**THURSDAY D HIKES, JANUARY, 2020**

**Jan 2. Mule Deer/Black Rock/Waterfall Trails (White Tanks). Rating D.**

This is a 4+ mile hike with an elevation gain of 400 ft. The hike starts on the Mule Deer trail at Ramada 3 and goes through typical desert along a good trail to a hidden waterfall (usually dry). Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is $7.00. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. [SCG=4.5/600/2.4]

**Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park** Take 303 North (right). Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West). Turn right on Cotton. Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate. Park fee is $7.00/car for all trailheads

**Jan 9. Fantasy Island North Singletrack (FINS) South loop (Estrella Mountain Ranch).** Rating D.  This is about a 3.7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft on several trails in the eastern part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations.  There is an interesting area - a boneyard of dozens of cow bones. Trail condition - this is a very good biking trail.  No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead.  Driving distance is 27 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-Island-North>

**Directions to FINS - Fantasy Island Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10. Continue for approx. 12.5 miles from Eagle’s Nest. Turn right on West Westar Drive. Go approx. 1.1 mi. and turn left into the parking lot (turn just before a one-level concrete maintenance building; there is also a tall steel tower for power lines). No restrooms. No park fee.

**Jan 16. Deem Hills Inner Circumference Trail (Phoenix). Rating D+.** This is a 4.1 mile loop hike around the Deem Hills Recreation area with an elevation change of 560 ft. There are distinct vegetation areas on the different sides of the hills. There would be good wildflowers after a wet winter. Good views from the top showing the area north of 101 and west of I-17. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No Park Fee. Driving Distance is 65 miles RT. http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/DeemHillsPark/Circumference-Trail

**Directions to Deem Hills Park.**  Take 101 North Turn North on 59th Ave Turn North (left) on 55th Ave. 55th Ave becomes Deem Hills Pkwy. The park is on the right. There is no park fee. Restrooms are at the parking lot.

**Jan 23. White Tanks Maricopa Trail North. Rating D.**

4.5-5 mile out and back hike with >200’ elevation gain, trail in excellent shape. Start at the White Tanks Trail Staging Area; Follow signs for Maricopa Trail/Mule Deer Trail to gate, leave the Park and proceed 2-2.5 miles along the Maricopa Trail and return. Great views of the White Tanks Mountains and lots of wild flowers in the Spring. Park fee is $7 per car. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

**Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is $7.00/car for all trailheads

**Jan 30. Verrado North Trail (White Tank Mountains). Rating D.** This is a 4.2 mile lollipop loop hike. The first part of the hike is rather flat then you parallel a wash and follow it up to a point that will give you nice views of the west side of the White Tank Mountains. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**Directions to Trailhead at Verrado West**

Go West on Indian School Road.

Turn left on Acacia Way (just past the high school).

Turn right on Lost Creek Drive

Parking for the trailhead is at the end of Lost Creek Drive.