**LAZY MOUNTAIN Recreation Area**

**AT A GLANCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAILHEAD</th>
<th>S. Huntley Road</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USE</td>
<td>Hiking, running, backpacking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISTANCE</td>
<td>2.5 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL</td>
<td>Moderate to Difficult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEV. GAIN</td>
<td>3,720 feet</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**DESCRIPTION**

Two trails with different appeal are here. The newer Lazy Moose Trail is a gentle ascent. The steep Lazy Mountain Trail reshapes you. It stretches tendons going up. If you are not a regular climber, going down can make quads so sore that the pain has its own catch phrase: Lazy Legs. The climb is 3,000 feet in less than two miles. The first half moves through cottonwoods, aspen, spruce, birch, and tall fireweed. At about 1,500 feet in elevation the trail crosses into alpine tundra and offers sweeping views of the Knik and Matanuska Rivers. A picnic table awaits here at the halfway mark. Scrappy mountain runners train on Lazy slopes. Lazy Mountain has become a hiking highway recently. In icy winter, hikers wear microspikes. Summiting Lazy at 3,720 feet gives magnificent views of the Chugach and Talkeetna Mountains. The longer, less steep, Lazy Moose Trail zigzags up the hill for three miles. Access this gentler trail at the beginning to the right. Lazy Moose reconnects with Lazy Mountain Trail above the first picnic table.

**HOW TO GET THERE**

From Palmer, go east on the Old Glenn Highway 2.5 miles, take a left on Clark-Wolverine Road. Proceed ½ mile to a T intersection. Take a right on Huntley Road, follow it to the end, take a right to the Lazy Mountain Recreation Area and trailhead.

**TAKE NOTE**

Be prepared for an encounter with bear or moose. Dogs must be on a leash. Wet or frosty conditions make a very slippery trail. The Lazy Mountain Trail is in poor condition in parts as it is a fall-line trail that takes the shortest route down hill, which water follows too.

**Patty Sullivan**

**Parking Fee**

$5/day $40/annual pass

**S. Huntley Road**

Hiking, running, backpacking

2.5 miles

Moderate to Difficult

3,720 feet