Upper Gunflint Nordic Ski Trails

Big Pine Trail
5.25 km (3 mi.) Easiest to More Difficult

This trail makes a loop behind Gunflint Lodge. It passes through a basin which traces the bottom of a north facing rock cliff and offers a pretty overlook of Gunflint Lake. Deer activity is evident with many sightings. The trail begins and ends in the parking lot behind Gunflint Northwoods Outfitters and is Pisten Bulley groomed with one classic and one skate lane.

South Rim Trail
9.6 km (6 mi.) More Difficult to Most Difficult

This trail offers beautiful overlooks of Gunflint Lake and over the Canadian hills to the north. A climb up to start and then a good hill down at the other end. The trail can be started in the parking lot of Resolute’s Country Store and Lodge or the BWCA and intersection with the West End Trail. The Lonely Lake Trail is a possible return route. This trail is back country machine packed.

West End Trail
6.5 km (4 mi.) More Difficult to Most Difficult

This trail starts at the Loop Lake Landing and crosses two county roads. It also intersects various other ski trails. Keep a lookout for a lot of deer activity on this trail. The trail is full of fun in spots and offers challenges for the intermediate to advanced skier. It is Pisten Bulley groomed. 1.5 mi Upper West End offers classic tracks, 1.5 mi Lower West End has one classic and one skate lane.

Highlands Trail
6.5 km (4 mi.) More Difficult to Most Difficult

This trail runs along the North shore of Gunflint Lake. It connects with Ham Lake Trail, Warren Road Trail, Overlook Trail and Rabbit Run Trail. A climb up to start and then a good hill on the other end. The trail starts across from the Gunflint Lake Scenic Overlook. It s Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Magnetic Rock Trail
8.05 km (5 mi.) More Difficult to Most Difficult

This trail takes the skier deep in the woods passing a small pond, a fire burn and a 60’ high rock left from the glacial days. This trail begins on the Gunflint Trail and connects with Warren Road Trail and Cut Access Trail. It s back country machine packed trail.

Amperage Run Trail
5.25 km (3 mi.) Easiest to Difficult

This trail runs along the South shore of Gunflint Lake. The trail takes the skier through frozen marshlands and is named after the power line it follows. Great opportunities to see deer, moose, and the elusive Timber Wolf. There are a few hills but generally provide the skier with fast skiing. This trail is groomed as one classic and one skijoring lane.

Ham Lake Trail
8.5 km (5.3 mi.) More Difficult to Most Difficult

This trail is a loop of the Highlands Trail and goes through winter moose yards. Many skiers sow moose in this area. Warning is what is available. This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Banadad Artery Trail
3.4 km (2.1 mi.) Upper Gunflint ski system to Popple Creek intersection. Easiest to More Difficult

This trail serves as a connecting link between the Upper Gunflint ski system and the Central Gunflint ski system. Two-thirds of the Banadad Trail runs through the BWCA, making it the longest tracked ski trail within the BWCA.

Cut Access Trail
1.6 km (1 mi.) More Difficult

This trail connects the Warrens Road Trail and Magnetic Rock Trail. It takes the skier up gentle grades and does gradual declines. This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Aspen Alley Trail
1.6 km (1 mi.) Easiest

This trail loops around and parallels the Gunflint Trail, through an open sand pit and through a stand of aspen trees. It connects with River Trail, Highlands and Rabbit Run. Take off your skis when crossing the road (for safety as well as the sake of your skis). This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

River Trail
1.6 km (1 mi.) Easiest to More Difficult

This trail takes the skier around the bottom of the Cross River bed, around and over some hills. It connects with Aspen Alley, and Rabbit Run. It is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Power Line Trail
2.41 km (1.5 mi.) Easiest

This trail follows the power lines and the county road. It connects the River Trail, Aspen Alley, West End Trail, Shortcut and Rabbit Run. Take off your skis when crossing the road (for safety as well as the sake of your skis). This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Overlook Trail
3 km (2 mi.) Easiest to More Difficult

This trail is a littleilly but connects Big Pine Trail, West End Trail, then connects with Highlands Trail and Rabbit Run Trail. The trail can be accessed from the Gunflint Lake Scenic Overlook. Take off your skis when crossing the road for safety. This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with two classic lanes and one skate lane.

Lonely Lake Trail
4.83 km (3 mi.) Easiest to More Difficult

This trail takes skiers along a ridge on the south side of Gunflint Lake. It offers scenic over- looks of Gunflint Lake and the village of Lonely Lake. The trail connects with Heston’s Lodge and the Pinewoods Trail Trail. It is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Rabbit Run Trail
5.65 km (3.5 mi.) Easiest to More Difficult

This trail runs along the bottom of a glacial ridge and parallels the Highland’s Trail. Skiing is through dense forest with opportunities to view moose, deer and other wildlife. This trail connects with Highlands, Aspen Alley, River Trail and West End. This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with one classic and one skate lane.

North Star Trail
9.65 km (6 mi.) Easiest

This trail meanders through logged areas, swamps and dense forest giving the skier the good feel of the area. Moose and other wildlife are often viewed. This trail connects with the West End and Ham Lake Trails. This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Warrens Road Trail
1.6 km (1 mi.) Easiest

This trail follows an old summer road and is easy and fast. It connects with Cut Access Trail, Magnetic Rock Trail, River Trail and Highlands Trail. Take off your skis when crossing the Gunflint Trail (for safety as well as the sake of your skis). This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Cut Access Trail
1.6 km (1 mi.) More Difficult

This trail connects the Warrens Road Trail and Magnetic Rock Trail. It takes the skier up gentle grades and does gradual declines. This trail is Pisten Bulley groomed with a double track trail.

Upper Gunflint Nordic Ski Trails

These are many nordic ski trails systems throughout the state. However, not many can really boast of such beauty and first class grooming as the Upper Gunflint trails. The trails meander through the various landscapes of rolling hills covered with stands of stego white pine, spruce, aspen and balsam fir. The skier takes the trails through a beaver valley, up pretty scenic vistas and overlooks, and into the winter moose yard. The trail names give the skier a hint of some of their character: Big Pine, Aspen Alley, River Trail, Magnetic Rock, Rabbit Run, Lonely Lake Trail, etc. These are some of the prettiest, most varied trails in the Midwest and once skied, never forgotten.

1. Do not move an injured person.
2. Keep the injured person as warm as possible.
3. If possible leave at least one person with the victim. Then go to the nearest lodge (Gunflint Lodge, Gunflint Pines Resort or Heston’s Country Store and Lodge). All the lodges will assist in the rescuing of an injured person.

We gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and support of the following organizations:

Gunflint Lodge - Bruce and Sue Kerfoot 218-388-2294 & 1-888-528-5325
Gunflint Pines Resort - Bob and Shari Baker 218-388-6145 & 1-800-533-5814
Heston’s Lodge - Greg and Barb Fosco 218-388-2245 & 1-800-538-7230
Superior National Forest - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Accidents
These cross country ski trails are groomed, tracked and maintained for the convenience of guests of Gunflint Lodge, Gunflint Pines Resort and Heston’s Country Store and Lodge. We make no representation as to their fitness for your particular purposes. These trails are cut out of the wilderness and you use them at your own risk. We assume no liability for any injuries occurring on these trails.

Liability