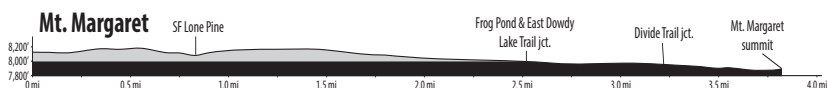


Mt. Margaret 979 (167) & Divide 979-1

PRIORITY	MEDIUM (patrol methods: day hike; ride stock)
Ratings:	Hikers – Easy; Stock riders – Easy
Open For Summer Patrol:	May 18th
SPOT/USFS Radio:	not required (Radio: 02 > 03 > 01; Priority 3, Good reception)
Wilderness:	None
One-Way Length:	3.8 miles (trailhead to summit) [+ 0.6 mi for Divide Trail]
Beginning Elevation:	8,097
Peak Elevation:	8,208
Gain/Loss/Net Gain:	598 / 776 / -178
USFS Regulations:	National Forest
Trails Illustrated:	#111 Red Feather Lakes, Glendevey
USGS 7-1/2' Quadrangle:	Red Feather Lakes



TRAILHEAD LOCATION

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 parking lot and trailhead on the right (north) side of the road. Facilities and stock trailer parking available at trailhead but no water.

GPS Coordinates:

trailhead: N40°46.848' W105°32.269'

jct. with Mt. Margaret - East Dowdy Lake connector trail: N40°47.655' W105°32.871'

jct. East Dowdy Lake and Frog Pond trails: N40°48.265' W105°32.292'

jct. west end of Columbine Trail: N40°48.352' W105°32.195'

jct. north end of East Loop Trail: N40°48.446' W105°31.821'

jct. south end of Divide Trail: N40°48.524' W105°31.744'

jct. east end of North Loop Trail: N40°48.683' W105°31.763'

Mt. Margaret summit: N40°49.067' W105°31.668'

established campsite 1: N40°47.311' W105°32.308'

established campsite 2: N40°47.342' W105°32.326'

established campsite 3: N40°48.026' W105°32.471'

established campsite 4: N40°48.113' W105°32.397'

established campsite 5: N40°48.232' W105°32.296'

established campsite 6: N40°48.484' W105°31.859'

established campsite 7: N40°48.596' W105°31.782'

PATROL DESCRIPTION

The Mount Margaret Trail offers an easy and scenic trip along old roadbeds through meadows, granite outcroppings, and ponderosa pine forest. However, this trail can be hot and dry in the summer months, so carry plenty of water.

From the trailhead, the trail goes to the north-west through an open ponderosa forest before dropping downhill and crossing the South Fork of Lone Pine Creek via a wooden bridge (hikers) or a hardened stream ford (stock and bicyclists) about 0.8 mi from the trailhead. From here the trail meanders first to the NNW and then to the NE. There are seven established campsites along this trail, each with a bench and an enclosed metal fire pit with a grill. Please visit as many of these campsites as you can 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).

About 1.4 miles from the trailhead, the trail reaches a fence line with both a vehicle and a pedestrian gate. The trail passes through a gate at this point. After going downhill and through some meadows, you will see campsites #3 and #4 on the right. Note that established campsites #1 and #2 are along the old, decommissioned lower section of the Mt. Margaret Trail, east of the new, bridged crossing of South Lone Pine Creek. About 2.4 miles from the trailhead, you will see campsite #5 on the SW side of the trail

Mt. Margaret *(continued)*

and encounter a 3-trail junction with the eastern portion of the Frog Pond Trail (on the east) and the western portion of the Frog Pond Trail and the East Dowdy Lake Trail (on the west). Continue along the Mt. Margaret Trail past a junction with the Columbine Trail (on the left). About 0.4 mi further along the trail, just SSW of a small "pond"/wet area surrounded by a log fence, the East Loop Trail [#973-1] intersects the Mt. Margaret Trail (established campsite #6 is located to the north, just SW of the small "pond"/wet area).

From this point, follow the Mt. Margaret Trail to the northeast for 0.1 mile to a junction with the Divide Trail [#979-1] directly east of the small "pond"/wet area. Head north (left) on the Mt. Margaret Trail and you will encounter a sign indicating established campsite #7, which is located due north of the small "pond"/wet area. Continue to the north and you will encounter a junction with the North Loop Trail [#976-1] on the left. From this point, the Mt. Margaret Trail continues to the north for about ½ mile. Your patrol ends at an "End of Trail" sign, where this trail/old road turns sharply to the east and begins to descend steeply downhill (at N40°49.008' W105°31.750'). If you want, you can hike cross country about 100 yards to the NE and then scramble up the rocky outcropping to the summit of Mt. Margaret, where you will be rewarded with a great view of the North Lone Pine Valley to the ESE.

If you have the time and energy, you should also patrol the Divide Trail for 0.6 mile to its end at the base of a rock outcropping that also offers another great view of the valley carved by North Lone Pine Creek. If you include the Divide Trail in your Mt. Margaret trail patrol, please include observations, trail maintenance, weeds, and other observations in your trail patrol report and note in the *COMMENTS* section of your patrol report that you also patrolled this trail.

There are several other trails in the area that intersect with the Mt. Margaret Trail. These

include: East Dowdy Lake Trail (1.4 miles one way), Frog Pond Trail (2.8 miles one way), Columbine Trail (2.4 miles one way), as well as the East Loop (0.3 mi), West Loop (0.4 mi), and North Loop (0.7 mi) trails. While you are free to ride or hike any of these additional trails, none of them are components of the Mt. Margaret & Divide trail patrol. Do NOT include observations, trail maintenance, weeds, or other observations from any of these trails in your trail patrol report for the Mt. Margaret Trail.

Note that some of the above trails have been included in new trail patrols: Frog Pond & East Dowdy Lake together constitute a new trail patrol and Columbine, Columbine Ridge, & Columbine Ridge Loop together constitute a second new trail patrol. If you plan to patrol either of these on the same day as Mt. Margaret, be sure to schedule and report them separately and be sure to keep separate notes of observations and contacts for each.

The Mt. Margaret Trail can be hot and dry in the summer months, so carry plenty of water.