

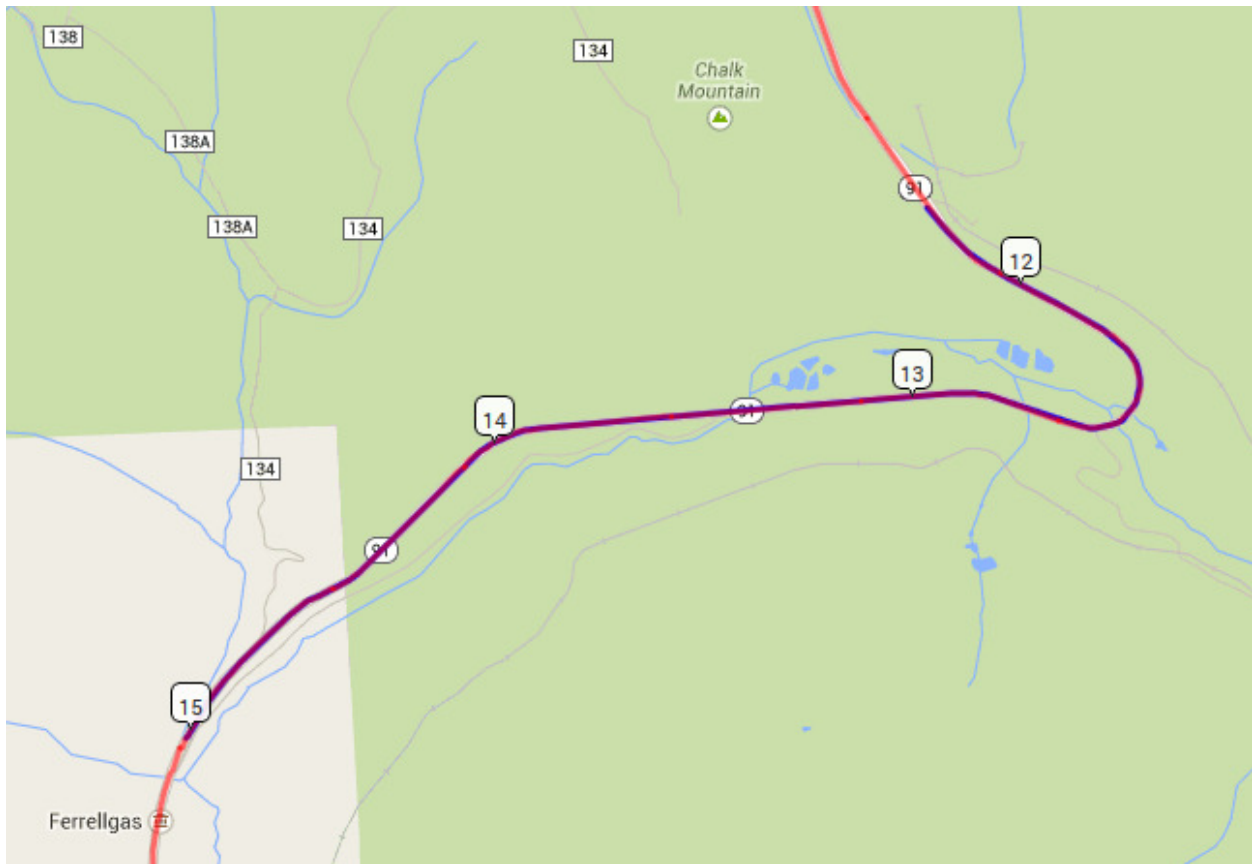
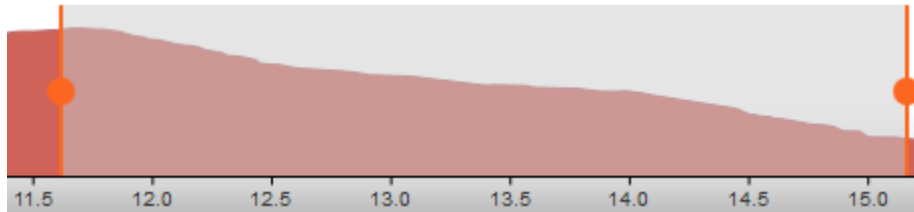
## A Timid Descender's Guide to the Copper Triangle

- [Freemont Pass](#)
- [Tennessee Pass](#)
- [Battle Mountain](#)
- [Vail Pass](#)

### Plunge #1: Freemont Pass

The first "caution descent" begins at the 11.7 mile mark. It's steep (up to 8%) through the end of the sweeping right bend, flattens a bit, then steepens again (7%) from the 14.0 mile mark to the 15.0 mile mark. Overall, though, the sweep is wide with no subsequent turns of any significance.

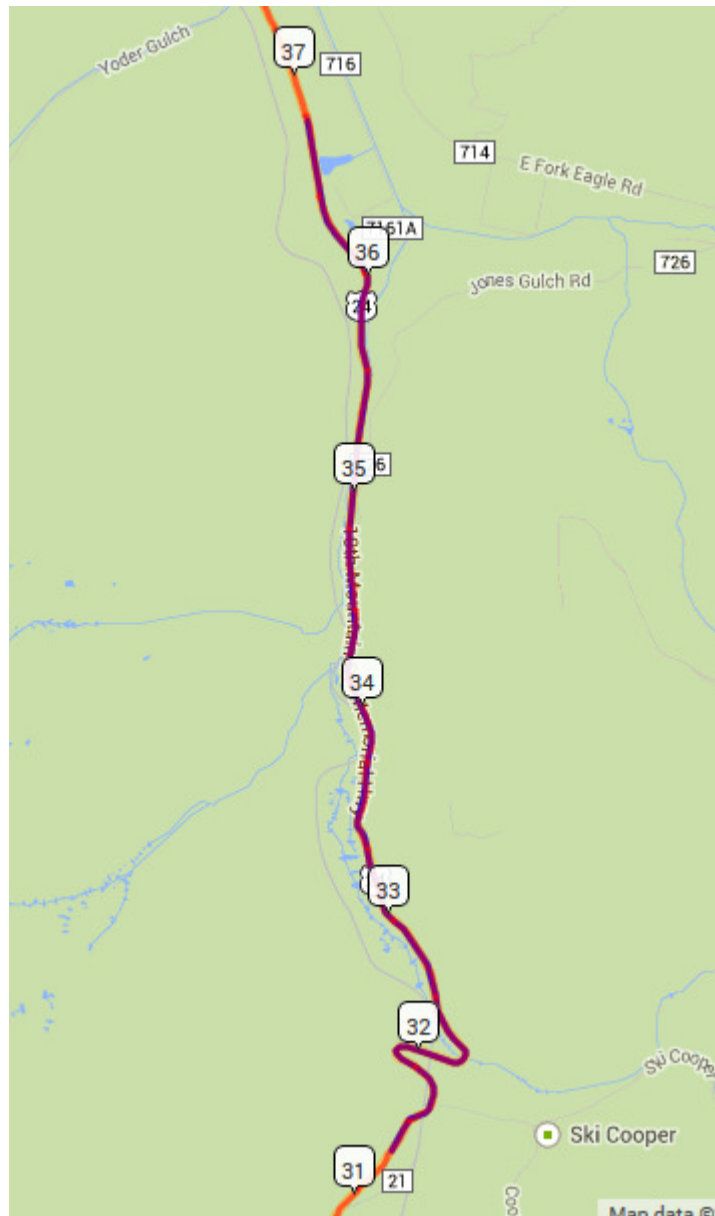
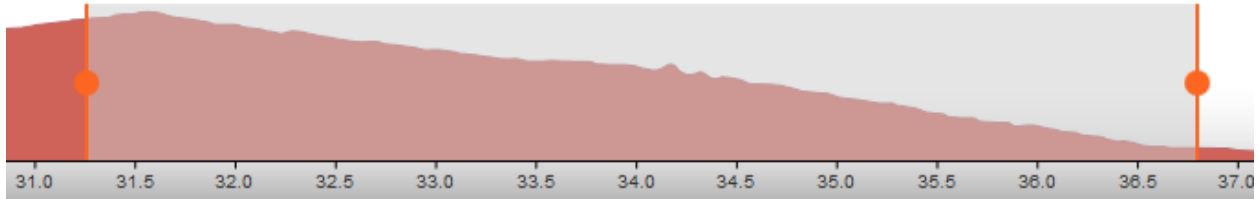
Rating (on a 1 to 5 scale): 🐔 🐔



## Plunge #2: Tennessee Pass

The next descent begins at the 31.6 mile mark. After an initial pair of hairpins (6% and 4%) in the first 0.7 miles, it straightens out.

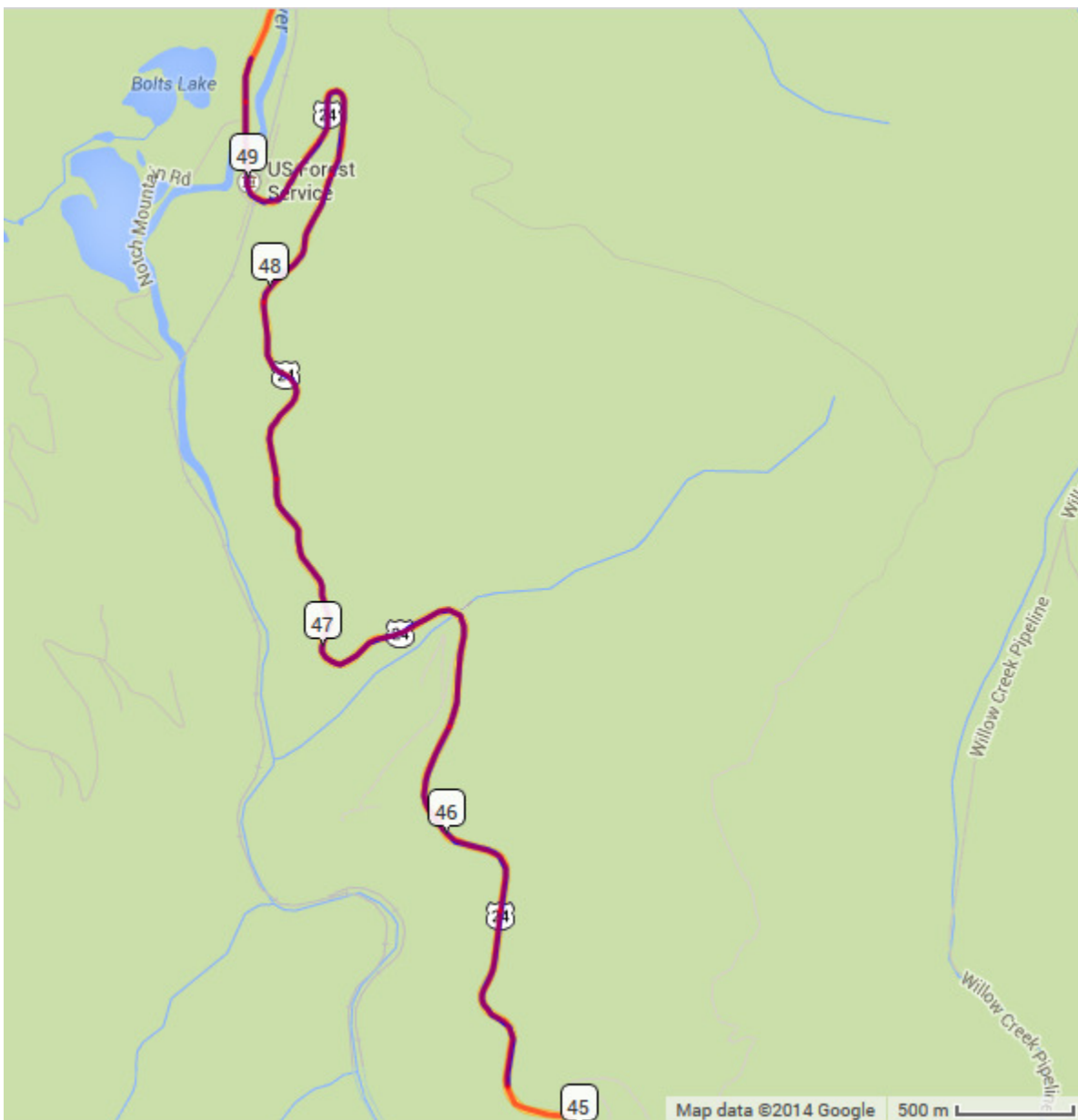
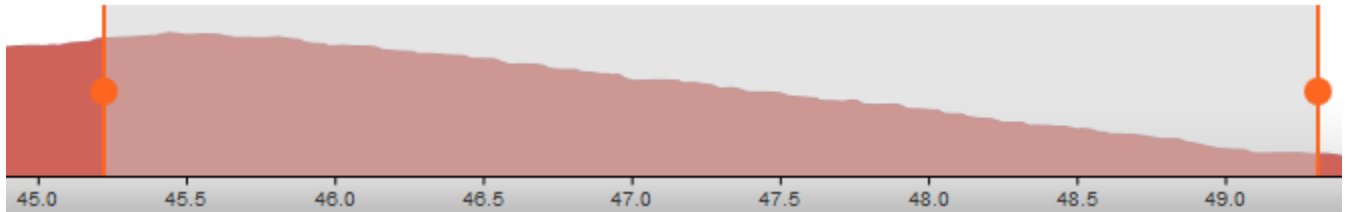
Rating (on a 1 to 5 scale): 🐔🐔🐔



### Plunge #3: Battle Mountain

This one starts tame enough at the 45.5 mile mark, then ramps to 5%+ at the 45.8 mile mark. After a sweeping right and a decent straightaway, watch out for the sharp left at the 46.5 mile mark with grades around 8%. At the 46.9 mile mark, the sweeping right tops 9%. That tees up a relatively straight run for more than a mile and a half leading in to the left hairpin (48.4 mile mark, 6%) and the right sweeper (48.9 mile mark, 10%!).

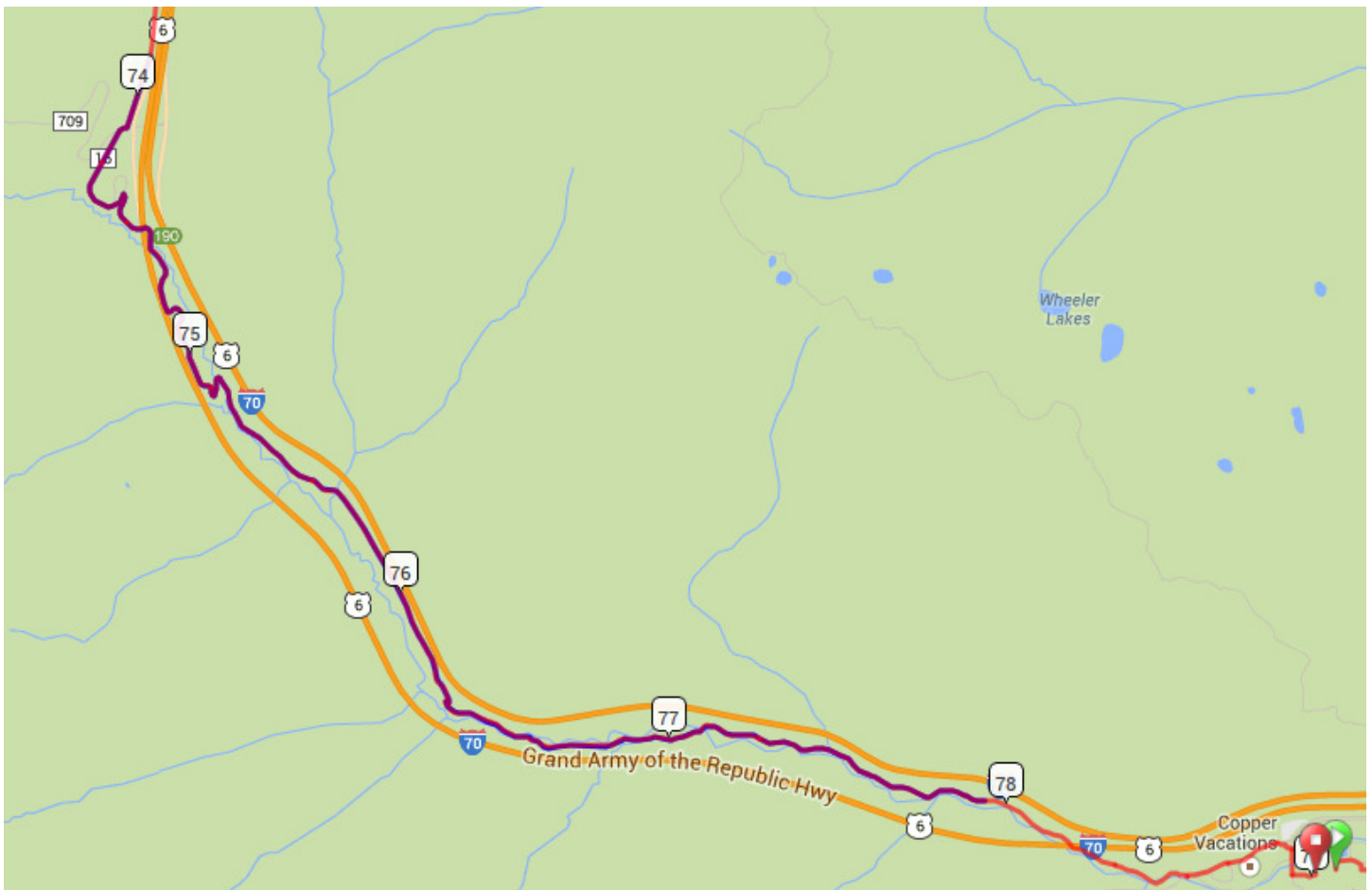
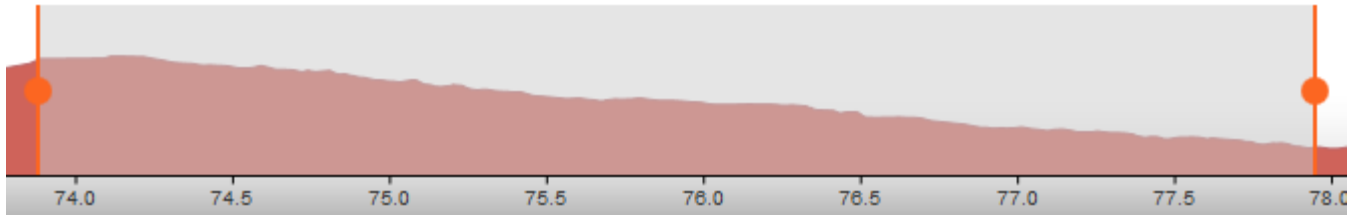
Rating (on a 1 to 5 scale): 🐔🐔🐔🐔



#### Plunge #4: Vail Pass

If the rider is still alive at this point, well, there's still a chance to change that (beginning at the 74.3 mile mark). The grades aren't too bad here, as they rarely touch 6%, but the margin for error is small since it's on a bike path. The turns are tight. Oh, and it will be pouring rain. With fatigued muscles having already powered close to 75 miles.

Rating (on a 1 to 5 scale): 🐔🐔🐔🐔



Here's a close-up of the first 1.5 miles.

