

# **Ski magazine takes a ride through steeps at Sierra**

**By Paul Tolme, SKI**

My pulse quickens as I exit Gate 5 and traverse the ridge above Huckleberry Canyon, 320 acres of steep and deep terrain just beyond the ropes at Sierra-at-Tahoe. Until recently, only a few ski patrollers and brave locals ventured into this former out-of-bounds area. There was always avalanche danger – not to mention the overhanging cornices and narrow rock chutes. Now, following years of planning, Huckleberry is going public. The U.S. Forest Service has incorporated it into Sierra-at-Tahoe's boundaries, allowing the resort to do avalanche control and make the new terrain a whole lot safer. Huckleberry is a headlining addition – it's Sierra's first expansion ever for a low-key area that gets overshadowed by South Shore behemoth Heavenly and extreme-skiing capital Kirkwood. "Huckleberry is an amazing area, a locals' secret if you will," says general manager John Rice. "Opening it up adds a whole new dimension to skiing here."

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