



## Rock Climbing at Grapefruit Rocks



**Access:** From Fairbanks drive north on the Steese Highway to Fox and then take the Elliot Highway. Just after Globe Creek bridge at mile 39, there is a pullout to the right, for access to East Grapefruit Rocks. To reach West Grapefruit Rocks, continue on the Elliot Highway another one-half mile to the pullout on the left side of the road.

•**East Grapefruit Rocks:** From the very end of the parking area follow the trail leading up above the road. First, the path goes by/over several little rocks. At the top are two large towers. The Morning Wall is behind the towers. Follow the trail down and around to the north to reach Falcon Rock. There are beautiful views, and places to camp at the top or in the parking area (but dust from passing vehicles can be unpleasant). *Please note:* the trail is steep and exposed to hot sun. Bring lots of water, insect repellent, and sunscreen.

•**West Grapefruit Rocks:** Drive another 0.2 miles from the first turnout to a double-ended turnout on the left (screened by brush, so look carefully). This hike is an easy quarter-mile with a couple small hills, through an area shaded by trees. It can be very muddy along the trail and mosquitoes are intense! The first rocks are visible from the clearing. Trails lead north from the first rock. Please use the main trail to minimize erosion.

**Note:** Grapefruit Rocks is a place to watch rock climbers or experience the thrill of rock climbing on your own. The trails leading up to the rock faces are short; they do not provide much in the way of hiking, but as a means of travel to reach the climbing surfaces. For more information, see *Fairbanks Area Climbing Guide* by Stan Justice, available at Beaver Sports.