# Trails Near the Wrangell-St. Elias Visitor Center Glennallen and Kenny Lake, AK

#### NORTH - Glenn Highway (Hwy 1)



#### ASPEN INTERPRETIVE TRAIL

This is a privately maintained trail. It is not managed by the National Park Service. Access: In Glennallen, AK. At mile 187 on the Glenn Highway, turn north on Co-op Drive. Trailhead and parking area is marked with a sign that says Aspen Interpretive Trail. Distance & Time: Approximately 1 mile round-trip. Allow about 1 hour. Difficulty: Easy

**Route:** The beginning of this trail has been rerouted. At the trailhead, look for signs to the right, indicating the new route. The trail passes through three distinct ecosystems within the boreal forest. It continues along a well marked dirt and gravel path and loops back to the trailhead. This trail is part of a larger network of winter ski trails. Follow the red aspen leaf at major intersections.

Notes: Please respect private residences and access trails. Bug spray is recommended.



#### TOLSONA MUD VOLCANOES

This is a privately maintained trail. It is not managed by the National Park Service. Access: 14 miles west of Glennallen, AK. Trail located at the Tolsona Wilderness Campground, located at mile 173 on the Glenn Highway. Hikers who are not registered campers are asked to pay a fee of \$5 per vehicle.

Distance & Time: Approximately 2 miles round-trip. Allow about 1-1.5 hours.

Maps: Available at Tolsona Wilderness Campground

Difficulty: Easy to moderate

**Route:** The trail begins at Tolsona Wilderness Campground directly across from Campsite F. Along the trail, shiny CDs have been nailed to many of the trees, to mark the route. The trail winds up a hillside and through the forest. About a half mile into the hike the trail crosses a boggy area. Watch for the CDs, as this part of the trail becomes somewhat unclear. To continue you must pick your way across the bog until you reach the forested area. **Hazards:** Please exercise caution around mud volcanoes. Some of these pits can be more than 4 feet deep. **Notes:** Bug spray is recommended.

### SOUTH - Edgerton Highway (Hwy 10)



| KENNY LAKE TRAIL

This is a privately maintained trail. It is not managed by the National Park Service. Access: Mile 5.5 Edgerton Hwy, in Kenny Lake, AK. The trailhead is located behind the Kenny Lake School, across the grassy field at the cut between the tree line. Parking is available in the school parking lot.

Distance & Time: Approximately 3.5 miles round-trip. Allow about 3 hours.

Maps: A map depicting the bluff walk is on display at the trailhead. **Difficulty:** Easy to moderate, with a few steep sections.

**Route:** From the trailhead, take the route on your left and continue to the bluff. Once at the bluff, take the trail to your left again and continue to an overlook with another bench. From there, the trails on your left will parallel the river and begin a gradual downward slope. Continue down the steep grade, keep on the path through the forest, and you will come to the banks of the Tonsina River with small trails branching off for you to explore.

Hazards: Bears and moose are known to frequent the area.

**Notes:** Some trails branch off into private property and are noted with posted signs. Please respect the private property. Bug spray is recommended.



## TONSINA RIVER TRAIL

This is a Bureau of Land Mangement maintained trail. It is not managed by the National Park Service.

Access: Mile 12.3 Edgerton Highway, east of Kenny Lake. Look for a paved turnout on the south side of the road. A trail register marks the beginning of the trail.

Distance & Time: Approximately 4 miles round-trip. Allow 2 hours.

Maps/Trail Details: Inquire at the BLM Glennallen Field Office (907-822-3217)

Difficulty: Easy

**Route:** The trail gently descends through a dense spruce forest and then opens up with numerous flowers and willow with periodic patches of spruce and moss forest. About a half mile in, the trail levels out and this portion of the trail can hold standing water following periods of rain. Continuing another half mile south, the trail turns west near the bluff above the Tonsina River. Follow the berry and rose lined trail a few minutes until it opens up to a flat, grassy bluff overlooking the Tonsina River. You will be rewarded with splendid views at the end of the trail.

Hazards: Bears are frequently seen in this area.

**Notes:** The trail passes through moist forest areas, so bug spray is recommended. This trail goes through private property. Please stay on the trail and respect private landowners rights.



## LIBERTY FALLS TRAIL

This is a Bureau of Land Mangement maintained trail. It is not managed by the National Park Service.

Access: Mile 23.3 Edgerton Hwy, east of Kenny Lake. Look for a sign and gravel drive on the south side of the road, 100 yards before Liberty Falls State Recreation Site Campground. A trail register marks the beginning of the trail.

Distance & Time: Approximately 2 miles round-trip. Allow 1 hour.

Maps/Trail Details: Inquire at the BLM Glennallen Field Office (907-822-3217)

Difficulty: Moderate, some steep areas and rock scrambling

**Route:** This is an excellent, but fairly steep hiking trail. This trail ventures up through spruce forest to a rocky ridge with spectacular views of mountains and the Copper River. The trail climbs a steep ridgeline through spruce forest. Hiking the ridgeline over boulders and rocks leads to a clearing at the ridge terminus, which overlooks a lake with views of the Wrangell and Chugach Mountain Ranges.

Hazards: Bears are frequently seen in this area.

**Notes:** Bug spray is recommended. This trail goes through private property. Please stay on the trail and respect private landowners rights. This is not the trail to the waterfall. To view the falls, go to the Liberty Falls campground.