Guíde to

Upper Troublesome Creek Trail



in Denali State Park

Upper Troublesome Creek Trail:

Allowable Uses: Hiking **Distance:** 11.7 miles

Elevation Gain: 2300 feet (north to south)

Difficulty: Moderate to Difficult

Cascade Trail:

Allowable Uses: Hiking

Distance: 2 miles

Elevation Gain: 1800 feet from Byers Lake

Difficulty: Difficult

Byers Lake Trail:

Allowable Uses: Hiking, Biking. Skiing

Distance: 5.3 miles

Elevation Gain: Less than 100 feet

Difficulty: Easy

Connecting the Trails:

15.3 mile traverse from Byers Lake Campground to Upper Troublesome Creek Trailhead.

26.6 mile traverse from Ermine Hill Trailhead to Upper Troublesome Creek Trailhead.

37 mile traverse from Little Coal Creek Trailhead to Upper Troublesome Creek Trailhead.



Special Features:

This trail system offers popular multi-day backpacking trips in south-central Alaska. Hiking is through rolling alpine and subalpine terrain with outstanding views of Denali, and numerous small glacially scoured lakes. Much of the southern end of the Upper Troublesome Creek Trail is forested.

Planning Your Route:

Most people hike from north to south because of less total elevation gain. Hikers can start from the Little Coal Creek Trailhead, Ermine Hill Trailhead, or the Byers Lake Campground, and finish at Upper Troublesome Creek Trailhead (See Guide to K'esugi Ridge Trail System North & Guide to K'esugi Ridge Trail System South for more information). These are all oneway trips, so pick-up or drop-off arrangements must be made prior to departure. Day trips to timberline and around Byers Lake are also popular.



Safety and Considerations:

Weather on K'esugi Ridge can change fast. Be prepared with proper clothing and navigation tools in case low clouds move in. Some trails may experience seasonal closures due to high bear concentrations. Please respect closures and always be bear aware while traveling Denali's trails.

Park Rules:

Open fires are prohibited, please use designated fire rings or a camp stove. Pets must be on a leash while in the trailhead parking lot, and under voice control on trails or in the backcountry. For more information, please contact the Mat-Su Area Parks Office at (907) 745-3975, or visit the following web address: http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks_units/denali1.htm



