

# Guide to

## K'esugi Ridge Trail System North



in Denali State Park

### **Little Coal Creek Trail:**

**Allowable Uses:** Hiking

**Distance:** 3.3 miles

**Elevation Gain:** 1750 feet

**Difficulty:** Moderate

### **K'esugi Ridge Trail**

(Little Coal Creek to Ermine Hill Trails)

**Allowable Uses:** Hiking

**Distance:** 10.8 miles

**Elevation Gain:** 900 ft (North to South)

**Difficulty:** Moderate

### **Ermine Hill Trail:**

**Allowable Uses:** Hiking

**Distance:** 3.7 miles

**Elevation Gain:** 1300 feet (Ermine Hill Trailhead to Kesugi Ridge Trail Junction)  
300 feet in the reverse direction

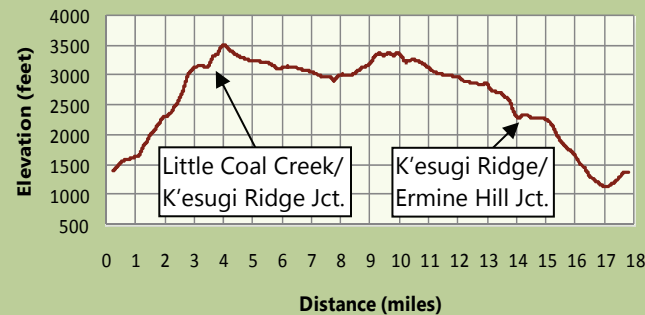
**Difficulty:** Moderate

### **Connecting the Trails:**

17.8 mile traverse from Little Coal Creek Trailhead to Ermine Hill Trailhead.

28.9 mile traverse Little Coal Creek Trailhead to Byers Lake Campground (See Guide to K'esugi Ridge Trail System South

### K'esugi Ridge Trail System North



### Special Features:

Premier multi-day backpacking destination in South-Central Alaska. Hiking through alpine and sub-alpine terrain with outstanding views of Denali, and numerous small glacially scoured lakes. Day trips from either trailhead are also possible.

### The Trails:

Hikers can start from the Little Coal Creek Trailhead and finish at the Ermine Hill Trailhead. For a longer trip hikers can stay on the K'esugi Ridge Trail, and link up with the Cascade & Byers Lake Trails to finish at Byers Lake Campground (See Guide to K'esugi Ridge Trail System South for more information). Most people hike from North to South because of less total elevation gain. These are both one-way trips, so pick-up or drop-off arrangements must be made prior to departure.



### 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 a complete list of park rules please contact the Mat-Su area Parks office (907)745-3975 .





# Denali State Park

## K'esugi Ridge Trail System North



**Legend**

- ▬ Denali State Park Boundary
- ▬ State Recreation Areas
- ▬ Trails
- ▬ Roads
- + Railroads
- ▬ Rivers/Lakes
- ▬ Gravel Bars
- ▬ Streams
- ▬ Wetlands
- Trailhead
- Campground
- Interest Point
- Visitor Center
- Public Use Cabins
- Non-Motorized Boating

Scale: 0 to 1 Miles / 0 to 1 Kilometers

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This map represents differential GPS data collected during the Alaska State Parks Trail Inventory Project that was conducted in conjunction with National Park Service (NPS) River and Trail Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program, Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) Land Record Information Service (LRIS), Department of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR), and Denali State Park.

Denali State Park: (907) 745-3975. Fax: (907) 745-0938.  
 Alaska State Parks: [www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks](http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks)  
 Emergency: 911.

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