’

**ANDY’S RATING**  NEVER GROOMED  **83**

Cache Glades are off of Hallelujah over past the large rock area on the left. This is a little expert stash that most won’t like because the trees are too tight. And there’s no way out for a while so if you don’t like trees, stay away. This has a fairly steep pitch and fun little corridors that require you to pay full attention. Trees and more trees, this is a true glade. There are several open areas but for the most part it’s pretty tight. Watch out because all of sudden you come out on Easy Road (watch for people!) and then down to Coppertone for the flat ride back.
Calendar Chute starts from the gate at the top of Spaulding bowl. This is a good chute for the advanced intermediate and up looking for a good bowl experience without jumping off a cornice or getting too scary. Most of the time this is all bumped up with large, and sometimes non rhythmic moguls. And at another time there can be perfect bumps. You never know. If you add speed to this chute it can be a whole lot harder. Fun when there’s powder for sure.

Carefree is a great beginner run that has some steeps and rolls for a green so maybe you should not try this on your first day. But for most it’s a nice pitch, with medium width and not too steep for too long to scare the beginner. You must take care to keep you eyes open for others since this can be a very busy run. This is accessed off of High Point near the top of the terrain park. There are lots of people going to the terrain park so that adds to the congestion. The rolls are fun and good for working on your edge awareness on steeper terrain. All intermediates and up will find this pretty easy.

CDL Trail #20

CDL’s is a fun quick run off the top of the Excelerator that is an easy black most of the time. When groomed, this is a speedy run that you need to be careful because you can get going fast very quickly. Most of the time it has smaller bumps on it that can have good lines, especially under the lift. Sometimes there are funny rhythm sections because of a slight angling of the pitch. If you like it, you can do it many times in an hour due to the quickness and proximity of the Excelerator lift. Depending on the lift line of course.

Chuck D. Lewis was a founding father of Copper.
Collage is another one of Copper’s great front side blues that seem to go on forever, with lots of different terrain to negotiate. Starting at the top of the Super Bee, or Resolution, or even the Exelerator, you can make your way to Collage, to the west of Andy’s Encore. This starts off with a nice medium pitch and then as the Super Bee goes over you, it gets narrower. Copperopolis drops off to the left as you go on a almost flat section until you see 17 Glade on your left. It opens up and gradually works it way down until the next pitch. This is the steepest part and most of it is visible from the Super Bee, so do well. After this steeper pitch you can go right to Andy’s Encore or stay straight for a couple pitch changes, a work road, and then an open play field for going fast. Finally, the trail splits and then merges together for the final, steeper pitch to the bottom Sometimes they groom this top to bottom. Sometimes they don’t. This trail is dramatically different when not groomed. Check the grooming report at the bottom of the mountain for information. Overall, this is a great blue with all sorts of terrain changes to keep you on your toes.

Copper Bowl

It’s pretty hard to describe hundreds of acres in one paragraph but here goes. This is one of Copper’s greatest assets and this has some of the best skiing and riding anywhere. With two old chairs (formally I and J lifts that were replaced by the Timberline Express) and plenty of different terrain for the intermediate and up, this feels like an old ski area itself; far, far away from the chaos over by I-70. You can traverse from the top of the Rendezvous lift via Otto Bahn and take the Mountain Chief lift and hardly even ski the bowl but get a great idea what its all about. Most hopefully will take a few runs back here, enjoying the huge fields of snow, large cornices, large rocks, and great steeps that remind you of the back country. The Blackjack lift has some fun open blue areas and some steep little shots while the Mountain Chief accesses most of the bowl. Be careful back here since there are not a lot of trees, visibility can be difficult especially when its snowing or windy. Free snowcat rides up Tucker Mountain also enhance the experience but you need to check their schedule.
COPPERFIELDS

ANDY’S RATING: 35  
SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED  
5,600’

Copperfields is an awesome blue that is wide open and has a consistent pitch. Most of the time this is groomed or has very little bumps and is fun for the lower intermediate and up. On a powder day the uninitiated powder skier or rider will love the fun on this nice easy pitch. With the Timberline Express and not much of a line, you could do this many times in an hour. Conquer this and go up to the top of the mountain.

COPPERPOLIS

ANDY’S RATING: 51  
SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED  
2,200’

Copperopolis is a great trail that winds around from Collage, from the top of the Excelsior or the Super Bee, and after a couple of steeper slanting pitches, makes it’s way back to the bottom of the Excelsior. On the right on the last half is the NASTAR race course, with different options depending on your ability. Sometimes they close this trail for racers, with a rope on top of the trail. This is especially true at the beginning of the year but can happen at any time. The trail itself starts off flat then goes pretty steep for a blue as it winds around left. Its gets a little less steep and then becomes flat at the end. Watch out for people on this one since it’s a busy trail. Usually groomed, but when not, some unrhythmic bumps arise since the slope leans to the left.

COPPERTONE

ANDY’S RATING: 23  
SNOWMAKING • GROOMED  
6,600’

Coppertone is a great long flat that will bore the heck out of most people. The funny thing is the first pitch is definitely a lot more difficult than the rest of the trail. Access this from the top of the American Flyer lift, taking a right onto Coppertone. The first pitch is pretty steep so if you are not good trying going across the trail and then back, in a big traverse. After that it flattens out to a complete pancake that is almost uphill at points, and it goes on for quite a while. There is another quick steeper pitch when going by a maintenance building and then another long flat till it meets up with Carefree. I guess the pitches that are steeper will challenge the beginner but the rest is flat as a parking lot. Watch out for people coming from the right side off some of the steeper pitches.

Please remember that my ratings are an average and change every day with new snows, no snows, sun, skier traffic etc. Some days a 42 will feel like a 82 for example. Please keep this in mind!
CORNICE CHUTE 1,200′

**ANDY’S RATING** NEVER GROOMED

82

Cornice Chute’s first turn separates the want-a-be’s from the no problems... It’s can be a little intimidating peering over the cornice wondering where your first turn is going to be; and if you’re going to tumble from there all the way to the bottom of the chute. Or are you going to charge it with reckless abandon, snow flying in your face and making perfect turns for all those above watching... and you’ll talk about it in the bar for hours. Which ever it is be forewarned, this is a great Copper run for those with the ability... Depending on the snow depth, there can be many rocks or just a few, and most likely lots of moguls to slow you down, but hopefully not a full on mogul field as when there has not been snow lately. A fine place to pull out your camera and tell your friend to jump off, as it is a very entertaining watching someone starfish down the middle of it.

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CROSS CUT 4,000′

**ANDY’S RATING** OCCS. GROOMED

61

Cross Cut is a double headed monster that sometimes is one of the best runs on the mountain or it can be a nightmare. This is over in the Resolution area and is also the major run out of anyone coming out of Spaulding Bowl. When groomed, this is a wonderful trail with a varied pitch, tree islands and not many people. But most of the time they don’t groom this and it seems to attract the worst kind of misplaced bumps and ice. So after a leg burning romp on one of Spaulding bowls steep pitches, you have to get back to the lift by coming down Cross Cut, with its ungroomed bad moguls there to further challenge your fitness. Please Copper, groom this every day ...Right at the apex of the last pitch, on the left is a huge natural “hit” that I’ve seen many a huge air here with most ending in a big fall since there are usually many moguls on the landing. Check it out first before hitting it... I saw a friend catch about sixty feet of air doing a 360 here and when he landed he broke his nose on his knee, and I had to bring him to the hospital.

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DOUBLE ZERO

ANDY’S RATING

800’

ANDY’S RATING

76

NEVER GROOMED

Double Zero is a great but super short pitch that is to the skiers right of the Resolution chair. Trees and moguls usually are littered throughout this short run, it’s too bad it ends so quickly. This is very steep and no way are you seeing this groomed. This is also very narrow which adds to it’s excitement and difficulty. Double Zero ends too quickly onto any of the other Resolution area lifts. Be here early on a powder day or you missed it!

DRAIN PIPE

ANDY’S RATING

1,000’

ANDY’S RATING

87

NEVER GROOMED

This is one of my favorite pitches on the mountain. Off the top of the Super Bee or the Exclerato , this short and sweet run is never groomed; and can have gigantic bumps. The more snow the better on this run as the steep rocks fill in. Over on the skier’s left flank is the famous Drain Pipe Rock, famous for chucking skiers and riders alike. This relatively small rock can be larger with speed but the landing is the problem here. It’s steep and most of the time has large moguls, so you had better be aware of that before jumping. This leads you down to any of the Resolution lifts long bump runs or you can traverse to the left to get to Slot Car Track that takes you to Alpine lift or even the Super Bee. Come to Drainpipe for massive face shots on a powder day Sometimes in the springtime, this needs to soften up before it will be fun...
**EASY FEELING**

18

**ANDY’S RATING**

SNOWMAKING • GROOMED

Easy Feeling is an excellent name for this run as most will feel very comfortable here. This is almost always groomed and most of the time a little less crowded than elsewhere. You’ll find this off of High Point to the skiers left of the terrain park. It starts off nice and flat and then has a variety of pitches that will keep the beginner on his or her toes. Sometimes crowded but always a fun run.

**EASY ROAD**

7

**ANDY’S RATING**

SNOWMAKING • GROOMED

Easy Road is the longest and flattest of all of Coppers runs. This goes back and forth, traversing left and right, starting from the top of the Super Bee, and ending at the bottom of the American Eagle. It stops along the way at the top of the Alpine lift, near the top of the American Eagle, all the way to under the High Point Lift, the bottom of the Timberline Express and finally to the bottom of the American Eagle lift. One could say you could see half of Copper on this trail. The problem is that it’s so flat it goes uphill in places and is so long and boring it could take you all day to do this. Plus you have many people flying by you at every trail intersection, and there are many. Use this trail to get to certain places but I don’t suggest the full run.

Looking for Enchanted Forest? See either Lower Enchanted Forest or Upper Enchanted Forest

**ENDEAVOR**

81

**ANDY’S RATING**

OCCS. GROOMED

Endeavor is a great bump run that has a nice consistent pitch and usually pretty good moguls. This is off the top of the Sierra lift and down to a little cornice, which is the beginning of a quick but challenging run for the bump enthusiast. You can get a nice cornice photo here but don’t go too big or you will land flat. I’ve never seen a grooming machine on this trail. Tuck into the trees to the left or below for a quick and fun glade experience. Copper used to hold great bump contests on the run but that was a while back. Of course, in the springtime you may need to wait a few hours before arriving here since this will go through the freeze-thaw process. On a powder day this can be really fun but you better get here early.

**FAIR PLAY**

30

**ANDY’S RATING**

SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED

Fair Play is a tangent off of Bittersweet that can be a great cruiser or a punishing field of moguls depending on the grooming in the last week. As the top of Bittersweet faces right down the hill, Fair Play is the extension that goes right below it. Bittersweet goes off to the left and Fair Play begins with an open and pretty steep for a blue pitch. When groomed, this is great with a wide playground to make big turns but when it is not groomed, you will have lots of small bumps, some not so rhythmic. You can cut left after the first pitch and access it’s smaller sister, Foul Play for a short tangent or finish Fair Play which has a long flat section before it cuts back to get to the bottom of the main village.
Fairway is a flat meadow trail in the Lumberjack area that is great for the beginner to work on the skills necessary to get away from this super boring trail. There are some knolls, rolls and tree islands to make this interesting... I know some will love this but this is flatter than a fairway in Kansas. Email me if you disagree: andy@andysskiandrideguides.com

Far East is a hidden gem of a trail for the expert and can really kick the poor ones who made the mistake of coming here right in the thighs... Most of the time this an ungroomed field of moguls, rocks, water bars, work roads, etc. that is a fun run for those in the know. I’ve seen many intermediates flailing their way down, asking if there is an alternative, which there is not. You’ll have plenty of time to rest on the slow Alpine lift if you make it down. It’s really not that hard but the last few pitches are less traveled as people bail out to the trails to the skier’s left, and that means more powder hopefully. Powder is usually found here where elsewhere it’s tracked out but you better be able to handle it’s crazy fall line and unending bumps.
**Far West**

**Andy’s Rating:** OCCS. GROOMED

1,200’

Far West is a fun trail off the back of the Sierra lift or from the top of the Mountain Chief lift. This has several fingers at the top with tree islands and usually lots of bumps. First you can go off the “S” cornice and then follow it parallel down to Far West. There can be some little hit’s on the left that build up with high winds. Then it’s pretty steep with many bumps and little ways to get around them. Hopefully they’ll be soft and rhythmic but that doesn’t happen all the time. When it’s groomed, it’s a great fast twisty little run that joins the ultra flat Soliloquy too soon.

**Formidable**

**Andy’s Rating:** OCCS. GROOMED

3,200’

Formidable is one of my favorite runs at Copper. It’s kind of hard to get to and it takes you over to the Alpine Lift area so many people don’t come here. The trail is off to the right off of Andys Encore, or straight ahead at the bottom of Oh No. This has a great, consistent pitch to it and it’s pretty steep. On the rare times they groom it, this is a locals super g course so watch out. But most of the time this has a lot of bumps on it. There’s usually some fairly decent lines in here since more good skiers or boarders go here than bad ones. Tree Islands and water bars early in the season gives way to perfect powder turns early on a powder day. In the spring, this run is feast or famine; great soft bumps forever or rock hard bumps that will break you or your equipment.

**Foul Play**

**Andy’s Rating:** SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED

600’

Foul Play is a small and short tangent off of Fair Play on the front of the mountain off the American Eagle chair. Foul Play has an easy blue pitch to it but it’s not nearly as wide as it’s older sister Fair Play. It’s a pretty quick trail and there are some easier tree glades for those who want to venture into the trees. Always go with a partner and please be careful! The main part of this can have lots of moguls on it or it can be groomed and there is a big difference in the two. The moguls are usually not the most rhythmic but it can still be fun. Check the grooming report at the bottom to find out if this is groomed. For online grooming reports from Copper go to www.coppercolorado.com and go to Trail Reports.

**Free Fall Glade**

**Andy’s Rating:** NEVER GROOMED

3,600’

Free Fall Glade is one of the newest trails at Copper that they cut a couple of summers ago. To the skiers right of Rosie’s Run right below the top of Formidable, this is a steep moguled glade that if quite fun if here early on a powder day. Lot’s of little tree corridors and bumps make this a challenge for almost anyone. You need to be careful at the end to not go all the way to the bottom as this sticks you 50 yards below the bottom of Treble Cliff and will require you to walk those 50 yards. If you bear right you can get to the bottom of Alpine Lift but you had better cut early. A great glade except for the ending.
Fremont Glades are some of the best skiing or riding at Copper, or almost anywhere. This may require up to an hour hike depending on your fitness, and a lot less if the free snow cat is running. All the way on the far side of Copper Bowl, after the small warming hut patrol calls the dumpster, Fremont glades are steep and have a natural back country feel with the safety of Copper’s superior ski patrol. There are five different “shots” down this area, each with different lines and obstacles. The farthest to the skier’s right is “1” and it is probably the shortest but most consistent of pitches. But it has the furthest traverse back to the Blackjack lift. (take note people with poor traversing skills) The next two are open with steep pitches, and little rolls and a few tree islands. “4 and 5” have a little more terrain changes, drop offs but are still wide open. There are a few rock fields to watch out for, especially when low on snow or recently windy, but for the most part if it’s open you are skiing powder or steep packed snow. Please check status of snow cat for info...

Gold Digger is an easier black off the backside of the Sierra lift that is not often skied because its very difficult to get back to the Sierra lift to do it again. You must do a massive traverse right to get back but it’s better than going to the crowded Timberline Express lift. The terrain itself is pretty neat. There are steeper rolls, trees, rocks and other obstacles that make this a fun varied run. This can get some brutal moguls when the winds and snow are not friendly. Conversely on a powder day and after the snow stays good here since it cannot get repeatedly skied.

Golden Crest is a haven for the expert rider or skier that gets here at the right time. Timing is everything here as the powder turns are awesome but quickly tracked out. When its spring, this usually is best in the morning while it’s southern aspect gets the snow slushy fast. It’s really not as steep as much of the other terrain in the bowl, so go here first if apprehensive. There are a couple rolls and trees and rocks to keep you on you toes here.
Hallelujah is a crazy little section of Copper Mountain. Off the Excelerator going west (skiers left) and directly below the Storm King Poma, Hallelujah is a bunch of moguls, rocks and powder that can be fun for the intermediate and up. The top is usually riddled with bumps and if you don’t like them, cut right back to Ptarmigan. If you bear left you’ll come to the rock garden, with drop-offs and rocks, moguls and fences, which can all be quite entertaining. Cache Glade drops off to the left here. This ends too fast with some quick bumps and a flat bumpy exit back to the Excelerator lift. A couple things to remember here, the snow blows in from Enchanted forest here and this can have more powder than almost anywhere but conversely, the wind blows this area clean. You never know until you get here.

Guthrie’s Gulley was a long time local’s stash that they have now named and is off the back side of the Sierra Lift. This quick little shot used to be called J-Chute as it ended at the top of the J-Lift. J-Lift is now gone and this was rarely skied. Found between Timber Ridge and Gold Digger, this chute is steep and gladed and is a great fast hidden little treasure. I’m not going to talk about it much as it’s one of my favorite shots at Copper and I don’t want you to know about it! But now you do… but can you find it?

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Hallelujah Ridge is an oft changing trail on top of the world. The Copper world at least. At 12,440 feet this area gets so much wind it is ridiculous, and this trail can change in a matter of hours. When the storms come from the west, they hit Enchanted Forest and then blow into Hallelujah Ridge. This can have deep powder, crud, unpacked spring conditions, perfectly groomed, or a combination of all. Sometimes this is buttery delicious with it’s black steepness and consistent pitch with a wide open feel and great views everywhere. This is great when the weather is nice and the poma line is not full. On the other hand when the wind is blowing, it’s snowing, or has recently and they haven’t groomed it, this can be a crud or wind packed nightmare.

Hidden Vein is a short trail off of Vein Glory that is an easier way down to the Union Creek area instead of taking the harder bottom pitch of Vein Glory. Come off of Woodwinds and go left onto Hidden Vein as you ski under the High Point lift. This is really just a traverse, cat track type trail that helps the early beginner end up at Union Creek.

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Andy’s Ski & Ride Guides
### Highline

**ANDY’S RATING**

**NEVER GROOMED**

Highline is a super fun trail for the expert in the Resolution area that requires the skier or rider to perform at their highest level because the terrain is difficult and totally visible from the lift above. The top pitch is one of the steepest at Copper and although short, it requires great turns through steep moguls or hopefully for you, powder. Then comes a long flat section of moguls before it start getting steeper again. Never groomed, Highline is usually a good place to go for moguls and powder since many storms dump their goods into the Resolution area which is much more protected from the elements than most other places at Copper. It seems that this is also the warmest area at Copper. In the springtime you must wait until it thaws or you'll find the most bullet proof moguls you've ever seen. There is a great fall line "shot" that goes directly under the chair but you should be good or you'll hear the jeers from above.

### Home Run

**ANDY’S RATING**

**SNOWMAKING • GROOMED**

Home Run is a new trail that goes where you don’t want to go...unless you own or are renting a home in the East Village. This short run goes to the skier’s right of the tubing hill, essentially putting you in the no man’s land between the Alpine and Super Bee Lifts. You’ll probably have to take off your board or skis and walk to the Super Bee if you end up here.

### I Dropper

**ANDY’S RATING**

**SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED**

I Dropper is a short but fun tangent off of the Highpoint trail. It has many rolls and terrain changes, but is pretty wide and manageable. There are a couple of cat tracks to jump off but watch out for people. This is rarely groomed and it’s full of moguls. You may like this. You may not.

### Indian Ridge

**ANDY’S RATING**

**NEVER GROOMED**

Indian Ridge is one of the steepest trails at Copper and can be a great, quick shot to test ones skills before going up the Sierra lift. Facing southeast, it gets lots of sun so there can be a variety of conditions. If you can make more than 20 turns down this short pitch, I’d be amazed. I like to straight run it down the gut with no turns if the conditions are right. This can be really bad early morning on a freeze/thaw cycle spring day, but by noon this will be great. Test your friends here that think they can ski or ride anything on the mountain and this will tell. And it’s short enough, that they can slide down on their defeated buttoes...
**I WAY**

**ANDY’S RATING**

OCCS. GROOMED

17

I Way is a very flat traverse that gets you from the top of the Lumberjack chair over to the bottom of Soliloquy for the ride down to the Timberline Express. This is the easiest way down to the Timberline side but feel free to drop off of the cat track and try some harder stuff because it will end quickly. This used to go to the old “I” lift, thus the name; should be called Timberline way.

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**IRON MASK**

**ANDY’S RATING**

NEVER GROOMED

85

Iron Mask is one of the best expert trails at Copper. You need a lot of snow here to make it best and the cornice jump itself will keep most people away. The bigger the snow, the bigger the cornice. Bring a camera and some guts. After you land, the terrain is steep and lots of rocks and pitch changes await you. This is the place to get that great photo of you nailing that hit. This is fairly short though and flattens out at the end.

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**JACQUES PIQUE**

**ANDY’S RATING**

OCCS. GROOMED

55

Jacques is a great blue over in the Timberline Express area. From the top, head west, or skiers left for a short hill down to Jacques. The first pitch is a little steep but ends quickly for a long flat section that wraps around left. Next is a steeper pitch with a small rest before the steepest section on the trail. Most likely there are small bumps throughout as this does not get groomed much. This will be a nice challenge for intermediates, a stepping stone maybe to see if they can head to more difficult terrain. When groomed this is awesome. Jacques Peak is the 13,205 ft mountain west of Copper Bowl.

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**JULIES VISION**

**ANDY’S RATING**

NEVER GROOMED

82

Julies Vision is a short but fun black trail in the Copper Bowl area. From the top of the Mountain Chief lift traverse east a tad and then jump in. A small cornice might have to be negotiated. Then it’s a fairly steep ungroomed pitch with tree islands and a few rocks. Be here early on a powder day for the untracked rewards, but it goes fast. In the springtime this gets a lot of sun, so it can be slushy or cruddy; careful!
LALLAROOKN
2,000'

ANDY’S RATING NEVER GROOMED

Lallarookn takes a while to get here but its well worth it for the advanced and up. From the top of the Mountain Chief chair you must climb for 10 or so minutes depending on your fitness. Then it's steep and deep (hopefully) as you pick your way through rocks and drop-offs. Most people will drop in earlier so the snow stays better here longer. It’s pretty short though and then you will have the long flatter section on the way back to the Mountain Chief lift.

LEAP FROG
400'

ANDY’S RATING SNOWMAKING • GROOMED

Leap Frog is a super flat traverse that takes you from the bottom of Bittersweet over to the American Flyer side of the main mountain lifts. This is just a quick cut over and nothing more. Keep your speed as it is very flat.

LIBERTY
2,000'

ANDY’S RATING SNOWMAKING • GROOMED

Liberty is a tangent off of the High Point trail off the top of the American Flyer about half way down. This goes right under the lift and is fairly wide open. As it veers off to the right it gets steeper and there are a couple different pitch choices. This ends too quickly at Coppertone and it’s ultra flatness.

KABOOM
2,900'

ANDY’S RATING OCCS. GROOMED

Kaboom is an awesome black run in the Sierra lift area. This is skier’s right off the lift and is fairly steep and runs next to the rope to Union Bowl. This is sometimes a perfect powder run, at least for the first 50 people… then is starts to bump up. The bumps are usually pretty good though, since many good people are in the area. After the first couple of pitches then there is a long flat, with a couple of tree islands to spice it up. The famous “leaning tree jump” is here and it’s a fun little drop off to very steep but the steep doesn’t last long and you can run out any speed you had.

JUPITER BOWL

ANDY’S RATING OCCS. GROOMED

Jupiter Bowl is a very small bowl at the top of the Sierra lift that didn’t really need naming. In fact there is a sign there but it is not noted on the map. Its gone oh so quick. There is a nice cornice to jump off with a fairly good drop, but if you go too big you will land flat. Then you have a choice of Revenge or Endeavor, or traverse left for Little Trees.
Little Burn is a quick little shot that became a trail when they cut the lift line for the Timberline Express and it has lots of bumps, and probably not that rhythmic. It’s still fun for those who like to ski or ride under the chair. Once you start here you are stuck without a way out so you had better want to be here. There are a couple of natural jumps or hits and they can be fun and on a powder day if you are here early this would be great. But heavy traffic, no snow or freeze thaw periods will make this not that much fun. I’m sure some would disagree with me.

Lillie G is a great and seldom skied run off the top of the Storm King Poma. After riding the poma, traverse straight ahead (not into Spaulding or Upper Enchanted Forest) until you come to Lillie G. This is very wide and faces south and west so it will have different snow than almost anywhere on the mountain. The large face at the top is usually windblown but can have great powder sometimes, sometimes not. This is pretty steep but because it’s so wide it gives one comfort. As it flattens out you must make a decision, go straight to Otto Bahn for the traverse over to the Mountain Chief or bear to the left, staying on Lillie G, which gets thinner, and steeper with many moguls possible. This gets a lot of sun and is frequently icy or slick, or very soft because of the effects of the sun and southern exposure. Plus you go right under the Blackjack lift so make it look good!

Little Trees is one of my favorite shots at Copper. Although this is not very long, this well get your blood flowing for sure. Experts only for this trail off of the Sierra lift, and be prepared for a variety of conditions. There are several straight lines down this steep area or you can dip in and out of tree islands and even through them. This is pretty short and you have the bottom flat of the Sierra lift area to negotiate before you go up and do it again. This faces southeast so it gets it’s share of sun so in the spring you might want it to warm up before venturing here. Powder days are stupendous here, but it will be gone quick so get up here early.

Know the Code...

- Always stay in control, and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
- People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
- You must not stop where you obstruct a trail, or are not visible from above.
- Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
- Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
- Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
- Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.
**LOOKING GLASS 1,200’**

**ANDY’S RATING** NEVER GROOMED

76

Looking Glass is a super fun run in the lower Enchanted Forest area that can have some of the best powder on the mountain. The best part of Enchanted Forest is that it can not be repeated without a huge traverse, so this maintains it's conditions longer than almost anywhere else at Copper. Larry’s rock, a very famous rock that can be hit small (about 4 feet) or very big (50+) but one should be very careful here since there can be rocks or no snow on the landing or big trees to hurt you. Please pre screen this hit before hitting it! There is a large snow field to the right of Larry’s rock that can be awesome if there is enough snow, but also is a huge scree (rock) field that can ruin your equipment, or your body if you fall. A challenging double rock is also available here, way right when open and it ends up in the Cache Glades. Off of Larrys and below it gets tighter, so if it’s over your head, go to the left and it will eventually open up. All lines end on the super flat Coppertone back to the bottom.

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**LOWER ENCHANTED FOREST 1,200’**

**ANDY’S RATING** NEVER GROOMED

76/82

Lower Enchanted Forest is one of Copper’s expert gems. There is great terrain on all three trails here and it’s very hard to get back to here so the snow is usually some of the best conditions at Copper. The wind blows snow into here and since it faces west it receives it well. Upper Enchanted can get windblown but this is hidden by many trees so it’s usually awesome here. Rocks to huck, powder to ski or ride, bumps, chutes and more! Look up each trail individually for more information: Ute Overlook, Looking Glass, and Slip Not are the three named trails here and then there are a lot of expert trees also in this area. Please go with a friend in these trees for safety’s sake.

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Main Vein is one of the busiest trails at Copper Mountain. It is most likely the first trail to open to the public and one of the last to stay open. It drops right down into the main village... Most of the time this is one of the busiest trails at Copper and I'd stay away from it. However, if you are one of the first of the day on the run, you should have awesome corduroy side to side, top to bottom. And this run has a nice roller coaster effect with it’s many rolls and flats... And for those that like skiing under a chair, you will be seen by everyone on this run... From the top of the American Eagle lift, you have three choices, take a run through the upper Eagle terrain park and then drop into the top pitch of main vein, which is steep and most likely moguled... If you want to stay away from the moguls, go around on Rhapsody which drops directly into Main Vein. Or you could take the first pitch of Bittersweet (which can get icy or mogully) and take a right onto Main Vein. Early season, when Copper is one of the first in the country to open, this is a mad house run that is riddled with early season skiers and riders, many famous ski racing teams, many wanna be ski instructors getting their early season clinics, etc. I’d stay away personally since this is the center of the Copper Universe but when not busy, this is a fun, cruising blue... The half pipe is at the bottom left of this trail. There will be lots of people here so keep your head up.

Marvin Gardens is on the catwalk toward the skier’s right in the Spaulding Bowl area, Marvin Gardens is a medium steep pitch that is good for those who don’t want to scare themselves but want to experience one of Copper’s Bowls. Marvin Gardens is a great way to see the bowl without having to ski the hard stuff. If one is still intimidated by the pitch here, go further to the skier’s right, to Boardwalk, where it gets even easier. A scared person can see the bowl without hardly making a turn! However, Spaulding Rock, a big rock to jump off is located here; but shouldn’t be tried if not an expert, and lots of snow. Many rock pictures have been taken from this rock and many call it “Photographers rock”. Lots of people have eaten it off this rock ending their day or their season. Check it out first and note the flat landing if you go too far!

Located in Copper Bowl, Matchless provides a great cornice for you to jump off right in front of the top of the Mountain Chief Chair and good air off this cornice will earn you the accolades of those watching. Careful, you can hit some flat landings here, so predetermine your landing area. After landing, you will have to negotiate the varied terrain that gets less steep as you go but has all sorts of rolls, hits, trees, and other obstacles to impede your progress. A fun run that can be done over and over again unless the weather is nasty out, then I’d stay away, it can get ugly here...
**MINING DUMP**

81 **ANDY’S RATING** NEVER GROOMED

Mine Dump is a super black that is off the Excalibur and is one of the coolest trails at Copper since it has a consistent fall line and islands of trees in the middle. When groomed, this a great advanced trail and when bumped, a great bump trail. But on a powder day it is the best since you can get many laps with the Excalibur being right there. But you had better get there early since a lot of people know this! Great warm-up for the expert.

**MINOR MATTER**

15 **ANDY’S RATING** SNOWMAKING • GROOMED

Really just a cut through to get to the bottom of the Timberline Express from High Point, Minor Matter is a wide open green that has a smooth easy pitch. Most people should get as much speed as possible to get over to the Timberline Express but the timid might find this difficult... Not much to say... use it to get to the Timberline Express.
Middle Snowbird is a great run on a powder day and almost always great for the advanced. If you want variety, including rocks to jump off, moguls, berms and cants, along with terrain that does not see a snow groomer; this is the place for you. You won’t be alone though, as the locals consider this their favorite area. Be here early on a powder day.

Oh, No! is an awesome run off of Andy’s Encore that is quite a roller coaster ride. Usually, there is a small bump field at the beginning to discourage those not ready. From there it flattens out for a bouncy little moment, then there’s a road that you can get a small air off but don’t go too big, it flattens out quick. Then a hundred yards of flat with a bigger mound to get air off. After that it flattens out again, and bears left towards what some locals call “Blood Bowl” This is a steeper section that is sometimes groomed, sometimes not. Careful it can be crowded. Over to the far left is a section they don’t normally groom, that has big moguls and drop-offs, and is a fun little place to play but if you don’t like it you can cut right and get back to the easier stuff. Then, a choice; Go straight and go down Formidable, one of my favorites, but it brings you back to the Alpine lift; or bear left and down to Rosi’s run, down to the Super Bee or you can cut hard left and get back to the main village via Andy’s Encore.

Please remember that my ratings are an average and change every day with new snows, no snows, sun, skier traffic etc. Some days a 42 will feel like a 82 for example. Please keep this in mind!
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Park Place is one of the easiest ways down Spaulding Bowl and it really isn’t a black. I guess they had to call it a black since there are many intimidating sights to behold. And, I guess if you fell into one of the trails below on the catwalk over to Park Place, that could be dangerous. However, most people can make the traverse, so don’t worry. At the top of the Poma take a left to the Spaulding Bowl sign, and then go to the skier’s right. Follow the catwalk to the end and then go down... This way is the best for an intermediate to see the bowl without really skiing it.

Over Lode is a great expert trail that can end your day quickly if it’s riddled with moguls, or can be a sweet diversion from Rosi’s Run when it’s groomed. Most of the time they do not groom this so there are usually large fun moguls for those that like that kind of thing. Several fall lines and pitches and rolls all make this a fun challenge for the advanced intermediate and up. Check the grooming report because when this is groomed, watch out! The locals find out this information and go very fast down this one. Watch out at the end because you can come very quickly out on Skid Road with lots of people in the way...

This play on words honors long time Copper Employee, Skip Otto
Patrol Chute is a slightly hidden chute that comes almost directly off the entrance of the Spaulding Bowl. This is steep with many big rocks, and several pitch cants. This chute should only be open when there is a good amount of snow. If there is not a lot of snow this is unskiable. Probably one of the toughest chutes on the mountain, Patrol Chute will definitely get the heart pumping. Most should jump off the Cornice Chute cornice and then bear right. There's good picture taking to be found around here.

Prospector is a very fun trail off of the Lumberjack lift. With several pitches that have small rolls, this is still very easy for a beginner, and gives them a feeling of what a blue would be like without quite the steepness. There are tree islands and other obstacles on this relatively wide slope that is just perfect for the beginner. This area is one of the prettiest, with beautiful views and a feeling of total isolation from the rest of the mountain. Copper has one of the best assortment of easy green trails in the country in the Union Creek area.

Ptarmigan is a great blue off the Excelerator that is a good test for people making the transition from blue to black. This is a blue at Copper but is right on the edge. Depending on the conditions this can be really quite easy or quite hard. Sometimes its groomed side to side and its rolling terrain can be quite fun for carving turns and sometime it’s not groomed and can be riddled with smaller, non rhythmic bumps. Early season, this is one of the first runs to open and can get quite crowded. Regardless of how its skiing or riding, take your intermediate friends here first to see how they do. If they do well here, ride back up the Excelerator, and try CDL’s or Mine Dump to see how they do on this. This is a great area to test ones skills before bringing them elsewhere because the lift is fast, the trails aren’t that long if you get someone over their head, and there is a good amount of different terrain in this area. If you like it here you can probably get five runs an hour or more here.

**A northern grouse of mountainous and Arctic regions, with feathered legs and feet and plumage that typically changes to white in winter.**
Rattler is a fun and changing run that starts off at the top of the Blackjack chair and has a nice consistent pitch to it. Most of the time this is a fun and ungroomed black run that can have many moguls on it. The bumps are usually pretty good since better skiers and riders are back in this area. The sun can change the snow conditions here. Powder days are best of course with a nice fun black pitch that is wide open with a few tree islands. This is a good place to take someone first to see if they can handle this before taking them up the Mountain Chief lift for some harder stuff. This eventually curves around to the left to get back to the Blackjack chair. Please note if you go past the Otto Bahn traverse, you cannot get to the Mountain Chief Chair.

Retreat is located off to the skier’s left of the Sierra lift. This is a great black with rolling pitches and tree islands. This area of the mountain is usually touched last since it cannot be skied again without riding two chairs. Head over here on a powder day and you will be rewarded. When it’s windy over here, stay away since it’s wide open. The advanced intermediate will like this when it’s groomed, and probably not when it’s not. Check the grooming report. This is another excellent place on a powder day to learn powder because there are a couple of good steeper pitches but then flat areas to give you a break. You have to take the Timberline Express back up and then traverse back to the Sierra if you want to do this one again.

Revenge is the run directly below the Sierra lift. Usually littered with bumps and rocks, this is a good challenge for the advanced and a great warm-up before going to Little Trees or the hike up Union Peak. When you are first here on a powder day you are rewarded with a nice steep pitch. It’s too bad it doesn’t last longer. There are a couple of nice little “up” jumps and one pitch is really steep. A huge jump right under the chair sometimes appears when the conditions are right and can be a big crowd pleaser. Watch out for others, and the occasional snow fence.

This is a quick tangent off of the top of the American Eagle chair lift that takes you directly into Main Vein or you can catch Bouncer or Fairplay/Fairway. This has a nice intermediate pitch to it but it ends too quickly onto Main Vein. Careful here because this is a very busy area and is full of beginners trying their luck on a blue. Stick to the greens, I say to them because this pitch and the others in the area are solid middle of the road blues that will be difficult for the beginner and especially when you throw in lots of people. The intermediate will be comfortable here but should check out the other trails off the Super Bee or Timberline that are less crowded...
**Rosi’s Run** 3,600’

**ANDY’S RATING** SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED

Rosi’s Run is a great run under the Super Bee that has several steep pitches and a couple of flats to catch your breath. This gets groomed almost every day so it’s usually a great groomer that has a couple steep pitches to keep you on your toes. This was the last pitch of the 1987 World Championship Downhill course that started at the top of the Poma! They were said to be going over 80+ mph but I would not suggest that today since the boys and girls in yellow (ski patrol) will not appreciate that. You can go fast here because it’s very wide open but please be careful... Sometimes they leave sections of bumps on either side. No matter what, this is best early and deteriorates during the day since many choose to be over their ability as long as they stay in sight of the lift...

*Named after Rosi Mittermaier, German ski champion.*

---

**Roundabout** 9,000’

**ANDY’S RATING** SNOWMAKING • GROOMED

Roundabout intersects Soliloquy on the far west side of the mountain. Soliloquy goes to the Timberline Express and Roundabout ends at the bottom of the Kokomo lift. You can get most of Roundabout from the top of Lumberjack lift. This is a great long, gentle green for learning the basics of skiing or snowboarding. This run gives you the feeling of being totally out in the wilderness by yourself. I have never seen very many people on this trail, if any at all. I hope you find the same. Grandma will love you for taking her here. This is one of the best beginner trails in the country; and it just keeps going and going. The only real problem is the top of this run on a snow day or a slushy day since it is very flat and it requires poling or releasing from the snowboard...

---

**Sail Away Glades** 1,200’

**ANDY’S RATING** NEVER GROOMED

Sail Away Glades is a hidden and very tight tree gladed area that only the expert will enjoy. Taking a left at the top of Bittersweet on Easy Road, you have to go on a very flat traverse to get here. It goes uphill a tad, but when you get there, you will find an open steep section and then very tight trees. If you bear to the left eventually you’ll find your way to See & Ski and Coppertone for the flat return to the villages. If you bear right you’ll find more tight trees and eventually a stream. Be careful because I’ve seen many stuck in the stream and you do not want that. Always ski with others when you go into the trees.
**Sawtooth**

**Andy’s Rating** Snowmaking • OCCS. Groomed

87

When you are an advanced skier or rider and want to take in some bumps, with a steep consistent grade, Sawtooth may be your cup of tea. If it’s not, it’s going to be a long ride down to the bottom of the Resolution lift. These bumps are relentless and top to bottom, side to side. Early season or low snow years, this is also a place to find rocks and poor lines. But when the snow is good, especially on a powder day when the snow blows into the Resolution area, this is a ripper! And is seems the more snow, the better the lines through the bumps. Sawtooth starts off flat, and gradually gets steeper until the last pitch, where you will be visible from the chair riders, so make it look good! If you think you are in good ski or ride shape, this run will tell you... Every once in a while I have seen this groomed, but only like once every two years...

**Schaffer’s**

**Andy’s Rating** Never Groomed

83

Schaffers is one of the steeper Copper Bowl trails not including the Tucker Mountain trails. Lots of terrain changes, rocks, chutes, steeps, moguls and more can be found here. You should be pretty good to ski or ride here. Since there is a small climb to get here, most that shouldn’t be here don’t make the effort. This need a lot of snow to open up and is best when there has been a lot. You won’t see this open before Christmas unless we’ve been blessed...

**Scooter**

**Andy’s Rating** Snowmaking • OCCS. Groomed

25

Scooter is a fun and easy green off of the High Point lift that winds around and has many different green pitches. Most of the time this is groomed and is a great place to warm people up before taking them to the top. This can get busy when ski school is there, usually in the morning but most of all this is a great beginner run.

**See & Ski**

**Andy’s Rating** Snowmaking • OCCS. Groomed

24

See & Ski is a steeper green pitch coming off of Easy Road from the top of the American Eagle. This is quite short and we’re not sure if naming this gave the marketing department more trail numbers or was it that it is a little steeper than most of the greens in this area. But it is sooo short. Sometimes the moguls can build up and make this harder. If you are scared, continue on Easy Road...
Slot Car Track is a traverse that takes you from the Resolution area back over to the Alpine lift area or the East village or even the Main Village. If you are on a snowboard this can be potentially a pain in the butt. The key is to get speed right at the entrance, (just left of Cabin Chute) and maintain it. This starts off with a little hill and then goes completely flat so it you don’t want to walk, you’re going to need speed. It bears off to the left and goes a little uphill before the final 100 yards that bring you to the top of Far East; a trail in the Alpine lift area. Keep going straight, and you end up on Oh No and you then meet up with many more options. Keep traversing left until you get to Andy’s Encore and bear left at the end of that to get to the Main Village.

FACT: The flat part at the end is the 1st fairway of the Pete and Perry Dye designed golf course.

Skid Road and upper Skid Road is a traverse with excitement. From the top of upper Skid Road, which starts as a tangent off of Coppertone, you can take this all the way to the Super Bee. What’s exciting is all the people you’re going to try not to collide with; since you will intersect with at least 9 trails. Look for people coming down at you from the right, avoid all trees, snowmaking equipment, lift towers and all, and you’ll be fine. After the bottom of Andy’s Encore there’s a slight uphill section, so keep your speed. Then it really gets fun with a steeper and not very wide pitch that funnels for a couple hundred yards, and then gets very flat until you get to the Super Bee. Be very careful for slower people here.

Six Shooter is a good wake-up trail for the advanced skier/boarder and is located in Copper Bowl. This short pitch comes from the top of the Mountain Chief Chair and proceeds right under it in a typical Copper bowl type trail that is pretty steep but forgiving and wide-open. Varied terrain is found here and one must pay attention at all times for others in this more congested area. There’s a small cornice to jump off (depending on snow depth) and you’ll be in sight of the chair riders, so go big, (be careful.) Typical of all Copper Bowl trails, Six Shooter can get icy, slushy, bottomless etc.

Slip Not is a great advanced trail in the Lower Enchanted Forest area that typically has some of the best snow on the mountain. It faces west, so it receives the best snow at times and because you can’t get back here without a huge traverse, it maintains it’s conditions longer. Pretty steep, Slip Not has lots of character; trees, chutes, rocks, hits, powder and steeps make this a great area for those who are accomplished enough. The “madman” chutes are below Slip Not and they are not for the faint of heart. This is usually a great almost out of bounds experience with new snow, but with no snow or spring conditions, this can get a little tricky but overall this is one of the best spots on the mountain for the advanced.
Soliloquy’s start is not like the rest of the trail. From the top of the Timberline Express, the first pitch here is pretty steep, especially for a green. But after that it opens up and turns to the right and flattens out to almost completely flat for a while. A couple of tree islands break up the monotony of this easy trail. Great place to work on your turns with a wide open and groomed daily trail that most will feel very comfortable. The only problem is the first pitch and just take your time and control your speed if you are uncomfortable here since it will flatten out soon. Take this many times in a row off of the fast Timberline Express and you can progress up to the harder stuff.

So Fine

This is one of my favorite runs at Copper and although pretty short, this can get the blood flowing for sure. So Fine may be the easiest of the trails to the left of the entrance of Spaulding bowl but it is still an advanced area and not for the faint of heart. Off the top of the Storm King Poma, to the left in Spaulding bowl, this is a cornice drop to steep that is best with fresh snow but can be fun anytime. Go past Patrol Chute and Cornice Chute to get here. You can catch some big air here but know where you are landing because there are lots of rocks, some hidden, that can bite you. After the cornice jump, it’s a great consistent pitch that is steep and one of the widest in this area and you need to keep turning to control your speed. Sometimes you can slide your way into the trail but most of the time air is required. This is a super place to take photos of people jumping the cornice with the sky chutes in the background.

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Spaulding Bowl

**2,250’**

**ANDY’S RATING**: 49/90

**NEVER GROOMED**

How do you describe an vast bowl like this in a quick paragraph? You begin by saying this is one of Copper Mountains best assets. The intermediate can even enjoy this expert bowl by traversing way right to Boardwalk and then coming back way left where you can see the whole bowl and pretty much not have to make a turn. Please consult the map. But for the rest of us that can handle this terrain, there is everything from cornice drops, very steep chutes, to massive bump fields and powder fields to play it. Rule of thumb, from the entrance at the top of the Storm King Poma, left is very hard, experts only and it gets easier as you go to the right. Most of the runs are quite steep but rather short. The ones in the middle tend to have more bumps than the ones on either end. See each run for more specific information. If you bear to the right here and down, Spaulding Glades, a tight but fun tree experience awaits you. All types of conditions can be found in Spaulding Bowl so be prepared.

Spaulding Glades

**670’**

**ANDY’S RATING**: 76

**NEVER GROOMED**

Spaulding Glades come off of the skier’s right side of Spaulding Bowl and is a little playground of short steeps and many trees. It starts off flat at the gates and then there is a steep and tight pitch but it ends quickly and the rest is quite flat. There are lots of trees and powder to be found here and many different routes with no way back except by taking two lifts so the snow can stay good here longer. Other than the first steep pitch, advanced intermediates and up will like this. At the end you will follow the rope line back to the middle of Cross Cut to get you back to the bottom of the Resolution lift.

Spaulding Ridge

**800’**

**ANDY’S RATING**: 42

**NEVER GROOMED**

Spaulding Ridge is a cat track like trail that is more of a way to get to the harder trails of Spaulding Bowl that it is an actual trail. They like to bring the grooming machine down this ridge to make it easier for everyone to access Patrol Chute, Cornice Chute, So Fine, Atlantic and Pacific Cornices, and Triple and Double Zero. Careful here because high winds and cornice buildup, the snow can get a little weird and you certainly don’t want to get too close to the cornices, since they break and take you with them. This is great for those that want to peer in the top of the famed Spaulding Bowl runs, and then go around.

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**THE TEMPO**

**ANDY’S RATING**  SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED

Tempo is a little tangent off to the left of Copperfields in the Timberline Express area that is quite short but still a lot of fun. Most of the time Copperfields is groomed but if you cut left onto Tempo you’ll usually find a bunch of trees and moguls. This is a good place for the intermediate to try if they can handle bumps since if it isn’t happening, you can cut back to Copperfields pretty quickly. The terrain itself is not steep so that really helps the intermediate get better at bumps. Not much to say here, just a tangent to keep you on your toes...

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**THE NACHO**

**ANDY’S RATING**  NEVER GROOMED

The Nacho is the widest and flattest of all of Tucker Mountain. It is so wide open there is not a tree for a hundred yards. There are two ways to get here; climb 15 minutes from the top of the Mountain Chief lift, go past all the steep chutes and rocks until you get to The Nacho.; or you can take the free cat from the bottom after you wait in line. Make sure you tip the driver as a free cat is not something you find everyday. The open bowl feel of this is great, much like China Bowl at Vail. There are not many people that go on this because it’s hard to get to and most will pass it for steeper stuff. This can be a great open powder field or a sunbaked crud field only a Californian would like. It is so exposed that you will find all sorts of different conditions here. I hope they are good for your sake.

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**THE TACO**

**ANDY’S RATING**  NEVER GROOMED

The Taco is one of the longest steepest pitches at Copper and can have a variety of snow conditions depending on recent snows and wind. To get here, you must climb for approximately 25 minutes depending on your fitness; from the top of the Mountain Chief lift. Or you can take the free cat, which is an amazing deal and hopefully still going when you read this. Be sure to tip the driver. This can be intimidating peering in from the top and you should proceed with caution since a fall here could result in a long trip to the bottom. When it’s powder, the first ten people will be rewarded with great faceshots! On a spring day it must soften up but since it faces north, most of the time the snow is good. This looks crazy from afar and is different than most trails I’ve ever skied. Bring your camera.

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**TIMBER RIDGE**

**ANDY’S RATING**  SNOWMAKING • OCCS. GROOMED

At the top of the Sierra lift, and going up and off to the skiers left (not going back down to the Sierra Lift) there is Timber Ridge. From the lift you have to go uphill a tad, and the “S” Cornice is right in front of you. Catch a little cornice air, but not too much or you’ll land flat, and then continue on the flat section bearing right. Timber Ridge has many terrain changes and usually little bumps and ridges, with a fairly steep pitch. You won’t be able to get back to the Sierra lift. You’ll need to go up the Timberline Express to get back here and traverse over to Sierra. This is why the snow here is usually pretty good since you can’t get back here without riding two lifts. They occasionally groom this and when that happens, watch out, it’s a really fast ripper.

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**TREBLE CLIFF**

**ANDY’S RATING**

OCCS. GROOMED

75

Treble Cliff is a little tangent off of Rosi’s run at the bottom near the Super Bee. This small trail is a fun alternative to the much congested bottom area. This starts off fairly steep but then goes to a nice easy black pitch and winds around back to the top of the tubing hill. Sometimes it’s groomed and when that happens it’s quite fun but sometimes they leave the moguls and they are not the best since the pitch is slightly canted. On a powder day and Rosi’s is tracked out, head here for longer lasting powder. This is a pretty quick tangent, and it brings you right back under the Super Bee for the final flat runout to the bottom. My roommate broke his leg here, while race training with two feet of fresh and he got late and off the course, flipped three times and broke his femur. We now call it triple biff!

**TWO MUCH**

**ANDY’S RATING**

OCCS. GROOMED

78

Too Much is a great mogul trail in the Alpine lift area. Rarely groomed, if ever, this is a long and wild bumpy ride that will keep the expert turning and the intermediate exacerbated. There are many different terrain changes, with bumps, jumps, rocks, tree islands, drops and whatever else you might find on an ungroomed black run at Copper. Top to bottom on this one is near impossible unless you are in great shape and have all the skills... On a powder day you can get an infinite number of face shots while on a hard early spring morning this can be incredibly difficult. This is a great run and you can get plenty of rest on the ultra slow Alpine Lift.

**TRIPLE TREAT**

**ANDY’S RATING**

OCCS. GROOMED

81

Triple Treat is a crazy run over in the Alpine lift area. The groomers have a big influence on this trail because when groomed it is a fun and varied cruiser that intermediates and up will love. The locals find it’s groomed and have a contest who can make the least amount of turns but we all know that Ski Patrol frowns on such recklessness, independent upon ones’ proficiency... When it’s not groomed, this can be an entirely different story. Bumps bumps, and more bumps... The trail itself is probably the widest in the Alpine area, but not that wide compared to other trails on the mountain. There are lots of terrain changes, pitch differences, tree islands, moguls, drops and the lift is directly above you. Look good for the people sitting on the slow Alpine chair! There are a couple big natural kickers here for big air but please be careful.

The trail to the left, Too Much, was originally called “two” as all the trails were numbers at the beginning of Copper, they upgraded the name to “too much”.

This trail was originally called “three” in the beginning but they upgraded the name to triple treat.
TRIPLE ZERO 500’

**ANDY’S RATING**

**NEVER GROOMED**

**ANDY’S RATING**

88/91

Triple Zero is a steep and not very wide trail from the top of the Resolution chair, or down from the Super Bee or Excelerator. This is a fun challenge for the advanced and the intermediate will have his or her hands full, or is it feet full. Crash here and you probably will be down at the bottom but keep it together and you might get some hoots from the Resolution chair. Bumps, tree islands and steepness will keep you smiling, hopefully...You can continue on any of the Resolution trails, such as Cross Cut by cutting right, watch out for people; or by going straight down Highline or take the traverse to get to the others. Be here first on a powder day because it gets tracked out quick but usually maintains a fun bumpy steep challenge.

TUCKER MOUNTAIN 2,500’

**ANDY’S RATING**

**NEVER GROOMED**

**ANDY’S RATING**

88/91

Tucker Mountain is the crown jewel for the advanced at Copper Mountain. There are so many different choices here, from steep, narrow chutes to wide open powder fields. Most of the time you have to climb from the top of the Mountain Chief lift, across many steep chutes, past The Nacho, an open powder field, and then up to Tucker Mountain. Some of the time they run a free snowcat. Yes, at this writing it was free, although you should give a tip for this amazing opportunity. Many other ski areas offer cat excursions for up to $500 a day. So take the cat if it’s running and the trip will be a lot easier. When you get to the top you have many options: See the individual trails for more information and descriptions. You start off with West Taco, a wide open above treeline experience, and then Taco, an open funnel chute that is awesome. Then after more climbing there is the dumpster, a metal box patrol has graciously left for us, for warming up if needed. Then come the Fremont Glades, open powder fields with black type steepness. All choices are good but some are better on some days, some others are good on other days. You should ask a patroller what he or she thinks. If you go down “one” you will have to climb back to the Blackjack chair. All other choices require almost no end hiking...

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**UNION BOWL**

80/85

**ANDY’S RATING**

NEVER GROOMED

Union Bowl is an awesome advanced playground that requires a small hike either way you come in. You access by getting off the Sierra lift and walking about 10 minutes directly up to the peak (may be more depending on your fitness level) or by going around by going up the Rendezvous lift, traversing Otto Bahn and going up Mountain Chief. At the top of Mountain Chief you can traverse to the right and up the hill. Eventually you’ll have to take your equipment off but with a good tuck you can take a good part of the uphill. When you arrive at the summit of Union Bowl you are rewarded with one of the best views of Copper and the surrounding Rocky Mountains. Copper Bowl and beyond to the south, Vail and beyond to the west, Steamboat to the north and the continental divide, Breckenridge, Keystone to the East. Union Peak itself is very steep and usually bumpy, one of the steepest and most consistent at Copper. It’s great and pretty long for being as steep as it is and it’s ends up with a decision; Do I hit the onion roll or not. Most should say no to this super huge natural jump that can be incredibly big under the right circumstances. Check the jump first before going, check the landing, and get the video camera. Please be careful, I’ve seen many a patrol sled up here and none of us want that...

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**UNION GAP**

35

**ANDY’S RATING**

OCCS. GROOMED

Union Gap is a short blue that connects the Rendezvous or Sierra lifts with the green trail Coppertone. There is a steeper pitch here so they had to name it but it is really short and ends up on the easy Coppertone very fast.

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**UNION MEADOWS**

73

**ANDY’S RATING**

OCCS. GROOMED

Union Meadows is a very large area on the far west side of Copper. This is never groomed and can have a variety of conditions. The open sections in the upper part tend to get a little windblown but always hold caches of fun powder. There are many tree glades and mini trails through the lower parts of this area. There are several flat spots and many tight spots. Through repeated journeys into this area will help you understand it’s idiosyncrasies. There are colored trail signs that tell you what part of Union Meadows you are in but all come out after a long flat section onto Soliloquy, for the flat trip back to the Timberline Express. This is definitely a place to take intermediates to get a taste of open fields of powder. Beware though, the open nature of this area leads to windblown snow and or crud. And watch out for a drop off some call the waterfall right in the middle of the runout at the end; usually for some exposed rocks or tree branches...
Union Park is a jewel of a trail high on the mountain off the Rendezvous lift. The first pitch is almost a blue pitch but the rest of the trail is very flat so I agree calling it a green. The strong beginner will love it here, with incredible views of the surrounding peaks and great peaks at the black terrain that are all around but having a nice green to get back down. The views are memorable and the two picnic tables are great for a high alpine lunch if the weather is good. Don’t forget the camera!

Upper Sluice is a quick tangent that gets the intermediate from the top of the American Flyer Lift, down to the Sierra lift without going around or going down the steep Indian Ridge. This still has it’s challenges though, usually with many bumps and a steep quick face. Bear to the left side of this run to bypass most of the bumps. Since this faces SE it can get sun baked and then freeze so look for hard conditions in the changing springtime.

Upper Enchanted Forest can be one of the best advanced areas at all of Copper but there are times it can be the worst. It faces northwest and can receive some of the best snows at the mountain but its basically treeless slopes get quite blown every once in a while. Only by taking the Storm King Poma can you get to this area and then only with knowledge can you get back here by taking only two lifts. Thus this is not as travelled as the other areas at Copper. All sorts of terrain can be found here; from wide open powder areas to small tree glades, small natural hits and one very large hit called the motocross jump. This natural terrain park like jump ends way too flat but can be quite fun on a powder day. When it’s windy out you may want to stay away from Upper Enchanted Forest, or when the poma line is out the maze, if not, this may be one of your favorite at Copper. Ends up on Coppertone with many options, please consult the map...

Ute Overlook is a great trail in the Lower Enchanted Forest area. To get here go past the bottom of the Storm King Poma, and traverse until you see the Lower Enchanted Forest signs. You have to go through a little tricky traverse and when you get right below a huge cliff to your left, you will come to Ute Overlook. It starts with a small natural up jump that is fun if you hit it right and then you will most likely encounter a large steeper pitch of moguls. This is a very consistent pitch, so the moguls are usually pretty good, and since you can’t get back to here without a huge traverse, this terrain stay a lot nicer than much of Copper Mountain. The trees to the left or right are great for accomplished skiers and riders but the slope itself is great, especially on a powder day.
VEIN GLORY  
**ANDY’S RATING** SNOWMAKING • GROOMED

Vein Glory starts off pretty flat but gains steepness as it goes. This goes right under the High Point lift and is a good trail for advancing the solid beginner to harder terrain. This gets groomed often and is quite fun for most. Sometimes, they close this trail and put boardercross/skiercross course here. That is basically a race course with banks and jumps (and lots of nets to protect them) and they go up to four at a time much like a motocross. Be sure to check this out from the lift as it gives you the best vantage point.

WEST TACO  
**ANDY’S RATING** NEVER GROOMED

West Taco is a neat expert area on Tucker Mountain that takes either a hardy walk around the ridge from the top of the Mountain Chief lift or a ten minute walk from the Copper snowcat (if it’s running). Right before you get to the patrol warming hut is West Taco. This area is steep, with many rocks and almost nothing else. This is open when there is enough snow, and not too much wind. This is great when the conditions are favorable but can be very difficult when not. This is no longer on the map but I choose to describe and rate it since it can be a neat run to ski when the conditions are right.

WEST ENCORE  
**ANDY’S RATING** OCCS. GROOMED

West Encore is a little tangent off Collage that goes right below the Super Bee lift and is very short. This is pretty flat and boring for most of it, with a little hit here and a rock there and then there is a main pitch that is usually bumped up. Directly below the lift, the moguls are usually pretty good because it’s a consistent fall line but then it ends quickly as it returns to Collage or Andy’s Encore.

VEIN GLORY

VEIN GLORY

VEIN GLORY

WEST TEN MILE  
**ANDY’S RATING** GROOMED

West Ten Mile is a super beginner trail that starts at the top of the Lumberjack lift and slowly winds it’s way back to the bottom of the lift. It’s usually quite quiet here and beginner will love the openness and lack of people. Bring a strong beginner here and it might take you half the day to get down. If that’s ok then enjoy the solace and quiet as this naturally separated trail (see marketing department) makes you think you are at a much smaller ski area. Combine this trail with Soliloquy from the top of the Timberline Express for a super long flat trail...
**WHEELER CREEK**

**4,000'**

**ANDY’S RATING**  
**GROOMED**

Wheeler Creek is located at the top of the Rendezvous lift, nearing the top of Copper. Great views abound here and the terrain is great for strong beginners and up. The first pitch is a little steep but that’s all there is; the rest is flat. They call this the “land of the extreme greens” because you are so high on the mountain but the terrain is quite easy. Union Bowl is right in front of you as you go up the chair but you won’t have to ski it; you get the easy Wheeler Creek. There are two picnic tables here and great views beyond Copper, such as the back of the 10 Mile Range, Breckenridge is on the other side) and south with majestic peaks that go on forever. Bring your camera and you’ll be very happy. Of course, on snowy or cloudy days, the views can be diminished.

*The area around Copper used to be called the town of Wheeler, and it’s namesake trail is a great green.*

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**WOODWINDS**

**5,400'**

**ANDY’S RATING**  
**SNOWMAKING • GROOMED**

Woodwinds is really two trails in one. The first part, which starts from the middle of Highpoint and goes to the bottom of the Timberline Express is a nice green that the solid beginner will love. It is wide, usually groomed and not very steep. The second part that starts from the Timberline Express is a flat traversing type trail that takes you back to the bottom of Union Creek or Center Village. This is so flat and has a slight cant to it that many will hate this. I suggest going back up the Timberline Express for those who do not like a flat traverse. Snowboarders who are not accomplished will hate this and may have to take a foot out. You are now forewarned!

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**WINDSONG**

**4,800'**

**ANDY’S RATING**  
**OCCS. GROOMED**

Windsong is a middle of the road blue in the Timberline Express area. This is wide, consistent and lots of fun for the intermediate and up. Tree islands and a couple of pitch changes make this one of the best blues at Copper. Can get crowded though.

---

**17 GLADE**

**2,000'**

**ANDY’S RATING**  
**NEVER GROOMED**

This hidden gem is located off of Collage and offers the expert skier or rider a great gladed, steep area that can have some of the best powder Copper has to offer. If you don’t like powder, trees, bumps, and other assorted obstacles; stay away. When going down Collage, look to the left after the road back to the Excelerator. There are several entrances to 17 Glade, all left after that road. The farther left you go in 17 Glade, the tighter it gets and the shorter it gets. Bear to the right if the trees are too tight and it opens up and gets longer. This can be a little boney early season, and there’s always some areas that are low on snow or scraped up. This ends up on Bouncer for the trip down to the bottom.
**ALPINE LIFT**

**RATING AVERAGE:** 7-81  
**TIME:** 12 MIN

The Alpine Lift is one of the last remaining lifts from the original lineup. The slowest two person chair in history (probably not, but in the running) takes at least 12 minutes to get you halfway up the mountain. That is precisely why the terrain over here stays the way it does. It takes quite a commitment to continually ride this chair for a few hours; but your legs probably need it as the terrain over here is mostly bumps, steeps, and trees that the expert will love. This lift rarely has a lift line and is usually a little warmer than other parts of the mountain; or is it that I’m always sweating after battling the moguls et al... Look behind the lift and you’ll see some of the fun holes of the Copper Creek Golf Course.

**AMERICAN EAGLE**

**RATING AVERAGE:** 7-82  
**TIME:** 7 MIN

The American Eagle is one of the busiest chairs at Copper and is one of the two lifts out of the Center Village. This gets you to the bottom of the Excleratior and Solitude Station. This is usually the first chair to open for the season. This is a high speed quad that takes you up to the middle of the mountain and many blue trails. Obviously this can get very busy most of the time. Stay away in the morning if you can, and almost always on the weekends. Unless you like standing in lift lines. The singles line is always a good alternative and the east side has usually a shorter line.

**AMERICAN FLYER**

**RATING AVERAGE:** 23-48  
**TIME:** 10 MIN

The American Flyer is the other chair coming out of the Center Village. This high speed quad takes you up the western side of Copper for lots of choices for the beginner and intermediate. You can also access the Sierra and Rendezvous Chairs from here, as well as the Timberline Express for many more options. They don’t call this the American Freezer for nothing though, as this long ride can get quite cold and for some reason it stops twice every time you ride it. Hopefully not for you. The lines can get quite long here and there is only one side to get on so there is no alternative although the singles line definitely helps.

**BLACKJACK**

**RATING AVERAGE:** 22-81  
**TIME:** 5 MIN

Blackjack is one of the two chairs back in the Copper Bowl area that are very slow but quite scenic. There is rarely a line here except on really busy days. This gets you to the top of the Northeastern side of the bowl for access to the front side via the trails under the Rendezvous lift, and the Copper Bowl trails that face south. These trails are usually bumped up and slightly easier that the others in the bowl. See each individual trail for more information.
Easy Rider is a carpet lift for beginners at the bottom of the main village, just to the skier’s right of the American Eagle. This is for the first day beginner and most will be bored here quickly. Take a lesson, don’t learn from your friends and you will progress much faster. It’s worth the small investment.

The Excelerator is a great quick quad chair that gets you near the top of the mountain and many options. When this isn’t busy you can make many laps on the blues and blacks off of it but when it is busy it should be avoided unless you like lift lines. The NASTAR racing course is off this and they have a self timer for challenging your friends. There are many fun trails off this lift so it’s a great choice when not crowded. At the bottom of this lift is the Solitude Station, a great meeting place, eating place or resting place.

The Gem lift is a one person poma in the secluded Green Acres area between the American Eagle and the East Village. This is difficult to get to and because of this it’s a great place for beginners. It’s also usually warmer here because it’s sheltered by many trees. It’s only about 100 yards long. I’d only come here with an apprehensive beginner for working on the skills necessary to get over to the Union Creek beginner area.

It’s the 2nd hole of the Copper Creek Golf Course in the summer.

The High Point lift is a very slow two person chair lift that comes out of the Union Creek Beginner area. This is one of Copper’s original lifts and serves several purposes but it is so slow and does not go very far up the mountain. Three purposes are for sure: 1. This is one of two ways to get out of the Union Creek Area... (I-Way, at the top of Lumberjack is the other)... 2. This gets people to the top of the Catalyst Terrain Park, or the boarder cross if it’s built on Vein Glory... or 3. You really like the easy terrain over here and don’t mind that its not very efficient. Anyone over beginner ability will probably get bored on this slow lift. This is a great place to watch a boarder cross event because you are right above it.
LUMBERJACK

**RATING AVERAGE: 12-34**
**TIME: 9 MIN**

Lumberjack is the least used and least crowded of any chair at Copper. Very rarely is there a lift line here. The terrain is mostly green here and it’s so quiet and tranquil over here you won’t believe you’re at the 7th busiest mountain in the country. This slow three person chair is also usually hidden from the elements more than other chairs so it’s good on a nasty day too! The chairs are lower to the ground than most other chairs for those who are afraid of heights.

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PITCHFORK

**RATING AVERAGE: 5**
**TIME: 4 MIN**

Pitchfork is a slow and short two person chair in the secluded Green Acres area that is great for first or second day beginners. You’ll learn how to get on a chair here, maybe for your first time, with a ski area employee that expects you not to know what you are doing. The chair comes around slow and take you up to the easy beginner run. When this gets boring, go over to Union Creek via the free shuttle for longer runs.

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KOKOMO

**RATING AVERAGE: 19**
**TIME: 8 MIN**

The Kokomo lift is a very slow three person lift in the Union Creek area that is perfect for beginners. This is not too high off the ground and slow enough to get on or off without too much trouble is what the Kokomo is all about. The great thing about Copper is that all the green runs are off to the west where this lift is and there is no reason for an expert to be here. So here you can relax and learn the finer points of skiing or riding. There are a few fun trails off of this lift or if you feel ready to take the next step, use Kokomo to get you to the Lumberjack lift. Hopefully you have a good teacher or let the fine instructors of Copper teach you correctly and quickly.

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MOUNTAIN CHIEF

**RATING AVERAGE: 55-92**
**TIME: 5 MIN**

I think the Mountain Chief is one of the best chairs at Copper even though it’s super slow. It accesses all the goods at Copper Bowl, it’s rarely busy, and it’s a great chair for those to see the bowl without having to ski or ride it. What I mean is: go from the top of Rendezvous Chair, down Otto Bahn to the Mountain Chief lift. Ride it up and see if any appeals to you. If not, ride off forward on the backside of the Sierra Lift area and you’ll find blues to get you down.
RENDEZVOUS
RATING AVERAGE: 22-81
TIME: 7 MIN

Rendezvous is a slow three person lift that everyone who want to experience Copper has to ride. The views from the top of this lift are amazing, and almost anyone can come it since this has easy green runs off it. Great views also of Union Bowl and the Sierra lift runs unless it’s snowing. Even an intermediate can go straight off of Rendezvous and go to Otto Bahn to the Mountain Chief lift to see the whole Copper Bowl without even skiing it. Under Rendezvous are two great runs, Wheeler Creek and Union Park and they are pretty easy, and they are way near the top of the mountain. That’s why they call this area “the land of the extreme greens”. Go straight off of this lift to get to Copper bowl, either chair lift. Also at the top of Rendezvous is a great deck for bringing your lunch with outrageous views. Of course when it’s snowy or windy, the views may not be as good. Another deck is near the beginning of the lift, on the skiers right side and that is more sheltered.

RESOLUTION
RATING AVERAGE: 55-87
TIME: 9 MIN

The Resolution Lift is what expert skiing and riding is all about. Four trails and one lift that will tire you out quickly. This triple goes right up the middle of the Resolution area, which is comprised of steeps, bumps, powder and a little gladed skiing. It is always warmer over here as it is less exposed to the elements. The only run that gets groomed is Cross Cut and they don’t groom that very often. The rest see a groomer maybe once a year. Powder days are great here, and in the springtime this area is great after it softens up. These are pretty long runs and you don’t want to end up here by mistake as there are no ways out but to the bottom of this chair.

RUG RAT
RATING AVERAGE: 7
TIME: 1 MIN

The Rug Rat lift is a rope tow with paddles located in the Union Creek learning area. It is pretty much for the ski school and is usually crowded. Go to Green Acres for the apprehensive beginner instead of this. Or the Kokomo for aggressive beginners.

Andy’s Ski & Ride Guides are now available on your mobile device. Visit www.andysmobile.mobi.
Slingshot is a small carpet that takes you from the bottom of Union Creek up the short hill to the Kokomo lift. This is very short and easy and just helps people climb up this section.

The Sierra lift is a great lift for the intermediate and up. On the front side of the lift there are many black trails that offer up some great steeps and many moguls. Off the backside are some blue cruisers, some open powder fields and a couple of steep chutes if you can find them. This exposed three person lift is not the best place to be in a storm unless you like that kind of thing, because there are very little trees and mostly open, above treeline skiing and riding. You can also get to the foot pack up to Union Peak if it's open. Springtime and good snow years are when Sierra shines as it’s a huge rock field up here so it needs some coverage. You can ride the Sierra lift and see all that it has to offer up front, and if it’s too much you can take a cruiser off the back. Please don’t bring the beginner up here as there is no easy way down...

There is no skiing off this lift. The Stinger is the lift for the tubing hill. This is only for bring tubers up and not for skiing or riding. Tubing is really fun no matter how old you are...

The Storm King Poma accesses the goods... for the expert skier or rider and it also offers up some intermediate terrain. This is one of the highest lifts in North America and is a one person poma lift; ie.a platter with a pole attached. Here you can get to all of Spaulding Bowl, Upper Enchanted Forest or you can try some of the terrain the comes right back to the lift. Also, Lillie G is a hundred yard traverse away, which gets you to Copper Bowl. The lift itself is a little tricky, you must wait for the green light before grabbing the poma and putting it between your legs. I have seen other types of maneuvers, but most don’t work. When the line is out the maze, it’s over twenty minutes so you may want to come back later. People are always falling off this and not being able to get up and it can be quite annoying on a powder day. I’m not sure of the solution, a chair lift would bring more people up here...and we don’t want that!
The Glide is another carpet in the Union Creek Ski School area that is primarily for the beginner that is part of a class. This is super short and easy and will be boring to all but the first hour beginners.

The Super Bee may be the best lift in America... Big statement but the amount of terrain that is off of this is immense, the lift serves six people at a time and it takes less than ten minutes to get to the top. Sometimes there can be a lift line but not very often. You can get to most of the front side blue cruisers from here, as well as access to Resolution Bowl, Spaulding Bowl via the Storm King lift and more. This great chair took the place of two slow two person chairs; B and B1, which each took 12 minutes. And you had to wait in line twice to get to the top. Pay attention, as it is not that easy to get six people to the chair without something happening. They have put in stalls as to separate each person, and the lift detaches so it goes very slow. Just pay attention and go to the wait here line and it will be very easy. Watch out for tower 25, when whatever you have in your hands may be jostled by a startling bump! Anybody know why?

The Timberline Express four person quad is a great chair for the advanced beginner and intermediate for fun blues and some greens. This is a fast chair and you can get a lot accomplished in a little amount of time here unless the chair is crowded. This can be the case on busy days and I stay away from here when that is the case because the lines can get quite long here. The singles line is a definite saviour here but even that can get long. On nasty days, this can be a little better because it’s not as exposed.

Please visit my advertisers as they are all great people with great products that I’ve personally had much contact with.
**TERRAIN PARKS**

There are several great terrain parks at Copper. First, for the kids is the Kidz Terrain Park at the top of the American Flyer. There is a very small halfpipe, a couple of small jumps, and sometimes a rail or two. This is a great place to teach the aggressive kids on proper terrain park etiquette.

Then there is the Eagle Jib Park that has a bunch of small boxes, rails and the such for practicing smaller jib tricks.

On the way to the big park, the Catalyst Terrain park off of the American Flyer lift there are several small terrain park features with medium sized jumps and rails. They are called High Point Park and Jibberish Park. They are great for the intermediate terrain park goer.

Then the big one, the Catalyst Terrain Park. This is one of the best parks in the country and is constantly changing. Generally, (things change every day) there is a smaller line of jumps and rails on the left, a medium line of jumps and rails in the middle. The big and I mean BIG jumps and rails are on the right. Remember to always inspect all features before doing them and watch out for others at all times!

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**COPPER’S HALFPIPE**

Copper has one of the best halfpipe in the county and it’s located at the bottom near the American Eagle on the last pitch on the left of Main Vein. Many great contest have been run here and this is a real world class halfpipe. Make sure you understand that you need to wait your turn here, and watch out for others. Please don’t bring your kids here unless they are accomplished skiers or riders. I’ve seen too many families snowplowing down the middle of this and taken out by an unknowing skier or rider. The kids pipe is at the top of the American Flyer and is much safer for families... Thank you..

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**RACE HILL ANALYSIS**

The Copper Mountain race hill is located off of Copperopolis and has two Nastar lanes and two self timer lanes (most of the time)... Stop by the shack at the top of the course and talk to the friendly staff and they will tell you what’s going on. The pitch starts off relatively easy but halfway down there is a large, quick and pretty steep roll. You must be aware of this or it may throw you. After that it’s pretty flat to the bottom. Set up the roll and you will beat your buddies!
There are many great tree lines to explore at Copper. Please keep in mind that tree skiing or riding is very dangerous and should not be attempted by those who are not good enough. You should be at least an advanced intermediate, with good confidence and you should always go with a partner!

1. **BLACK BEAR GLADES: RATINGS: 87**
   This is steep and hopefully deep with lots of open corridors through large trees. You’ll find this over between Rosi’s Run and Formidable and this is great for the expert. Remember to duck out early or you have to walk a bit.

2. **17 GLADE: RATING 85**
   This has many obstacles like stumps and rocks and a black pitch. To the skier’s left is the hardest so get right if you want more openness. Access from Collage. Ends on Bouncer.

3. **X-MAS TREE GLADES: NOT ON MAP RATING 75**
   X-Mas tree glades are located under the American Flyer lift about ¾ of the way up. Take High Point down and take a left before the steeper pitch that goes right under the chair. The trees are all spaced nicely apart and with knowledge you can make it all the way to the Timberline Express. Watch for stumps, especially early season...

4. **HO CHI MEN TRAIL TREES: NOT ON MAP RATING: 82**
   Enter Lower Enchanted Forest (past the Storm King Poma) and take the initial path all the way to the skier’s left. The Ho Chi Men Trail Trees start at the natural half pipe to the left. You can take the traverse as far as you want left but it gets shorter as you go. You can get to the Sierra or Rendezvous lifts via this way also...

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1. **Hints On Getting Around**
   - Always take the singles line when it’s busy. You ride to the ski area together, you eat together, you live together, why ride the lift together if it’s less efficient. Maybe you’ll meet someone cool doing the sport you love... Singles lines are great...
   - When busy, stay away from the main village quads. Ski the upper lifts or go back to the back bowls. Watch out for the Storm King Poma as it’s always busy, as is the Timberline Express on a crowded day. Resolution, Blackjack and Mountain Chief are rarely crowded.
   - Do Not eat lunch between 11:00 and 1:00. This is when you should be out on the mountain as everyone else is having lunch. You’ll find much shorter lift lines then.
   - Come in April. This is the best month at Copper. It’s very warm, usually 100% Open, the crowds are light, lodging prices are better and everything is on sale at the shops.
   - Follow the sun in the springtime. One of the best things about Copper is that it faces 360 degrees. With the freeze-thaw process in full force in the spring, Copper offers all directions with some warming up before the others.
   - Check the grooming report; it has lots of valuable info! For online grooming reports from Copper go to www.coppercolorado.com and go to Trail Reports.
TOP 5

TOP 5 BEST TRAILS EVERYONE SHOULD SKI WHEN COMING TO COPPER MOUNTAIN:

BEGINNER
Solioquy
Wheeler Creek
West Ten Mile
Coppertone
Roundabout

INTERMEDIATE
Andy’s Encore
Collage
Ptarmigan
Timber Ridge
American Flyer

ADVANCED
Rosi’s Run
Far East
Highline
Calendar Chute
Far West

EXPERT
Enchanted Forest
Cornice Chute
Tucker Mountain
Union Peak
Triple Zero
Legend

Lifts | Quantity
--- | ---
High-Speed Six-Passenger Chairlift | 1
High-Speed Quad Chairlift | 4
Triple Chairlift | 5
Double Chairlift | 5
Surface Lift | 2
Conveyor Lift | 4

Guest Services / Information
Public Race Arena (NASTAR)
Ski Patrol
Parking
Bus Stop
Picnic Table
Cafeteria / Restaurant / BBQ

Traverse Routes

Restrooms
Inter-Faith Chapel

Easiest way down from a given location

Slow Zones
Slow & Family Zones
Cross Country Skiing
Ski & Ride School
FREE Snowcat Access

Ski Area Boundary
Forest Supervisor’s Closure
Closed

Easiest Terrain
Intermediate Terrain
Expert Terrain
Expert Only
High Alpine Adventure Terrain
Rarely groomed and is designated for expert snowriders only. Expect unmarked obstacles.

Extreme Terrain
Contains cliffs, very steep (50 degree or greater pitch) slopes, as well as rocks and other hazards. Skiing or snowboarding extreme terrain is for EXPERTS ONLY.

Freestyle Terrain
Features include but are not limited to, jumps, jibs, rails, fun boxes, snowcross, quarterpipes, halfpipes, superpipes and all other constructed and natural features. The following terrain site features will be posted at Terrain Park entrances:

- Smaller Features
- Medium Features
- Larger Features

Warning: Don’t stop or stand where you are not visible from above. Make a plan. Look before you leap. Easy style it. Respect gets respect.

Terrain Zones

This map is an artistic representation and does not accurately reflect the contours or dimensions of the resort or its specific areas. Source image © GeoEye, Inc.

THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL TRAIL MAP

E-Map... click here
Forest Supervisor’s Closure
The purpose of the Forest Supervisor’s closure is to mitigate potential effects to Canada Lynx habitat.

Free Snowcat Access
Free Tucker Mountain Snowcat Access is as close to a backcountry experience as you’ll find inside any resort. Access Tucker Mountain by hiking the West Ridge of Copper Bowl, or by taking a FREE ride in a Tucker Mountain Snowcat. Cats run from 10am to 1:30pm daily. Cat operations, terrain openings and conditions may vary and are subject to change. Tucker Mountain closes at 2pm.
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