**Saturday 2020-2021 B Hike Descriptions Jan -- May**

***January 2021***

***01-02-2021:* Dog Bone East Airport Road Trailhead (Buckeye). Rating B.**

An in and out 9+ miles and 1200 ft for the B hike. This hike will be a freeform bushwhack over the tops of several small mountains here. The Dog Bone trail system is a sister bike trail system to FINS, located in the far eastern section of the system. While the overall hike is through typical desert terrain, there are several interesting rock formations as well as views of the surrounding mountains. The first 2 miles are on open desert with a gradual incline to a saddle with a quartz outcropping, the hike then continues for another 1.5 miles across the side of the mountain to a field of quartz. Trail condition – typical desert trail with the last part of the B hike being a true bushwhack. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 32 miles RT.

**Directions to Dog Bone – Airport Road Trailhead (Buckeye)**

Drive south on Pebble Creek Pkwy for 9.3 miles and turn right (west) at Elliot Rd.

Continue on Elliott Rd for 2.6 miles and turn left (south) onto Rainbow Valley Rd.

Drive 2 miles on Rainbow Valley Road and turn right (west) on Ray Road.

Drive 2 miles and veer right as the road turns (and changes name to Airport road.

Drive 100 yards and turn left into a dirt parking area just this side of a dirt road going left. Park here. Hike down the dirt road for .25 miles and turn right on the trail.

***01-09-2021:* Rainbow Valley/Toothaker/Gadsden/Butterfield Loop (Estrella Mountain Regional Park ).  Rating B.**This is a 10-mile loop beginning on the west side of the rodeo, and has approx. 1000 ft elev. gain. The Rainbow Valley trail is wide and relatively flat; it intersects the Toothaker Trail. Turn right onto Toothaker Trail and continue for 1.4 miles, going past the Pedersen Trail, remain on Toothaker for another 0.3 miles. Turn left on the Gadsden Trail, then right on the Butterfield trail and head back to the rodeo. Park entrance fee is $7.00 per car.  Driving distance is approx. 20 miles RT. Trailheads and rest rooms are on the far (West) side of rodeo arena.

**Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park - Toothaker/Rainbow TH**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south)

South of I-10, turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.

Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee. Drive around the park to the left.

***01-16-2021:* Estrella High School to FINS North & Return (Estrella Foothills/ Estrella Mt Ranch). Rating B.** This is a 11.5-mile figure eight lollipop hike with elevation change of 600 ft. The hike begins from the High School south and west through some of the developed areas to the FINS trailhead. At the FINS Trailhead, the hike will continue as a 5+ mile figure 8 loop on several trails in the Western part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There is an interesting enchanted forest of stuffed animals. The hike then returns to the high school. Trail condition – good this is also a biking trail. Restrooms are at the TH.

No park fee. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

**Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which

becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

***01-23-2021:* Competitive Track – Long Loop (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating B.**  This is a 9.6-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 792 ft. This hike goes through typical desert terrain with lots of Saguaro cactus.  The first half of the hike goes up 700 ft very gradually, and then starts a slow descent before returning to the parking lot. Trail condition -good hiking trail.  Driving distance is 26 miles RT. There is a porta-john at the TH.

**Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park - Competitive Trails**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkw/Estrella Pkw (on other side of I-10).

Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.

Follow Vineyard as it curves to the right, becoming 143rd Ave

Turn left on Indian Springs Road

At the fence that begins the parking for ISM turn right

Follow signs to trails. Pay park fee of $7.00 per vehicle at the self-pay station

Continue on to the parking on the right.

***01-30-2021:* PA to CX to EMRP Pedersen/TH/GD/PD to CX/PA (Estrella Foothills into EMRP) Rating B.** This is a9.3 mile/300 Ft elevation gain hike. From Estrella Foothills HS, we will take the Maricopa Trail following the PA trail into Estrella Mtn Reg Park. We will then follow the Crossover (CX) trail for about a mile where it ends at the Pedersen trail. Turn left on PD, then right on Toothaker, right on Gadsden, and then right on PD. Continue for 0.5 mile and go left on CX, back to PA, and then back to the high school. This is a lollipop hike; average flat hiking trail. The Gadsden section is sandy. Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. There is a self-pay park fee as you enter the park at CX. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

**Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

***February 2021***

***02-06-2021:* Estrella High School to FINS North & Return (Estrella Foothills/ Estrella Mt Ranch). Rating B.** This is a 11.5-mile figure eight lollipop hike with elevation change of 600 ft. The hike begins from the High School south and west through some of the developed areas to the FINS trailhead. At the FINS trailhead the hike will continue as a 4+ mile figure 8 loop on several trails in the Western part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There is an interesting enchanted forest of stuffed animals. The hike then returns to the high school. Trail condition – good this is also a biking trail. There are restrooms at the TH. No park fee. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

**Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which

becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

***02-13-2021:*** **Inside/Outside Trail Meander (Estrella Foothills Park) SR/PA/RR/GR//UT/UY/SU/BU/BL/SR Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 10-mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. The hike starts at the parking lot of the Estrella Foothills High School and heads south before cutting in to go up a high saddle. It then goes up and around the top. The hike heads out to some of the lesser-travelled perimeter trails before returning to the high school. Trail condition - mostly a very good hiking trail in typical desert terrain. Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. No park fee. Driving distance is 27 miles RT.

**Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

***02-20-2021:*  Sonoran Competitive Track Loop + Gray Fox + Ironwood + Ford + Ironwood back to Gray Fox (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 10+ mile hike: a loop + a lollipop loop, for an elevation gain of 700 ft. The Sonoran loop is a one-way competitive bike trail with ups & downs through washes, plus a climb near the midpoint of the hike. Along the 2nd half of the hike is a Crested Saguaro. We return to the Comp Track parking area, and begin at the Gray Fox TH; proceed for 0.9miles. Turn right for a short distance to the Ironwood Trail, turn left on Ford Canyon Trail, turn left on Ironwood Trail, back to Gray Fox to parking lot. There’s a porta-john at the trailhead. Driving distance is approx 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

Sonoran Loop Trail is at the end of the main road, slightly right off the end of the

paved road. The restroom on this hike is a porta-john.

***02-27-2021:*  Turnbuckle/Granite Falls/Pyrite /Chuckwalla/ Turnbuckle/ Skyline Crest/Quartz Mine/Watson Overlook (Skyline Regional Park). Rating B**. This is a loop hike of 9.6 miles with an elevation gain of 1450 ft. This hike does a loop around the outer edges of the park. There are nice views of the west valley. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

**Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead**

Go West on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive to the end of road and trailhead parking.

Facilities are at the trailhead.

***March 2021***

***03-06-2021:*  Quail/Rainbow Valley/Toothaker/ Gadsen/ Butterfield/ Rainbow/Quail (Estrella Mtn Regional Park). Rating B**. This is an 11.4 mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of 1140 ft. The trail goes from the Nature Center and wanders through the front portion of EMRP with distant views to the north. It then goes south into more typical desert areas. Trail condition - a very good hiking trail. There are restrooms at trailhead. Park fee is $7.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT.

**Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park – Quail Trailhead**

Turn left onto Pebble Creek Pkw/Estrella Pkw and go to the other side of I-10.

Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.

Turn right just past the golf course entrance into Estrella Mountain Park.

Continue straight on Casey Abbott Dr North.

Turn right at the turn-in to Nature Center. Park at the Nature Center.

***03-13-2021:*  Estrella Foothills Park Includes CO/BJ/WU/UT/GU/SU/CO Loop Plus (Estrella Mountains). Rating B.** This will be an 8.7 lollipop hike with an elevation gain of 1125 ft. The hike starts at the Elliot TH. We will be climbing Black Jack in reverse, with an option to climb to the pirate flag. This trail offers outstanding views of the entire southwest valley. The hike is typical desert terrain. Trail condition - mostly an excellent hiking trail with one section of edginess across the ridgeline. No park fee. Restrooms at the trailhead. Drive distance is 20 miles RT.

**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 the shopping area)

Park at the far end. No bathrooms at TH. No park fee.

***03-20-2021:*  PA to CX to EMRP Pedersen/TH/GD/PD to CX/PA (Estrella Foothills into EMRP) Rating B.** This is a9.3 mile/300 Ft elevation gain hike. From Estrella Foothills HS, we will take the Maricopa Trail following the PA trail into Estrella Mtn Reg Park. We will then follow the Crossover (CX) trail for about a mile where it ends at the Pedersen trail. Turn left on PD, then right on Toothaker, right on Gadsden, and then right on PD. Continue for 0.5 mile and go left on CX, back to PA, and then back to the high school. This is a lollipop hike; average flat hiking trail. The Gadsden section is sandy. Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. There is a self-pay park fee as you enter the park at CX. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

**Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

***03-27-2021:*  Desert Rose/GD/BU/DR (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating B.** This is a 11.4 mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The trail begins at Desert Rose, right onto Gadsden, left on Butterfield, left back onto Gasden and then a right onto Desert Rose. The trail is an average hiking trail that meanders through typical desert terrain with many bushes and Saguaro cactus. There is no restroom at the trailhead. Park fee is $7.00. Driving distance is 28 miles RT.

**Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park – Desert Rose TH**

Turn left out main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy/Estrella Pkwy (on other side of I-10).

Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.

Follow Vineyard as it curves to the right, becoming 143rd Ave

Turn left on Indian Springs Road

At the fence that begins the parking for ISM turn right

Follow signs to trails. Park fee is $7.00 per vehicle.

Continue on to the parking on the right.

***April 2021***

***04-03-2021:*   Mule Deer/Bajada/Goat Camp Overlook/South/Mule Deer (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 8.9 mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of

1781 feet. Start at the White Tanks Library and turn right onto the Mule Deer

Trail. About a mile later turn left on to Bajada Trail. Near another mile is the Goat Camp Trail. Again turn right and climb to the top of the steep Goat Camp hill. Just past the top is an unmarked trail to the left. Follow this unmarked trail for about .2 mile to the hill top. At this point turn around and take the Goat Camp Trail back to the South Trail. Turn right and in about .8 mile you will see the junction with the Mule Deer Trail. Turn right and follow the trail back to the library. Restrooms are at the Nature Center. There is a $7 park fee. 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.

Library trailhead: turn right just before the gate and park on the left side of the

library. Trail goes off the end of the sidewalk on the left of the building.

***04-10-2021:* Toothaker/ Gadsden/Butterfield Loop (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating B.** This is a 10.2-mile loop beginning on the west side of the rodeo. This hike is relatively flat with 612 ft elev. gain. From the trailhead, turn left onto Toothaker Trail. Follow TH until it ends at Gadsden; turn left onto Gadsden Trail, then right on the Butterfield trail and head back to the rodeo. A restroom is at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is $7.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT.

**Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park - Toothaker/Rainbow TH**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south)

South of I-10, turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.

Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee of $7.00 per vehicle.

Drive around the park to the left. Trailheads are on the near (East) side of rodeo arena.

***04-17-2021:*****Mountain Top (Verrado). Rating B.**  This is a 10+ mile, 1300+ ft. adventure to a challenging high point which provides great views of Verrado, including an unusual view of Caterpillar Hill. The hike is mostly on typical trail but there is some bushwhacking/scrambling near the top. No restrooms at 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.

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

***04-24-2021:*   Competitive Track – Long Loop (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating B.**  **.**  This is a 9.6-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 792 ft. This hike goes through typical desert terrain with lots of Saguaro cactus.  The first half of the hike goes up 700 ft very gradually, and then starts a slow descent before returning to the parking lot. Trail condition -good hiking trail.  Driving distance is 26 miles RT. There is a porta-john at the TH.

**Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park – Competitive Trails**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkw/Estrella Pkw (on other side of I-10).

Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.

Follow Vineyard as it curves to the right, becoming 143rd Ave

Turn left on Indian Springs Road

At the fence that begins the parking for ISM turn right

Follow signs to trails

Pay park fee of $7.00 per vehicle at the self-pay station

Continue on to the parking on the right.

***May 2021***

***05-01-2021:*  Waddell/Ford Canyon/Mesquite Canyon Trails (White Tank**

**Mountains). Rating B.** 11 mi loop hike starting on the Waddell trail with an elevation gain of 2000 ft. The Ford Canyon Trail begins the rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam on the wash. Trail continues up onto a ridge. Will then pick up the Mesquite Canyon Trail and return near our starting point. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee: $7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 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.

Restrooms are at the trailhead.

Ford Canyon Trail trailhead parking is at Picnic area #7. Take the Waddell Trail

across to the Ford Canyon Trail.

***05-08-2021:*   Mule Deer/Bajada/Goat Camp Overlook/South/Mule Deer (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 8.9 mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of

1781 feet. Start at the White Tanks Library and turn right onto the Mule Deer

Trail. About a mile later turn left on to Bajada Trail. Near another mile is the Goat Camp Trail. Again turn right and climb to the top of the steep Goat Camp hill. Just past the top is an unmarked trail to the left. Follow this unmarked trail for about .2 mile to the hill top. At this point turn around and take the Goat Camp Trail back to the South Trail. Turn right and in about .8 mile you will see the junction with the Mule Deer Trail. Turn right and follow the trail back to the library. Restrooms are at the Nature Center. There is a $7 park fee. 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.

Library trailhead: turn right just before the gate and park on the left side of the

library. Trail goes off the end of the sidewalk on the left of the building.