

Outside in the Interior: An Adventure Guide for Central Alaska

Kyle Joly

Index by S. Jane Henderson, Indexplorations

Note: *Italicized page numbers indicate illustrations.*

- Ace Lake, 12
Alaska Bird Observatory, 2
Alaska Mountain Wilderness
 Classic, 157, 233
Alaska Range, *xiii*, 97, 169–70, 177
American Creek valley, 121
Amphitheater Mountains, 178
Anderson River Park, 49
Angel Creek Trail, 66, 83, 85, 88–90
Angel Creek Valley, 13
Angel Rocks, 144
Angel Rocks to Chena Hot Springs Trail, 79–80, 81
Angel Rocks Trail, 58, 61, 81, 92
Ann Creek take-out, 181
Arctic Region, overview, 214–15
Atigun River, 225–28
Atigun River Gorge, 229–31
ATVs, improper use of, 62
aurora borealis, *xx*
avalanches, *xxvi*
- backcountry travel, *xx–xxi*
Bear Creek Trail, 143
Bear Paw Butte, 82, 91, 93
bears, *xiv*, *xvi–xviii*, *xxii*, 54–55, 190
Beauty Dome, 129
Beaver Creek, 101, 106, 109–14, 148
beaver fever (*giardia lamblia*), *xxiv*
Beggar's Canyon, 150
berry picking, 21, 23
Biederman Bluff, 211
Big Bend Trail, 111–12, 141–42, 143, 148
bikers, and trail etiquette, *xxvi–xxvii*
biking trip locator, 240
Birch Creek, 97, 101, 127–30
Birch Hill, 13, 15–17
Birch Lake, 158, 160
Bison Gulch, 43–45
Black Rapids Glacier, 181
Black Rapids to Denali Park, 233
blueberries, and bears, 54
Bluff Cabin Lake, 160
Bluff Cabin Trail, 160
Bluff Point Trail, 159
boreal forests, *xiii*, 2, 88, 202. *See also* taiga
boulder fields and bouldering, 53, 81, 82, 149, 201–2, 217
Brooks Range, *xiii*, 215
Byers Lake, 51, 53, 55
- cabins, historic, 128, 182, 211
cabins, private, 152, 154
cabins, public-use. *See also* shelters;
 yurts
 Angel Creek, 85, 86
 Angel Creek Trail, 88–89
 Bluff, 160
 Borealis-LeFevre, 111, 113, 141, 145, 147, 148
Byers Lake campground, 51
Cache Mountain, 142
Caribou Bluff, 112, 142
Charley River, 212
Chena Dome Trail, 89
Colorado Creek, 65–66, 142, 143
Crowberry, 142
Eleazar's, 141
Fielding Lake, 175, 177
Glatfelder, 159
Lee's, 140, 143, 148
Moose Creek, 141, 148
Nugget Creek, 234
Quartz Lake, 159
Richard's, 108, 142
Stiles Creek, 71
White Mountains National Recreation Area, 140–43
 Windy Gap, 142
 Wolf Run, 112, 142, 143
Cache Creek Trail, 12
Cache Mountain Loop Trail, 142
Calico Bluff, 210–11
campfires, *xxii*
campgrounds
 Byers Lake, 51, 55
 Cripple Creek, 104
 Granite Tors, 59
 Lake Park, 34
 Marion Creek, 219
 Marion Creek Falls, 221
 Mount Prindle, 123
 Ophir Creek, 114
 Paxson Lake, 185
 Rosehip, 59, 60, 61
 Sourdough Creek, 185
 Walker Fork, 206, 208
campsites, set up, *xxii*
canoe trip locator, 241
Canwell Glacier, 173
Canwell Peak, 173, 174
caribou, *xv*, 131, 179, 201–2, 219
Castner Creek, 170
Castner Glacier, 196–98, 270
Cathedral Rapids, 197–98, 200
cell phones, *xxi*
Chandalar–Atigun Traverse, 225–28
Charley Dome Trail, 93, 99
Charley River, 211
Chatanika River, 102–5
Chena Dome Trail, 83–87, 89
Chena Hot Springs, 56, 79–80, 81, 97, 233
Chena Hot Springs Resort, 57, 81–82, 91–94
Chena Hot Springs Winter Trail (Road Trail), 64, 67, 70, 72–73, 82, 88
Chena Lake, 32–35, 38
Chena Lake Recreation Area, 35, 38, 39
Chena River, 24–27, 57, 58–61, 97
Chena River Recreation Area, 62–63, 65–66, 70
Chena Slough, 36–38, 39
children, traveling with, *xxvi*
Chisana River, 196, 200
Chulitna River, 52
Circle, 209, 212
Circle–Fairbanks Trail, 126, 135, 233
Circle Hot Springs, 233
Clearwater Creek Trail, 188
Clearwater River and Lake, 161–62
Clinton Creek bridge, 206, 208
clothing, *xvi*
Coal Creek, 212
Colorado Creek Trail, 62–66, 112, 143
communication facilities, 22
Compeau Trail, 62–65, 66, 68, 69, 85
Continental Divide, 225
Crazy Mountains, 136
Creamer's Field, 2–3
Cummings Landing, 198
- Dall sheep, 43–44, 112, 117, 122, 122
Dalton Highway, 216–17, 221, 223–24, 227, 230–31
Dawson City, 204, 213
daylight, *xix–xx*, *xxv*
DEET, *xvi*
Delta Junction Region, 156–57
Delta River, *xiii*, 178–81
Denali National Park, *ix*, 43
Denali State Park, 50, 233

- Dickey Lake, 185
difficulty ratings, xi
dogs and dog mushing teams, xxvi–xxvii, 4, 90
dominance displays, xviii–xix
Donnelly Dome, 165–67
driving directions, xii–xiii
duration estimates, x–xi
- Eagle, 187, 189, 208, 209–10
Eagle Bluff, 209
Eagle Summit trailhead, 131
Eagle to Circle float, Yukon River, 209
Eagle Trail, 187, 188–91
Eielson Air Force Base, 38
Eldorado Creek Trail, 11
Eldridge Glacier, 52, 54
elevation change, overview, xi
Elliott Highway, 143, 221
emergency personal locator beacon (EPRB), xxi
Equinox Marathon, 8, 18
Ermine Hill trailhead, 53, 55
Ester Dome, 13, 18–20
ethical use, ix–x
etiquette, xxvi–xxvii
Eureka Creek, 181
- Fairbanks area, overview, 1
Falcon Rocks, 150
Far Mountain Trail, 93, 95–97, 98
Far Mountain Traverse, 93, 95–99
Fielding Lake, 175–77
Finger Mountain, 216–18
firebreaks, 64–65, 85
fires, xxii
floats, xxiv, 209, 215, 241. *See also specific trips*
flooding, spring, xxv
fog, xxv
food storage, xxii
forests, xiii, xiv, 2, 88, 202
Fort Egbert, 187, 189
Fort Greely, 157, 166–67
Fort Reliance, 187, 204
Fort Wainwright, 167
Fortymile Region, 131, 186–87, 204–8
Fortymile River, 187, 204–8
Fort Yukon, 212
Fossil Creek Trail, 142
Fossil Gap Trail, 112, 142
14-Mile Trail, 23, 104–5
Fox, 217
- garbage, xxii
geographic positioning system (GPS), xxii–xxiii
- Gerstle River, 199
giardia lamblia (beaver fever), xxiv, 54
glacial rivers, xxiii
Gobbler’s Knob, 217
gold mining, 187, 204, 207, 211, 233
gold rush, 128, 178
Goldstream Valley, 8, 10–14
Goodpaster River, 163
Gorilla’s Head, 149
Graehl Park, 24, 26–27
Granite Tors, 74–78
Grapefruit Rocks, 149–51
gravel bars, ownership of, 198
Gulkana River, 181–85
- Harding Lake, 158
Harrison Creek, 128
Haul Road. *See* Dalton Highway
Herrero, Stephen, xix
Highway Lakes, 158–60
hikers, and trail etiquette, xxvi–xxvii
hiking trip locator, 240
horses, xxvi–xxvii
hot springs, 82, 105, 233. *See also* Chena Hot Springs; Tolovana Hot Springs
Hutlinana Hot Springs, 233
hydration, xxv
hypothermia, xxv
- Indian Peak, 55
interior, defined, xiii
Isberg Recreation Area, 40–42
- Jeff Studdert Trails, 3
Jim Whisenant Cross Country Ski Trails, 15
Johnson River, 198, 200
Justice, Stan, 150
- Kandik River, 211
Kanuti Hot Springs, 233
Kathul Mountain, 211
kayak trip locator, 241
Kesugi Ridge, 1, 50–55
Ketchum Dome, 138
kill sites, xix, xxii
Koyukuk River, 219
- Lake Park, 32, 34, 35
land managers, xii
Large Animal Research Station (LARS), 9
Lavelle Young (stern-wheeler), 24
leave no trace, xxi–xxii
lichens, xv, 219
- Limestone Gulch, 142
Little Champion Creek, 117
Little Champion Creek pass, 123
Little Chena Dozer Line, 64–65, 85
Little Coal Creek, 51, 55
Little Tok River, 192–, 194
loop trails, 5, 34–35, 67, 139–40, 142–43, 146
Lost Chicken Dredge Trail, 207
Lost Lake, 158–59
Lower Chatanika State Recreation Area (LCSRA), 105
Lower Chena Ditch Trail, 41
Lower Chena River, 24–27, 61
Lower Nome Creek Trail, 142
Lowest Rock, 149
- Manley Hot Springs, 105
maps and map reading, xi, xii–xiii, xxii–xxiii, xxv
Marion Creek, 219
Marion Creek Falls, 219–21
Mastodon Dome, 136–38
McKay Creek Trail, 142, 143
McKinley Village, 48
McManus Mountain, 124–26
Middle Tanana River, 28–31
military facilities, 22, 23
mining roads, 98
Minto Flats, 12, 105
Montauk Bluff, 211
Monument Creek, 93, 95, 97
Moon Lake Recreation Area, 160
moose, xv, xix, 130
Moose Creek, 113
Moose Creek Dam Bikeway, 32, 34, 35
Moose Creek Trail, 141
Moose Pond, 159
morel mushrooms, xv
mosquitoes, xvi
mountain bikers, xxvi–xxvii
Mount Fairplay, 201–3
Mount Healy, 43–45
Mount Healy Overlook Trail, 45
Mount Prindle, 106, 115, 119–23
Mount Silvertip, 169–70
Murphy Dome, 20, 21–23
muskegs, xiii–xiv
- Nabesna River, 196, 234
National Wild and Scenic Rivers, 101, 110–11, 113, 187, 203, 204
Nation River, 211
nature trails, 34, 67–68, 158–59, 190, 216
Nenana River, 46–49
Nome Creek, 110, 111, 119, 142

- Northway Village, 196, 200, 234
no trace wilderness travel, xxi–xxii
Nugget Creek Trail, 19, 234
- O'Brien Creek, 111, 142
overflow conditions, xxiv
- pace, overview, x
packrafting trip locator, 241
packrafts and packrafting, xxiii,
111, 194, 225
Pavaloff, Pitka, 128
Paxson Lake launch, 182
Pearl Creek Nordic Park, 5, 9
peregrine falcons, 112
permafrost, xiv
Pike's Landing, 25, 27
Piledriver Slough, 36, 37, 38, 39
Pinnell, Robert, 132
Pinnell Mountain, 97
Pinnell Mountain Trail, 97, 101,
126, 131–35
Pioneer Park, 27
Pitka's Bar, 128
Porcupine Dome, 132, 134
preparedness, xx–xxi
Pumphouse bar and restaurant, 25–
26, 27
- Quartz Creek Trail, 115–18, 122–23
Quartz Lake, 158–60, 159–60
- raft trip locator, 241
Rainbow Mountain, 174
Rainbow Ridge, 171–74
rapids, xxiv. *See also specific rivers*
Recreational Access Permit (RAP),
166–67
Reindeer Hills, 47–48
Richardson Highway lakes, 158–60
riparian corridors, xiv
river crossings, xxiii–xxiv
River Park Nature and Ski Trails,
32, 34–35
river rapids classification system,
xxiv
rock climbers and rock climbing,
74, 77–78, 81, 82, 121, 122,
149, 151
rock-climbing trip locator, 241
route types, xi
runners, xxvi–xxvii
- safety, xxii–xxiii, xxv. *See also*
bears
Sagavanirktok River, 229
Sag River, 231
Salcha Elementary School trails, 8,
13
- Salcha River, 97
satellite phones, xxi, xxv
Serpentine Slide Research Natural
Area, 113
Seventymile River, 211
shelters. *See also* cabins; *specific*
trips
Angel Rocks, 81
Granite Tors, 77, 78
Pinnell Mountain, 133, 135
Rainbow Ridge, 173
Summit Trail, 111, 145, 147
yurts, 93, 99
Shooting Range, 73
shortcuts, xxi
shrub habitat, xiv
Skarland Trail, 5, 9
skate skiing trip locator, 240
skiers, and trail etiquette, xxvi–xxvii
skijoring, ix, xxvi–xxvii, 240
ski loop trails, 34–35, 67, 139–40,
142–43, 146
ski trip locator, 240
Skyline Ridge Trail, 8
Slaven Dome, 212
Slaven's Roadhouse, 211–12
sledding, 152, 153
Smith Lake, 5
snowmachines, ix, xxvii, 233
snowpack structure, xxvi
snowshoers, xxvi–xxvii
snowstorms, xx
social trails, xi
solifluction lobes, 132
spring flooding, xxv
Standard Creek area, 12
Steese Highway, 102, 143
Steese National Conservation Area,
101, 115, 127
Steese-White Mountains Region,
100–101
Stiles Creek Trail, 64, 70–73
storms, xxiv–xxv
Sugarloaf Mountain, 181
Sukakpak Mountain, 222–24
summer hikes, 7, 148
Summit Trail, 109, 111, 114, 141,
143, 144–48
Swamp Saddle, 133
sweepers, xxiv
- Table Mountain, 134
Table Top Mountain Trail, 106–8
taiga, xiii–xiv
Takoma Bluff, 212
Talkeetna Mountains, 46
Tanacross, 197–98
Tanana River, 28–31, 161–64, 196–
200
- Tangle Lakes, 178–80, 185
Tangle Mountain, 181
Taylor Highway, 201, 203, 208
temperatures, xix–xx, xxv
tents, placement of, xxii
Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge,
197
thunderstorms, xxv
Tok River, 187, 188, 190, 191, 192
Tolovana Hot Springs, 101, 152–53,
155
Top of the Dome, 153
Top of the World Highway, 207,
208
tors, 74–78, 121, 122
Trail Creek Trail, 111, 140, 141,
142
trail etiquette, xxvi–xxvii
trails, groomed, 5
trails, overview, ix, xxi
transition zones, ecological, xiv
traplines, 66
travel plans, xxi
trees, xiii–xiv, xv
Triangle Peak, 169–70
trip descriptions, overview, x
trip locator table, 240–41
trip narratives, overview, xii
Troublesome Creek, 54, 55
Troyer, Will, xix
tundra, xv, 138, 146
Twelvemile Summit, 94, 126, 134
Twin Bears Camp, 63, 67, 69
Twin Bears trails, 64–67
Twin Towers, 149, 150
Two Rivers Elementary ski trails, 8,
13, 17
- University of Alaska Fairbanks
(UAF) trail system, 4–5, 8, 9
Upper Chatnika River State
Recreation Site, 102, 104
Upper Chena River, 58–61, 97
Upper Tanana River, 196–200
U.S. Creek Road, 108, 113
- VABM Golog (USGS marker), 54,
55
Valdez-Eagle Trail, 189
Victoria Creek, 110
- walkers, xxvi–xxvii
Wallcutt Mountain, 234
Washington-Alaska Cable and
Telegraph System
(WAMCATS), 189–90
waste disposal, xxi–xxii
water supply, xxiii–xxv
White Bear Trail, 16, 17

Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, 213
White Mountains, 101, 115, *118*,
139–43
Wickersham Creek Trail, 111, 140,
141, 148
Wickersham Dome, 112, 143, 144–
48
wildfires, xv–xvi, 108

wildflowers, 136–37
wildlife, xiv, xix, 112. *See also*
individual species
wind, xxiv
Windy Arch, 142
winter, and outdoor activities, xx,
xxv
Woodchopper Roadhouse, 212

Yukon-Charley Rivers National
Preserve, 97, 209–10
Yukon Flats National Wildlife
Refuge, 113
Yukon River, 111, 113, 129, 187,
207, 209–13
yurts, 93, 99