

# O'Brien to Haley Creek

Wrangell-St.Elias National Park and Preserve

National Park Service  
US Department of the Interior



Copper River

## Distance:

Approximately 10 miles round trip from O'Brien Creek to Haley Creek.

**Time:** About 3-5 hours round trip

## Difficulty:

Easy to moderate, with easy stream crossings.

**Notice:** Be aware that private property borders the trail in many places. Please be respectful of these land owners' rights and property.

**Highlights:** Great views of the Copper River, historical sites & structures, campsites, and interesting geologic formations, This is also a nice route for mountain biking and ATV's.



O'Brien Creek Bridge



Old Railroad Trestle

## Access:

The trailhead begins at O'Brien Creek. To reach O'Brien Creek follow the Edgerton Highway to the town of Chitina. Drive through Chitina and look for the O'Brien Creek road sign. Take a right and go about 2½ miles until you reach O'Brien Creek where parking is available. The Haley Creek Trail begins from this parking area.

This trail follows the rail-bed of the historic Copper River & Northwestern Railway which was constructed in 1911 to serve the Kennecott Copper mines.

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Dip netters

## Route:

The trail begins at the O'Brien Creek Bridge and continues for about five miles until it reaches Haley Creek. It was built over the old railroad tracks and follows along the banks of the Copper River providing splendid views of the river and Wood Canyon. The majority of the trail is flat with a few hills and easy stream crossings. In various locations mud and rock slides have fallen over the trail. These are passable with a clear trail through them.

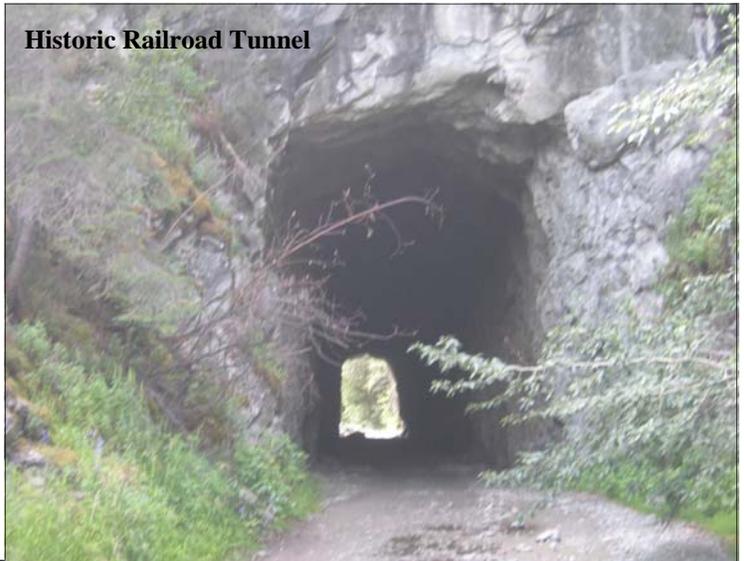
Old railroad trestles are visible in some places. The trail passes through a historic railroad tunnel. Mile markers are sporadically placed along the trail. Haley Creek is located just past mile marker 7.14. There are several locations that would be suitable for camping. There is a nice gravel beach near the confluence of Haley Creek and the Copper River. The old railbed continues for approximately 10 more miles to the Uranatina River which is impassable.



Campsite

## Warning:

One mile after O'Brien Creek is a Road Closed sign, warning of possible hazards to anyone who continues past this point. The Department of Transportation (DOT) is no longer responsible for maintaining the road. Proceed at your own risk.



Historic Railroad Tunnel



Slide Area



Remnants of Railroad Days

