Guide to

Reed Lakes Trail & Gold Mint Trail
in Hatcher Pass State Management Area

Reed Lakes Trail:
Trail Access: Mile 2.5 Archangel Road via Palmer-Fishook Road
Allowable Uses: Biking & Hiking to mile 1.5; Hiking-only after
Distance: 4.3 miles one-way
Elevation Gain: 2000 feet
Difficulty: Moderate

Gold Mint Trail:
Trail Access: Mile 14 Palmer-Fishook Rd.
Allowable Uses: Hiking, Skiing
Distance: 7.8 miles one-way
Elevation Gain: 1500 feet
Difficulty: Easy to Moderate

Reed Lakes Trail:
This popular day-hike initially follows an old roadbed through mining remains (please do not disturb artifacts), then climbs moderately steep slopes to a boulder field (be careful with your footing and with pets). A trail emerges from the boulders in beautiful alpine terrain. As you climb higher you will encounter streams and small ponds, before emerging above Lower Reed Lake. Following the trail further will lead to a waterfall and the trail-end at Upper Reed Lake, an alpine lake at just over 4000 feet in elevation. The entire route is above timberline.

Gold Mint Trail:
This trail is popular for day-hiking and cross-country skiing. The trail gradually gains elevation as it stays near the valley bottom. The further you get from the trailhead, the narrower it gets. There are mountain views and glimpses of Little Susitna River. Near the head of the valley the trail becomes less defined, and it eventually peters out. Most of the route is above timberline.

Other Information:
For more information about Hatcher Pass State Management Area, please call the Mat-Su Area Parks Office at (907) 745-3975, or visit the following web address:
http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/units/hatcherpass/hatcherpass.htm