

Guide to



Bird Valley Trail System

in Chugach State Park

Trail Descriptions

Bird Creek Trails:

Access: Bird Valley Trailhead

Allowable Uses: Hike, Bike, Ski, Horseback, ATV, Snowmobile (down stream of Quartz Creek Ford, when conditions allow)

Length: 13.2 miles total in lower valley; ATV & bike access ends 4 miles up the valley.

Difficulty: Easy

Elevation Gain: 400 ft

Description: Numerous trails located around Bird and Penguin Creeks offering exploration of lower valley. Bird Creek Falls are located on west end of trail system.

Bird Creek Valley to Bird Pass Trail:

Access: Bird Valley Trailhead

Allowable Uses: Hiking

Length: 10 miles from trailhead to Bird Creek Pass

Difficulty: Moderate to Difficult

Elevation Gain: 1900 feet to Bird Creek Pass

Description: Wide trail continues from mile 4 up valley to the Bird Creek crossing. Less developed trail continues for 2 miles, then quickly gains elevation to the pass. Travel to the east from Bird Creek Pass will lead to Grizzly Bear Lake & Moraine Pass.

Penguin Peak Trail:

Access: 0.5 mile from Bird Valley Trailhead

Allowable Uses: Hiking

Length: 2 miles

Difficulty: Difficult

Elevation Gain: 3200 feet

Description: Short but steep. This less developed trail quickly gains elevation through alder thickets then emerges into the alpine which offers spectacular views of Turnagain Arm and the lower valleys.



Safety and Considerations:

Be prepared for an emergency, carry a satellite phone, file a trip plan with a friend. Bring drinking water or purify in the field. Salmon spawning area, bears are abundant. Be cautious when crossing Bird Creek. The water can be very cold and swift. Use water purification techniques for drinking water to avoid contracting Giardiasis (beaver fever). Area is subject to trapping.

Special Features:

The maze of trails in the lower valley is a popular destination for ATV's in summer, and backcountry skiers in winter. Offers access to Penguin Ridge, and into the upper valley of North Fork Ship Creek (one of the most remote and scenic areas in the park).

Park Rules:

Dirt bikes are prohibited. Pets must be on a leash while in developed areas, and under control on trails and in the backcountry. Clean up after your pet. Camping is allowed as long as you are over ½ mile from the trailhead or developed road. Camping in an undeveloped area of a state park is limited to 10 consecutive days. Fires are allowed on gravel bars only. Visit <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/units/chugach> for a complete set of park rules.

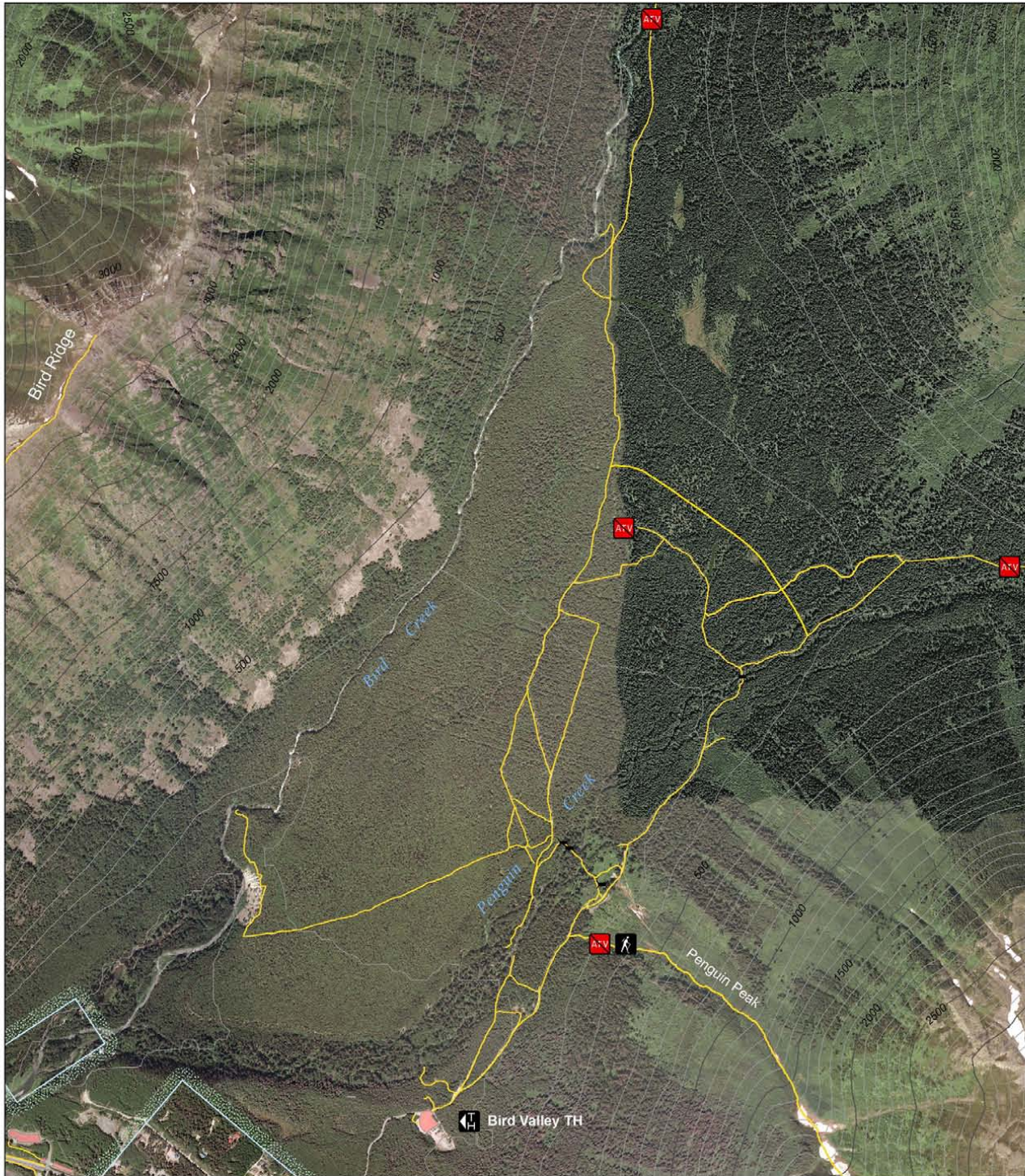
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Chugach State Park

Bird Valley Trails



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

Chugach State Park: (907) 345-5014 Email: esp@alaska.gov. Alaska State Parks: www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks. Emergency: 911.

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Legend

- Trailhead
- Hiking
- No ATV Use
- Bridge
- Trailway
- Parking Areas
- Chugach State Park



Projected Coordinate System:
NAD 83, State Plane Alaska, Zone 4

Contour Interval: 100 feet

1:15,000

