

Seven Lakes Trail

Round Trip: 8.8 miles
Difficulty: Easy - Moderate
Hiking Time: 4 to 6 hours

U.S.G.S Maps: Kenai B1, C1
Elevation Gain: 150 feet
High Point: 440 feet



Trailhead: There are two trailheads for the Seven Lakes Trail; one is at Kelly Lake Campground along the Sterling Highway (mile 71.1); the other is at Engineer Lake Campground along Skilak Lake Road (mile 9.4 from the east entrance junction with the Sterling Highway). The trailheads are to the left of the boat ramps on these lakes.

DESCRIPTION: From Kelly Lake Campground the trail follows along the lake before heading into the forest. In early spring and late summer the area along the lakeshore is often wet and muddy and boardwalks are slippery. After approximately 1-½ miles from the Kelly Lake trailhead there is a spur trail that goes to Hiker's Lake. At approximately 2-½ miles from Kelly Lake trailhead there is a spur trail to Hidden Lake. The trail follows along the Engineer Lakeshore. Waterproof hiking boots are recommended.

SCENIC VIEWS: Excellent views of the lakes and mountains can be obtained along the trail.

CAMPING: There are areas suitable for camping along Kelly, Hikers, and Engineer Lakes. Firewood is available, but backpacking stoves are recommended to reduce impact. If day-hiking, take plenty of drinking water.

FISHING: Fishing can be fair to good in Kelly and Engineer Lakes. Rainbow trout are present in both these lakes. Land-locked Coho (silver) salmon are also present in Engineer Lake.

OTHER ACTIVITIES: This trail provides excellent opportunities to see wildlife, which is especially abundant on and near lakes. Look for beavers along Kelly Lake and songbirds and raptors in forested areas.

WINTER ACTIVITIES: The trail provides good snowshoeing and skiing opportunities during winters with good snow cover. Ice fishing can be fair to good in Kelly and Engineer Lakes.



Each square = 1 mile