Bearberry Bluff is a dirt, single-track trail that carves a flowing path through forest, banking around neatly groomed corners in a 1.1 mile loop. Bearberry Bluff, Bearbottom, and Rootbear are Mat-Su Borough trails. The latest Borough additions include Fox Run and Foxtrot trails, all north of Long Lake. These easy to moderate single tracks are a fun, hoot-worthy ride. In the fall, leaves spatter the trail with color. The Bear and Fox trails tap into a network of some 33 miles of trails within the Matanuska Greenbelt network. The Greenbelt are loops of trails between the Palmer-Wasilla Highway, the Glenn Highway, Parks Highway, and Trunk Road. There’s four land owners collaborating: the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, University of Alaska-Mat-Su College, University of Alaska Fairbanks-Experiment Farm, and the State-Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area. Some 100 posts with 300 directional signs and 12 gateway posts with small maps help you get around this undulating, looping, and curving trail network. Here’s a link to the Matanuska Greenbelt trails. http://www.matanuska-greenbelt.org/trail-maps

How to get there
From Palmer drive the Glenn Highway south some six miles to S. Colleen Street and take a right. The road will zigzag back to the Long Lake trailhead. The road to Long Lake can be rough and is not recommended for low-slung cars. Follow the fish signs to the State trailhead at the end of Tyler Drive. State parking fees are collected.

Take note
This is a non-motorized trail network. Bugs can be heavy. Horses are welcome when trails harden after wet spring. Be prepared for moose nearby. A bear bell on a bike alerts others to your arrival around curves.