

2PACE Winnemucca, Round and Frog Lakes/Carson Pass

Moderate/Fast Pace Option

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

RSVP Required – Email djknowls@yahoo.com

GENERAL LOCATION: Kit Carson Pass

HIKE DISTANCE: About 7.3 miles, in-and-out

DIFFICULTY: Strenuous due to altitude and pace.

ELEVATION GAIN: Start at 8,600 ft, Max 9,400' - 1,125 ft gain

PACE: Moderate/Fast (Relaxed/Moderate in wildflower meadows)

NOTE: We hope to see wonderful flowers! We will slow our pace and allow time for plenty of photos as we pass through wildflower meadows.

Maximum elevation on this hike is 9,400' Please consider high elevation when determining the pace and distance you want to hike.

TRAIL CONDITIONS: Mixture of dirt and rock trail, with some steep sections with large rocks, short off-trail areas at Frog Lake, and several stream crossings.

DESCRIPTION: It's a long drive—but well worth it for spectacular views and carpets of wildflowers if we're lucky. Starting at the Carson Pass Ranger Station, we hike a section of the Pacific Crest Trail, with two 300 feet; ascents and large rock steps. Next, we hike through lush meadows past Winnemucca Lake to overlook Round Lake. We will then return to Winnemucca Lake with the plan to join up with the moderate group for lunch on the shore of the beautiful Lake.

A side trip to Frog Lake on the way back has a great vista overlooking Hope Valley/Red Lake and, with luck, a meadow full of iris.

Facilities: Restrooms at trailhead.
Safeway in Pollock Pines suggested for fast enroute rest stop.

Travel Time/Distance: 2 1/4 hours – 110 miles. \$20 donation to driver.

Bring your Golden Age (Federal Lands) Pass if you have one.

Some hikers not staying overnight may wish to stop on the way home for dinner so pick your carpool accordingly. Papa Gianni's in Cameron Park is suggested (opens 5:00 PM).

Meeting/Leave Time: Meet at 7:00 AM, far right rear of Orchard Creek parking lot, Rows 12-13.
Leave at 7:15 AM

Hike Leader/Sweep: Debbie Knowles/Lisa Mariotti

OVERNIGHT ADVENTURE OPTION! Arrange your own room in South Lake Tahoe for strenuous 10-mile Showers Lake Hike on Thursday, July 17. See Showers Lake Hike Description for details.

Preparation for Hike:

- Being prepared physically as well as having the right equipment makes for a better experience, not only for you, but for your fellow hikers.
- **If you have any health issues, please consider your condition before hiking at high altitude or at a fast pace.**

What to Bring:

- **PLENTY OF WATER!** Recommend 50 oz. /1.5 liters minimum for 5-mile hike – **more if longer.** Electrolytes suggested. Higher altitudes are dehydrating even when cool.
- Hiking boots/shoes, hat, sun protection, insect repellant, small first aid kit. Wind/rain jacket always advisable in the mountains. Trekking poles recommended.
- ID (driver's license), health insurance card, and emergency contact / phone number.
- Extra pair of shoes to change into after hike and a plastic bag for muddy/dusty hiking boots to keep your driver's car clean.

Link to AllTrails Map: <https://www.alltrails.com/explore/map/fast-winnemucca-lake-winnemucca-and-frog-lake-from-carson-pass-via-pacific-crest-trail-4ff6fa9>

DIRECTIONS TO CARSON PASS—LAKE WINNEMUCCA HIKE:

Navigate to: Carson Pass Information Station (Ranger Station)

Use Golden Age/Federal Lands Pass for parking.

Stoneridge Blvd. to Sierra College, which becomes Hazel, all the way to US 50 East.

Go 38 miles to Pollock Pines.

Take Exit 60 to Sly Park Rd but turn left to Safeway on the left for good restrooms.

Return to right on Sly Park Rd. for 4.6 miles.

Turn left onto Mormon Emigrant Trail for 25 miles.

Turn left onto CA-88 for 17 miles to Carson Pass Ranger Station.

110 miles total, about 2.25 hours.

\$20 suggested donation to drivers.