



## Trail 14 - Kenny Creek Trail

**Duration:** 2 hours.

**Distance:** 2.8 miles out-and-back

**Difficulty:** Easy – Strenuous

**Trailhead:** Mueller Park

**Elevation:** Trailhead 5250'; Base of Pipeline 6158'; Peak 7335'

**Avalanche:** Watch the pipeline swath

**Map:** Fort Douglas 7.5' quadrangle

**GPS Coordinates:** Peak at top of Pipeline--12 T 0431907/4524198

Base of Pipeline--12 T 0430959/4523572

**Dogs:** Allowed

**Introduction:** Kenny Creek Trail is the second accessible trail from the Mueller Park Recreation Area. The merits of this trail include its quick accessibility, the view from the top, and two vantage points which give you route length options. The first view comes at .6 miles, and the second after an additional steep climb of 1177 feet to the top of the mountain along a pipeline swath. Your time and energy will determine which vantage point you're up for. Kenny Creek sees less traffic than the well-used Mueller Park trail across the way. Note the lower elevation of the trail which means it will be best traveled when snow pack in the valley is good.

**How to get there:** Mueller Park Trailhead: I-15 to Bountiful 5th South Exit. Drive east to Orchard Drive. Make a right on Orchard Drive and follow to 1800 S. Turn left on 1800 South and follow the road– it concludes at Mueller Park. Parking is free if you don't enter the picnic area. If the parking lot is full you can park out on the street a few hundred yard before the parking lot.

Walk past the metal winter gate and up the paved road into the picnic area. Kenny Creek trailhead sits off to the left approximately a hundred yards up the road. The trailhead is marked.

**Trail Description:** A small wooden name plate marks the trailhead while a larger Forest Service sign posts the rules. The trail starts next to Kenny Creek, but follows it for only a short while. The trail then curves around and up the west side of the mountain, making its way up washes where the scrub oak isn't as thick. At .67 miles you break out of the scrub onto the top of the hill. This is your first view of Bountiful and the Great Salt Lake to the west. You also start to see Mueller Park trail cutting across the mountains to the south. This destination may be just the right stopping point if you're short on time, doing a night hike, or taking kids along.

If you wish to continue on to the top of the pipeline swath that heads up the mountain to the northeast, head down the other side of the mountain to the east. At .72 miles you'll hook up with Kenny Creek again. The pipeline swath is visible from here. If avalanche conditions are high beware of the pipeline slope as there are no anchors on it. Since you can see your destination from here, take any route that works for you. The obvious route is to continue east across the creek, past the grove of aspen, and start up the swath from the bottom.

The "pipeline" is a wide treeless strip that looks like a ski run. It is cleared to the top of the mountain. Head up this slope for the reward of a well-earned climb and an expansive view that will knock your socks off. The Great Salt Lake and Antelope Island are completely visible to the west, Mueller Park trail to the south, and you can see north into Layton. The Oquirrh mountains spring up to the west, and the Sessions Mountains above Bountiful to the east – it's a great place for a picnic if it's not a windy day. If you're not ready to quit, you can continue from the peak into the mountains to the east – there is more to explore.

You can return to your car the way you came up, or you can head down the pipeline swath all the way to the bottom of the canyon where you can follow the canyon back down to your car.