

C LEVEL HIKING GROUPS - SATURDAYS

Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 7:00 am, depart at 7:15.

February 1 - Estrella Foothills Park Elliott TH Loop 1 -

Bridge (Estrella Mountains). Rating C. This loop hike is about 7 miles long with an elevation gain of about 800 ft. The hike starts at a parking lot off Elliott Drive on an old road. It then follows several trails ending up at a wooden bridge that crosses a wash. There are nice views of the Estrella Mountain community. The hike goes through typical desert terrain. Trail condition – an average hiking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 24 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills/C-Exploratory-Hike-5-14-18Elliot-Rd-MappingLynnW2017-2018/>

Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - Elliott Trailhead

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south)
PCP becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.
Continue up the hill into Estrella Mountain to the shopping area
Turn left on Elliott (light just past a shopping area)
Park at the far end.

February 8 - Dog Bone Big Bird Loop (Buckeye). Rating C. This is a loop hike of about 7 miles with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The Dog Bone trail system is a sister bike trail system to FINS. This hike combines several trails to the west side of the Dog Bone biking area. It goes up to the highest point in the system (the end of Big Bird trail). While the overall hike is through typical desert terrain, there are several interesting rock formations as well as views of the surrounding mountains. Near the beginning of the hike, there are 3 Saguaros that look like old versions of our club logo – a subtle reminder that we ourselves are no longer young. Trail condition – while this is a biking area, the surface is somewhat rough in places. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 50 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Buckeye-Dog-Bone-Trails>

Directions to Dog Bone Trailhead (Buckeye)

Go West on I-10 to Highway 85.
Drive South on Hwy 85 for about 7 miles.
Turn left on Robbins Butte Game Road.
Turn left at the sharp turn and immediately right on Narramore Road.
Just before the wash, turn left onto a dirt road.
Park on the right about a block down the road (where it widens).
Hike back to Narramore Road
The trail starts across Narramore Road slightly to the right.

February 15 - Mesquite Canyon/Willow Spring trails (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+. It is a 6.3 to 8.0 mile in and out hike with an elevation

gain of 1100-1500 ft. The basic trail goes to the base of Willow Springs/falls with an option to go around to the top of the waterfall. The trail starts on the Mesquite trail in area #7 just off of Ramada Way. Mile one is very steep and rocky, around 1.8 miles the trail then turns north and drops into Mesquite Canyon and then over a ridge into Willow Canyon. The trail follows the wash up to Willow Springs where the remnants of a cabin, stock tank and corral once stood at the steep walled end of the canyon. The spring usually has some water, though it might be only a trickle. Trail condition - average hiking trail with a couple of steep climbs. Restrooms and water fountain are at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. [SCG=6.6/1700/3.8].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Mesquite-Willow-Springs>

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 (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).

Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).

Mesquite Canyon/Waddell trailhead is at Picnic area #7. Turn left on Waterfall Canyon Rd and then left at the road just past the Waterfall Trail trailhead to find Picnic area #7.

February 22 - South of the Border/Old Road/Javalina/Tortuga Trails

(Verrado). Rating C/C+. This is a 7.5-9 mile in & out hike with an elevation gain of 1000-1600 ft. The hike goes through typical desert washes and up to a saddle (or optionally to the peak) of the nearest mountain to Pebble Creek. It then goes halfway around the mountain before returning to the trailhead. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Javelina-Summit-Loop>

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.

You walk between the green and a tee on the Raven at Verrado golf course to get to the trailhead.

February 29 - Turnbuckle/Granite Falls/Chuckwalla Lollipop Loop

(Skyline Regional Park - Buckeye). Rating C. This is about a 5.8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 900 ft. in the western part of Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park, including parts of the Granite Falls Trail and Chuckwalla Trail that are accessed from Turnbuckle Trail on the west side of the park. The trails meander

through several areas with minimal elevation gain. Trail Condition – average hiking trail. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park>

Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead

Go West on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive to end of road and trailhead parking.

Facilities are at the trailhead.