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**COPPER MOUNTAIN IMPLEMENTS PROGRAM to FUND
LOCAL FOREST CONSERVATION PROJECTS
in WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST**

Copper Mountain, CO... August 9, 2006... Copper Mountain, the National Forest Foundation (NFF), and the U.S. Forest Service are proud to announce the creation of a program to provide funding for local conservation projects within the Dillon Ranger District of the White River National Forest. Copper has officially partnered with the National Forest Foundation, a non-profit partner of the U.S. Forest Service, hoping to raise \$75,000 in the first year of the program.

“Copper Mountain Resort is taking a leadership role with this effort,” said Congressman Mark Udall, co-chair of the Congressional Ski and Snowboard Caucus. “With the help of this partnership program--and the contributions of those staying at and enjoying this resort--the quality of life and environment of the Summit County area can be maintained.”

“The fact that these funds will be spent on conservation projects not only in the White River National Forest, but right here in Summit County, is a true benefit for everyone who enjoys our public lands,” Copper Mountain General Manager Gary Rodgers said. “We believe our guests share our commitment to improve and enhance our environment.”

Copper’s voluntary lodging guest contribution program encourages guests to make donations of \$1 per room night. Funds raised by Copper Mountain will be matched at 50 percent by the NFF, and all funds raised will be used to complete local forest conservation projects in the Dillon Ranger District. Copper will facilitate the program, while educating guests on donation opportunities and the importance of local conservation efforts. The program will begin on Copper’s opening day, Nov. 3, 2006.

“The partnership between Copper Mountain and the National Forest Foundation is a wonderful idea,” said Bob French, Summit County Commissioner. “I don’t know how much money will be raised but every dollar helps.”

“This is a wonderful initiative to raise funds for local conservation projects, while educating Copper Mountain guests about ways that they can help care for the National Forest where they enjoy skiing and other unique recreational opportunities,” noted NFF President William J. Possiel.

Funds will be donated by Copper to the NFF. Local U.S. Forest Service officials, the NFF and Copper Mountain staff will work together to determine which conservation projects to select for funding. The NFF will then work with local non-profit organizations to complete the conservation projects. Examples of conservation projects that may be funded by the NFF and Copper’s donation program include projects in the areas of recreation, wildlife and stream restoration.