

Welcome to Middle McIntyre Creek!

McIntyre Creek is located within the traditional territories of the Ta'an Kwäch'än and Kwanlin Dün First Nations. The creek starts on the upper slopes of Mt. McIntyre, flows through the wetlands west of the Copper Ridge residential area, across the Alaska Highway, Mountainview Drive and Range Road and into the Yukon River. Middle McIntyre Creek is the area between the Alaska Highway and Mountainview Drive.

McIntyre Creek and its associated wetlands and forests have been identified as the largest, continuous *Significant Wildlife Area* in Whitehorse, providing habitat for a diversity of wildlife including beaver, otter, fox, pine marten and water shrew. The area functions as a wildlife corridor for larger mammals travelling between the Yukon River and upland areas, including moose and bear. The creek supports Chinook salmon, Arctic grayling and (introduced) rainbow trout. Over 100 bird species have been observed along McIntyre Creek including waterfowl, eagles, swans, Gray Jays, magpies, juncos, robins, Bohemian Waxwings, hawks and Pine Grosbeaks.

Common trees: lodgepole pine, white spruce and trembling aspen.

Common plants: bearberry (kinnikinnick), soapberry (buffaloberry), labrador tea, mosses and lichens.

Common flowers: crocus, arctic lupine, elegant death camas, bluebells, wild rose, spotted saxifrage and Yukon beardtongue.

Trails are not maintained – use at your own risk.

Please:

- Do not feed or approach wildlife.
- Stay on the main trails. Vegetation grows slowly due to the dry climate, sandy soils and long winters. This makes the land prone to erosion.
- Stay away from the water's edge - this area is sensitive to disturbance and important wildlife habitat.
- Take out all garbage.
- Pick up after your dog.



Want to learn more?

www.friendsofmcintyrecreek.org

www.yukonconservation.ca

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Exploring Middle McIntyre Creek: **BROWN Trail**



Time: ~1 hour

Distance: ~ 3.9 km

Difficulty: Easy

Key Features: views of city and McIntyre Creek; mature white spruce forest.

Safety Considerations:

Watch for mountain bikers; some sections of trail are sandy and have exposed roots; gentle hills.



The green heart of a wilderness city

Brown Trail

Along the Trail

(follow in clockwise direction)

Walk down the dirt road past the power station and take the first sandy trail on your left. (1)

Follow this trail up and down parallel to Mountainview Drive. From the tops of the hills, you can see nice views including a glimpse of the Yukon River.

Just before a second steep downhill, watch for a trail that cuts into the forest on your right (2) - take this trail.

Follow the trail through the forest. When you come to a junction (3), take the left branch. Follow this trail through an opening in the forest and then downhill until you reach a T-junction overlooking McIntyre Creek.(4) Take the trail to your right, along the ridge, instead of going downhill.

Continue along the main trail following the ridge, keeping left at each of the 3 junctions. Please do not use the small trails you pass that lead to McIntyre Creek – this is sensitive habitat.

Eventually, you will crest a small hill and reach a T junction.(5) Head right going up hill. [A short detour on the left trail at this T-junction will take you to a foot bridge and a beautiful view of McIntyre Creek year round.This is also an access point for the Boreal Worlds Trail Loop – a 2 km trail with interpretive signs.]

The trail will lead you up and down hills – keep to the main trail as you pass junctions.

You will pass a barrier for motorized vehicles and then reach a dirt road (Pine St. extension).(6) Turn right on the road, continue straight through the four way intersection. Watch for a trail leading into the forest on your right.(7)

Follow this trail until you come to a junction.(8) Take the right hand trail and follow the trail as it winds through the forest. You will pass under some power lines but continue straight.(9)

Continue winding through the forest.You will pass a number of smaller trails but stay on the main trail until you hit a large four-way junction where houses can be seen on the left and a steep downhill on the right.(10)

Turn right and take the long downhill back to the trailhead, ignoring junctions.

P Parking and Starting Point:

Begin on a dirt road that can be accessed via Mountainview Drive.

Whitehorse Bus Directions:

- Route 1 Riverdale North – Porter Creek Express stop: Porter Creek Secondary School
- Route 4 Porter Creek – Crestview stop: 12th and Hemlock

i = interpretive sign

0 100 200 300 m

