
From: Chuck Strain <>
Sent: Saturday, May 22, 2021 1:16 PM
To: Massman, Samuel -FS <>
Subject: [External Email]Lumbering Lift to No Longer Aid Criminals

[External Email]

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Dear Mr. Massman,

I've sent the following to some of my ski pals:

The legendarily-slow Lumberjack lift at Copper Mountain's western boundary has long been compared to the movement of tortoises and sloths. Some of us are old enough that we no longer buy green bananas, let alone board the Lumberjack chairlift.

Riding it has been especially painful since COVID-19 restrictions prevented lifties from handing out sleeping bags and pillows for the long ride up. Some

additional comfort had been provided by COVID-safe Depend-brand absorbent pads, specially-designed for quickly slipping down into ski bibs. But supplies ran out in late December. And from spring break through the end of the season, Copper insisted that to board the lift past noon, you'd have to display lift tickets for both today and tomorrow.

The U.S. Forest Service has threatened to permanently withdraw the lift's permit for safety reasons. Engineered to hold just two persons, far too many babies have been born right on the chair, thereby exceeding safe capacity.

Summit County Sheriff Jaime FitzSimons has, for years, been pressuring Copper to eliminate what he calls "the Lumberjack Loophole." Misdemeanor crimes--like simple assault, menacing, petty theft, disorderly conduct, or abuse of a corpse--committed during the first part of the Lumberjack ride can't be prosecuted. The statute of limitations has run by the time both perpetrator and victim have reached the top.

But pressure from tough-on-crime advocates has finally moved the needle. We now have literally uplifting news! Copper plans to replace the lumbering Lumberjack with a high-speed quad chair that will extend 600 feet farther up the Roundabout trail:

<https://www.summitdaily.com/news/copper-mountain-resort-plans-to-replace-and-extend-lumberjack-lift-to-improve-beginner-skiing/>

Petty criminals needn't worry. Those with a passport will probably flock next season to Sun Peaks, British Columbia, where the longest ride in North America is 21 minutes on the Burfield chair. And criminals who can't leave Colorado because they're already on probation may choose the 14.5-minute Primo chair at Sunlight Mountain Resort, or the 13.6-minute Bell Mountain chair at Aspen Mountain.

~~Yours, Chuck Strain

