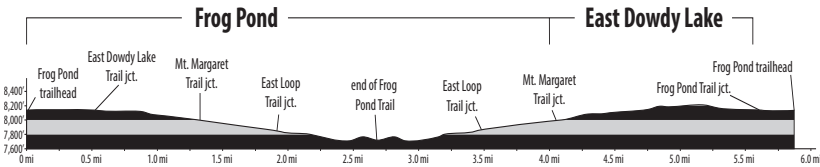


# Frog Pond 973 & East Dowdy Lake 973-1

<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>LOW</b> (patrol methods: day hike; ride stock)	
Ratings:	Hikers – Easy;	Stock Riders – Easy
Open For Summer Patrol: May 18th		
SPOT/USFS Radio:	<b>not required</b> (Radio Channel: 02, then 03, then 01; Priority 3, Good reception)	
Wilderness:	None	
Round-trip Length:	5.9 miles (for a loop of both trails starting and ending at Dowdy Lake Campground)	
Beginning Elevation:	8,172	
Peak Elevation:	8,177	
Gain/Loss/Net Gain:	514 / -514 / 0	
USFS Regulations:	National Forest	
Trails Illustrated:	#111 Red Feather Lakes, Glendevey	
USGS 7-½' Quadrangle:	Red Feather Lakes	



## TRAILHEAD LOCATION

This patrol can be accessed in two different ways:

Via the eastern end of the Frog Pond Trail (from the Dowdy Lake Campground): From Ted's Place, follow US-287 north for 10.5 miles to the "forks" at Livermore. Turn left onto the Red Feather Lakes Road (CR-74E). At mm 23.0, turn north on Dowdy Road and drive until the pavement ends. Turn east (right) onto Dowdy Lake Campground Road and drive toward the north end of the Dowdy Lake Campground. Turn left toward the Day Use Area and drive to the parking area at the end of the road. **Note that parking here requires fee payment (\$5.00) or a pass.**

Via the Mt. Margaret Trail: From Ted's Place, follow US-287 north for 10.5 miles to the "forks" at Livermore. Turn left onto the Red Feather Lakes Road (CR-74E). At mm 20.8 you will see the Mt. Margaret parking lot and trailhead on the right (north) side of the road. Facilities and stock trailer parking available at trailhead. No water.

GPS Coordinates:

*Frog Pond trailhead N of Dowdy Lake:*

*N40°48.056' W105°33.478'*

*jct. Mt. Margaret with East Dowdy Lake and Frog Pond trails:*

*N40°48.275' W105°32.309'*

*eastern end of Frog Pond Trail:*

*N40°48.399' W105°30.972'*

*Mt. Margaret trailhead:*

*N40°46.848' W105°32.269'*

*jct. with Mt. Margaret - East Dowdy Lake connector trail:*

*N40°47.655' W105°32.871'*

*jct. Frog Pond with eastern end of East Dowdy*

*Lake Trail:*

*N40°47.921' W105°33.231'*

*established campsite 9:*

*N40°48.159' W105°31.512'*

*established campsite 10:*

*N40°48.484' W105°30.987'*

## PATROL DESCRIPTION

These two trails should be patrolled together as a loop trip. If you access it from the Dowdy Lake Campground, follow the Frog Pond Trail from the trailhead by walking along the top of the NE earthen dam about 200 yds until reaching an open, concrete spillway. Follow the Frog Pond Trail as it turns sharply toward the east. Note the junction with the western end of the East Dowdy Lake Trail at this point. The Frog

## Frog Pond 973 & East Dowdy Lake 973-1 (cont.)

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Pond Trail crosses a fence-line via a vehicle gate. The trail then climbs gently toward the NE for about 1 mi, passing a pond surrounded by a log fence near its high point and then descends gently toward a 3-way junction with the Mt. Margaret and East Dowdy Lake trails, passing the junction with the West Loop Trail along the way. The trail continues eastward past this junction, descending steadily but gently and passing the junction with the East Loop Trail and then crossing a small intermittent stream just before reaching established campsite #9 (on the south side of the trail). From this point the trail turns NE, crossing the small drainage two more times, before it climbs uphill for a short distance. About 100 ft after crossing through another fence line, there is a fork in the trail/road. Take the northern fork downhill about 100 yds to the "End of Trail" sign. Note that campsite #10 is just off the trail toward the east and the "End of Trail" sign. From this point, turn around and return to the 3-way trail junction with the Mt. Margaret and East Dowdy Lake trails, and return to the Frog Pond trailhead via the East Dowdy Lake Trail.

A second access is 2.4 miles up the Mt. Margaret Trail at the 3-way junction of the Mt. Margaret, East Dowdy Lake, and Frog Pond Trails. If you access the Frog Pond & East Dowdy Lake patrol in this way, you should

patrol both the eastern, out and back portion of the Frog Pond Trail from the 3-way trail junction and the East Dowdy Lake – western Frog Pond Trail as a loop before patrolling back to the Mt. Margaret trailhead via the Mt. Margaret Trail.

If you patrol only one of these two trails (Frog Pond or East Dowdy Lake) or only a portion of one or both trails, please mention this in the Patrol Comments section of your report.

The Frog Pond and East Dowdy Lake trails offer an easy and scenic trip along old roadbeds through meadows and an open, mixed ponderosa pine/quaking aspen forest, with occasional Rocky Mountain juniper and Douglas-fir trees. Both of the two established campsites (#9 & #10) along the Frog Pond Trail, has a bench and an enclosed metal fire pit with a grill. You should visit both of these campsites during your patrol and note: 1) whether or not they are occupied (if so, how many tents or campers) and 2) whether or not the fire pits and area are clean (no trash). Both sites offer nice camping locations, although #10 is some distance from water (and the small intermittent stream near #9 may well be dry, especially in mid to late summer).

These trails can be hot and dry in the summer months, so carry plenty of water.