

Wednesday 2021-2022 “B” Hike Descriptions

Please Check The Club Website For Meet-Up Time and Location.

Wednesday, September 22, 2021 -- Wickenburg -- Dinosaur Wash/Box Canyon Loop + BLM Small Loop. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiwicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 9-mile hike w/an elev. gain of about 800 ft. At least 2 mi. is on soft sand along the Hassayampa River and in Dinosaur Wash. This is a very scenic hike, quite different than most desert hikes because of the canyons & water. This is an area where the river is above ground, but it's not very deep except after a rain. There are several slot canyons along Dinosaur Wash and two areas called narrows along the river. The box in Box Canyon is a short canyon somewhat hidden behind a stand of large trees. There are no restrooms at the trailhead, but there are restrooms at a Dairy Queen/gas station you drive past about 8 miles from trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 105 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Dinosaur-WashBox-Canyon>

Directions to Wickenburg - Dinosaur Wash/Box Canyon TH

Take Loop 303 north to U.S. 60.

Turn west (left) onto U.S. 60.

Turn right just past McDonald's (restroom stop) on Highway 93.

Go 4.6 miles to MP 195 & turn right onto unpaved Scenic Loop Drive. [this is the first road going right that is past the Dairy Queen on the left]

Scenic Loop Drive is a dirt road (you might need an SUV after heavy rains)

Drive 6.4 mi. to a wide wash leading off to the right (6 mi. from end of asphalt).

Park here and hike .4 miles through a slot canyon to the top of the box canyon.

Return & drive another 0.7 mi; veer right onto an unmarked 1 lane road at 7 mi.

(At the turn, there normally is a sign indicating “No Dumping”)

Parking area is .1 miles ahead on the rim of the canyon (no restroom).

The trail leads off down the old jeep trail to the right.

Wednesday, September 22, 2021 -- Maricopa Trail -- Bell Rd South to White Tanks Mule Trail Ramada 4. -- Rating D. Kris Raczkiwicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This hike is an out & back segment of the Maricopa Trail proceeding south for nearly 6 miles with 135 ft. elevation gain. You have good views of the White Tank Mountains on a good hiking trail. You arrive at the Mule Trail-Ramada 4 in the White Tanks. You will pass a radio-controlled aircraft club and may be able to observe R/C planes dogfighting—pretty interesting. No park fee. No restrooms. Driving distance is 32 miles RT.

Driving directions

Go west on Indian School Road.

Hwy 303 North for 9.3 miles to Bell Rd West, Exit 116.

Continue on W. Bell Rd for 3.1 miles; it becomes West Sun Lakes Pkwy.

Continue on West Sun Lakes Pkwy for 0.6 mile.

Watch for a sign about a mile past the developed area for Maricopa Trail.

U-turn at North Crozier Rd; parking will be on the right.

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 -- McDowell Sonoran Preserve -- Quartz Trail+Taliesin Overlook.
Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This hike is a 10.4 mile out & back hike with an elevation gain of 1424 ft. You begin hiking through a neighborhood of nice houses, before starting to climb the mountain. There is a huge quartz outcropping along the way as the hike continues further up the mountain. There are great views of Scottsdale and Phoenix. The Taliesin Overlook is a short out and back spur; from there you can see the top of the Frank Lloyd Wright house in Scottsdale. Trail condition - overall an average hiking trail, but steady uphill going and downhill coming back. No restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is 101 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Quartz-Trail>

Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Quartz Trailhead

Take Hwy 101 north all the way around to Scottsdale
Exit at Princess/Pima-Bell road (exit #36)
Continue straight through the light to get to Bell Road
Turn east (left) on Bell Road and go approx. 1.4 miles
Turn south (right) onto Thompson Peak Parkway.
Turn left on McDowell Ranch Road.
Turn right into Quartz Trailhead parking.

Wednesday, October 13, 2021 -- Black Canyon Trail – Copper Mountain Segment.-- Rating B.
Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 13.9 mile loop with a gradual elevation change of 1600 ft. The hike does a loop along the base of Copper Mountain and through a large forest of Prickly Pear cactus. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No restrooms at the TH. No park fee. Driving distance is 160 miles RT.

Directions to Black Canyon Trail – Copper Mountain Loop Trailhead

Take Loop 303 to I-17. Turn left onto I-17 north toward Flagstaff.
Take exit 262 (Hwy 69).
Turn West on Hwy. 69 (left - crossing I-17 towards Prescott).
Drive approx. 5.3 miles and turn right on Old Sycamore Rd.
Park at the top of the hill (1 mi.) after passing the BCT trail crossing.

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 -- Camp Verde -- West Clear Creek. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 10.6 mile hike, out and back with an elevation gain of 826 ft. The hike will cross the stream 4 times each way, stopping for a break and return to starting point. You will get wet – the stream is 30 ft wide x 24-30 in. deep. Dress accordingly. Suggest extra pair of shoes/boots or waterproof hiking boots. Also, it's helpful to have a hiking stick in order to keep your balance when crossing stream. It's a rough dirt road for the last five miles, accessible by high clearance vehicles. No park fee. Restroom at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 224 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CampVerde/West-Clear-Creek-Trail>

Directions to West Clear Creek

Turn right on to PebbleCreek Pkwy to Indian School Rd
Turn right on to AZ-303 Loop to I-17 N
Turn left on I-17 N to Camp Verde exit 287 (AZ-260) (McDonald's at this exit)
Follow AZ 260 right for 8.1 miles.
Turn left on FR618, a gravel road (there's a small brown sign to Bull Pen)
Take FR 618 about 2.25 miles.
Turn right onto FR 215. A sign here directs you to Bull Pen/West Clear Creek.
Follow FR 215 about 3 miles to the end. At the Bull Pen sign, go left about 200 yards to parking area and gate access to trail. Note: distance is 112 miles from Pebble Creek to trailhead. High profile vehicle recommended for gravel roads. They are graded but rough.

Wednesday, October 27, 2021 -- Usery Mtn Park -- Pass Mountain + Wind Cave Trails.--

Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is an 11-mile hike. The Wind Cave Trail is a 3.2 mi round trip out and back hike with an elevation change of 650 ft. The trail begins relatively flat then climbs steadily to a large over hanging rock. The “Wind Caves” are shallow depressions that eroded out of the tuff layer of rock by wind & rain. Pass Mountain is a 7.4-mile loop, with an elev. change of 600 ft, & elev. gain 1900 ft on a trail in good condition, with great scenery. The trail encircles Pass Mountain and starts by going through a Saguaro cactus forest. It offers nice views on clear days of other distant mountain ranges including the Catalina, Superstitions, Mazatzal, Four Peaks, and McDowell Mountains. A portion of the loop is on adjacent Tonto Natl Forest land. This is a long hike –bring plenty of water. Restrooms are at the TH. Park fee is \$7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/UseryMountainRegionalPark/Pass-Mountain-Trail>

Directions to Usery Mountain Trails

I-10 HOV east to Loop 202 (HOV exit on left)

Loop 202 to Power Rd (exit 23A), turn right (south).

In a few blocks turn left onto McDowell Blvd East.

Turn left onto Usery Pass Rd (“T” intersection)

Turn right onto Usery Park Rd (across from the “Phoenix arrow”)

Turn left onto Wind Cave Dr West to the trailhead

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 – TBD

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 – Lake Pleasant Regional Park –Roadrunner / Frog Tank /

Beardsley /Wild Burro. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 10.5 mile out & back hike along the shore of Lake Pleasant with 1100 ft elev. gain. This hike starts out near the Discovery Center, beginning on the Roadrunner Trail. At 0.8 miles, RR connects with Frog Tank Trail, and goes downhill for 0.3 miles to the Beardsley trail, turn right and at 2 miles BE ends near campground 7. Pick up Wild Burro Trail here and proceed for 2 miles where WB ends. This is the turn around to go back, or you can go further on Pipeline Canyon Trail. The trails are well maintained. There is a very nice dry waterfall area just off the Beardsley trail with some interesting rock formations. Restrooms with water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 80 miles.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Morgan-City-Wash-Maricopa>

Directions to Ramada 12 (Frog Tank), Lake Pleasant Regional Park

Take Loop 303 north to Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74.

Turn left (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road (Lake Pleasant Regional Park turnoff) and turn right (North).

Go 2.1 miles to the park, turn right on Lk Pleasant Access Rd...Pay \$7.00 park fee.

Turn Right on South Park Road...follow to Overlook Road, which ends at the Discovery Center.

Wednesday, November 17, 2021 – McDowell Sonoran Preserve -- Granite Mountain / Diablo / Cholla Loop. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 12-mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. This hike begins at the Granite Mtn TH and proceeds north along the east side of Granite Mtn. It then goes northwest to the Diablo loop, returning south along the west side of the Cholla Mtn Loop. The hike then follows around Cholla Mountain to Balanced Rock, a large pointed boulder that sits on its point. It finishes along the south trail of the Granite Mtn Loop, and returning via the Bootlegger Trail. There are yuccas and large Saguaros, and excellent views of the surrounding mountains as well as numerous granite rock formations. This is one of the most scenic trails within an hour of Pebble Creek. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve – Granite Mtn Trailhead

Take Loop 303 North to I-17.

Turn left (North) on I-17...stay right & immediately take exit 222 going Right onto Dove Valley Road. Follow Dove Valley Rd about 10 mi as it changes name to Sonoran Desert Dr.

Take Cave Creek Road North (left) and turn right at next light on Dynamite Blvd

Follow Dynamite (name changes to Rio Verde) and turn left on 136th Street.

Follow 136th St. for about 2miles to Lone Mtn Rd.

Turn left into the park.

Wednesday, November 24, 2021 – Skyline Buckeye -- PC/MW/TB/GF/PT/CW/TB. -- Rating B.

Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This hike is 10 miles with an elevation gain of 1380 feet in the southwestern part of Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. The trails meander through typical desert terrain. Pyrite is steep and goes up to the ridgeline. Trail condition – average to good trail. No park fee. Restrooms are at the main trailhead after the Parking Lot Connector trail. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead

Go west on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive through the entrance station to the stop sign.

Park immediately across the road. The hike begins on the Parking Lot Connector (PC) trail.

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 -- White Tank Regional Park -- Sonoran Competitive Track Long Loop /Gray Fox/Ironwood/Ford/Ironwood back to Gray Fox. -- Rating B.

Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 10.6 mile hike: loop + a lollipop loop, for an elevation gain of 641 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 Track parking area, and begin at the Gray Fox TH; proceed for 0.9 miles. Turn right for a short distance to the Ironwood Trail, turn left on Ford Canyon Trail, then turn left on Ironwood Trail, back to Gray Fox, to parking lot. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00/car. 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.

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 -- Estrella Mtn Regional Park -- Competitive Track – Long Loop.
Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 9.6-mile loop hike; elev. 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 28 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.

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 -- Black Canyon Trail - Government Springs to Antelope Hill (I-17 Exit 248). -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 10.8-mile hike with an elevation gain of 1200 feet. This hike goes up to the top of the ridgeline near Crown King. The first couple of miles wander through the desert with little elevation change. It then follows the contours of several interesting canyons as it rises up to the top of the plateau. Lots of expansive views of a valley surprisingly devoid of development even though it's only a couple of miles from I-17. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No park fees. No rest rooms (Sunset Point Rest Area is 4 miles further up I-17 with easy return). Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Government-Springs>

Directions to Black Canyon Trail – Government Spring Trailhead

Take Loop 303 north to I-17.

Turn left onto I-17 North toward Flagstaff.

Take exit 248 (Bumble Bee).

Turn left (West), crossing I-17.

Drive about 10 miles (the last 8 are on a well-maintained dirt road)

Turn right into an unpaved parking area near an old water tank.

Wednesday, December 22, 2021 -- Phoenix Mtn Preserve -- Shaw Butte Trail Loop #306 +North Mtn Loop. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a combo hike of Shaw Butte Trail and North Mtn in the Phoenix Mtn. Preserve. It is an 8-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1600 ft. Shaw Butte is one of the hikes of the Phoenix Seven Summits Challenge, which takes place every year in November. North Mountain is a short steep hike mostly on a paved road, offering good views of the surrounding area. The TH begins from the parking lot where North 7th Ave. (Phoenix) dead ends. You begin up the south side of Shaw Butte, going around the west side of the mountain; watch for the trail leading off to the right, which takes you to the summit of Shaw Butte at 1.5 miles into the hike. You descend Shaw Butte and hike 1-mile hike over to the North side of North Mountain. Climbing to the top of North Mountain is on a paved road with a steep descent down the west ridge; then back to the parking lot. Driving distance is 60miles RT. No restrooms at TH.

Directions to Shaw Butte Trail Loop #306 TH

Take I-10 East from N. Pebble Creek Parkway.

Follow I-10 East towards Phoenix for about 17.5 miles to North 7th Avenue.

Get off on exit 144a for 7th Ave. Use any lane to turn left onto N. 7th Ave.

Proceed for about 8.7 miles. The road ends at the TH parking lot.

Wednesday, December 29, 2021 -- Estrella Foothills into EMRP -- PA to CX to EMRP Pedersen / TH / GD / PD to CX/PA -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 9.3 mile/286 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 fee as you enter 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)

PCP 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.

Wednesday, January 5, 2022 -- White Tank Regional Park -- Mule Deer/Bajada/Goat Camp Overlook/South/Mule Deer. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is an 8.9 mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of 1490 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 hilltop. At this point turn around and take the Goat Camp Trail back to the South Trail. Turn right and in about 0.9 miles 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 24 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, then left on Olive.

Follow Olive to the park gate; turn right just before the gate and park on the left side of the library.

Wednesday, January 12, 2022 -- Phoenix Mountain Preserve --Lookout Mtn + Shadow Mtn. Circumference Trails + summit. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is two hikes - a 3.86 mile loop around Shadow Mtn, and a 3.57 mile hike around and up Lookout Mtn, both in the north Phoenix area. It has elevation gains of 960 & 875 ft. The circumference trail around Lookout Mountain (#308) is an easy to moderate trail, with the summit trail (#150) being fairly steep. The Summit trail is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. Trail condition - average hiking trail, but steep going to top of Lookout Mountain. Water and restrooms are at the Lookout Mountain Park trailhead off 18th St. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 76 miles RT.

Directions to Shadow Mountain Trailhead

Take 101 North

Take I-17 South (right)

Turn left on Greenway off

Turn right on Cave Creek Road

Turn left on E Claire Drive

Turn right on E Acoma Drive.... Trailhead at the curve (street parking)

Direction Shadow Mountain Trailhead to Lookout Mountain

Go north on E Acoma drive. -- Then left on E Claire Drive

Turn left on Cave Creek Road

Turn right on E Sharon Drive ... the turn right on 18th St.... Trailhead is at the end of the street.

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 -- McDowell Sonoran Preserve -- Latigo / Whiskey Bottle / Monument / 136th St/ Turpentine / Whiskey Bottle / Chuckwagon. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This 11.7-mile, figure-8 loop hike with an elev. gain of 600 ft. begins at Brown's Ranch TH. It goes through typical Scottsdale desert with nice views of distant mountains. These sections of Latigo and 136th Exp parallel private land; turning west off of 136th Exp will bring the hike back to Brown's Ranch. Restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance RT is 100 miles.

Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Brown's Ranch Trailhead

Take Loop 303 North and drive to I-17.

Turn left (North) on I-17.

Stay right and immediately take exit 222 going Right onto Dove Valley Road.

Follow Dove Valley Road about 10 mi. (name changes to Sonoran Desert Drive).

Take Cave Creek Road North (left).

Turn right at first light on Dynamite Blvd (later changes to Rio Verde).

Turn left on Alma School Pkwy. ---- The road dead ends at the trailhead.

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 -- White Tank Regional Park -- Mesquite + Ford + Willow Springs Trail. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is an 8.8 mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of 1862 ft. The Mesquite trail goes west through a rocky section for 1.8 miles to a junction with the Willow Canyon Trail. Continue west on the Mesquite Trail for another 2.4 miles to the Ford Canyon Trail. Take the Ford Canyon Trail to the right for .9 miles to the other end of the Willow Springs Trail. About .3 mile into the Willow Springs Trail there is an old corral and a spring feed water tank – Willow Springs. Continue on the Willow Springs Trail another 1.4 miles to the Mesquite Trail. Turn left to go back to the parking lot. Trail condition - average hiking trail, but steady uphill on Mesquite trail. 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.

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.

Wednesday, February 2, 2022 -- White Tank Regional Park -- Sonoran Competitive Track Long Loop / Gray Fox / Ironwood / Ford / Ironwood back to Gray Fox. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 10.6 mile hike: loop + a lollipop loop, for an elevation gain of 641 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 Track parking area, and begin at the Gray Fox TH; proceed for 0.9 miles. Turn right for a short distance to the Ironwood Trail, turn left on Ford Canyon Trail, then turn left on Ironwood Trail, back to Gray Fox, to parking lot. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00/car. 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.

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 -- - White Tank Mountains /Verrado -- Verrado Assorted Trails -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 11.8-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1400 ft. This hike encompasses a variety of the standard Verrado trails, including SOB, Deadman's Pass, and Lost Creek. Trail condition – an average hiking trail. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving Distance is approx. 18 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Verrado-West-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.

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 – Skyline Buckeye -- PC/MW/TB/GF/PT/CW/TB. -- Rating B.

Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This hike is 10 miles with an elevation gain of 1380 feet in the southwestern part of Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. The trails meander through typical desert terrain. Pyrite is steep and goes up to the ridgeline. Trail condition – average to good trail. No park fee. Restrooms are at the main trailhead after the Parking Lot Connector trail. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead

Go west on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive through the entrance station to the stop sign.

Park immediately across the road. The hike begins on the Parking Lot Connector (PC) trail.

Wednesday, February 23, 2022 – Lake Pleasant Regional Park –Roadrunner / Frog Tank / Beardsley /Wild Burro. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 10.5 mile out & back hike along the shore of Lake Pleasant with 1100 ft elev. gain. This hike starts out near the Discovery Center, beginning on the Roadrunner Trail. At 0.8 miles, RR connects with Frog Tank Trail, and goes downhill for 0.3 miles to the Beardsley trail, turn right and at 2 miles BE ends near campground 7. Pick up Wild Burro Trail here and proceed for 2 miles where WB ends. This is the turn around to go back, or you can go further on Pipeline Canyon Trail. The trails are well maintained. There is a very nice dry waterfall area just off the Beardsley trail with some interesting rock formations. Restrooms with water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 80 miles.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Morgan-City-Wash-Maricopa>

Directions to Ramada 12 (Frog Tank), Lake Pleasant Regional Park

Take Loop 303 north to Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74.

Turn left (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road (Lake Pleasant Regional Park turnoff) and turn right (North).

Go 2.1 miles to the park, turn right on Lk Pleasant Access Rd...Pay \$7.00 park fee.

Turn Right on South Park Road...follow to Overlook Road, which ends at the Discovery Center.

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 -- White Tank Mtns. -- Mule Trail/Maricopa Trail South to White Tank boundary; bushwhack extension to explore lower old road. -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This hike is 10.5 miles in & out with 1113 ft elevation gain. Good trail for part of hike; then bushwhack a very steep and rocky route up to saddle. We will hike the newly discovered **lower dirt road** that climbs into the mountains. Start at the White Tanks Library/Visitor Center or the South Trail; take Mule Deer Trail South to the Maricopa Trail out of the Park. Once out of the park we will follow service roads and bushwhack. Restrooms at the visitor center. Driving distance: 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.

Turn right just before the gate and park on the left side of the library.

Library trailhead: the sidewalk on the left of the building.

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 -- Superstitions --Wave Cave & Lost Goldmine Trails. --

Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is an 8-mile two fingered in-n-out hike with an elevation gain of 1300 feet. Starting at the Carney Springs Trailhead, the Wave Cave trail goes up very steeply, on a loose pebble/dirt trail to a cave that has a wave like rock formation in it. From the top of the wave you get great views towards the east side of the Superstitions. You then hike back down to the Lost Goldmine trail and go south (right) for about 3 miles before returning to the trailhead. No restrooms at Carney Springs (Peralta has some a mile further along the road) and no park fee. Driving distance is 140 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Wave-Cave>

Directions to Superstitions - Lost Goldmine Trailhead

Take I-10 east to Hwy 60 east (HOV all the way).

Go 8.5 mi past Apache J to the Peralta Rd turnoff (approx. 32 mi. from I-10).

Turn left on Peralta Road.

The trailhead is about 7.6 miles north on the left.

The last 6.5 miles is on a well-maintained dirt road.

Restrooms are available .5 mile further at Peralta Trailhead.

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 – Glendale-Thunderbird Park – Cholla /Arrowhead Pt /Desert

Iguana. – Rating B. -- Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. Thunderbird Park offers 1,185 acres of mountain preserves and approximately 20 miles of hiking trails. This hike covers 10.2 miles with an accumulated elev. gain of 1855 ft. We will be hiking 3 small peaks via the trails of Cholla, Arrowhead Point, Desert Iguana, and Coach Whip. This is a fairly well trafficked area with frequent urban views. Trails are well marked but rocky. Restrooms are at the TH. No park fee. Driving distance RT is 60 miles.

Directions to Thunderbird Park

Take 101 North.

Turn left (north) on 59th Ave.

Turn Left into parking lot of Thunderbird Park.

Turn immediately left at yellow gate and park a block down, near the restrooms.

The trails start by going right in front of the restrooms and cross the street near the park entrance.

There is no park fee...Restrooms are at the parking lot.

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 -- Estrella Foothills into EMRP -- PA to CX to EMRP Pedersen / TH / GD / PD to CX/PA -- Rating B. Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 9.3 mile/286 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 fee as you enter 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)

PCP 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.

Wednesday, March 30, 2022 – Cave Creek – Skunk Tank-Cave Creek Loop -- Rating B.

Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is 10.4-mile balloon hike with 1200 ft of elev. gain. The hike starts out at the Cave Creek Trail, which parallels a picnic area and campgrounds running along Cave Creek. There's plenty of shade from the Live Oaks; in about 0.5 miles, you pass a private ranch, and then it gets much better. For the first mile or so, this is a level hike following along the creek. This trail does have three water crossings over Cave Creek so consider bringing poles if needed. At about 4 miles in, the trail leaves the creek and transitions to grass covered slopes. There you pick up the Skunk Tank Trail and immediately begin to climb. At about 7.5 miles you begin to descend a loose rock slope. At 9.6 miles you arrive at the intersection to retrace your route back to the parking lot. Restrooms are at the TH. No park fees. Driving distance is 140 miles RT.

Directions to Cave Creek - Skunk Creek Trailhead

Take Loop 303 north to I-17.

Take the I-17 North exit

Take exit 223A for Carefree Hwy and follow Carefree Hwy for approx. 11 miles

Turn Left onto North Tom Darlington Drive and continue for about a mile

Turn right onto E Stagecoach Pass and cont. for about a mile

Left onto Mule Train Road then a short right onto E Cave Creek Road

Follow Cave Creek Rd for 6 miles to the Tonto Natl Forest boundary

Cave Creek Rd extends into Forest Road 24 and eventually becomes a dirt road.

Drive 10 more miles along FR 24 to Seven Springs Recreation Area; cont. 0.6 mile to Cave Creek TH

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 –White Tank Regional Park -- Mule Deer/Bajada/Goat Camp Overlook/South/Mule Deer. -- Rating B. Kris Racziewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is an 8.9 mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of 1490 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 hilltop. At this point turn around and take the Goat Camp Trail back to the South Trail. Turn right and in about 0.9 miles 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 24 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, then left on Olive.

Follow Olive to the park gate; turn right just before the gate and park on the left side of the library.

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 -- Maricopa Trail -- Bell Rd South to White Tanks Mule Trail Ramada 4. -- Rating D. Kris Racziewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This hike is an out & back segment of the Maricopa Trail proceeding south for nearly 6 miles with 135 ft. elevation gain. You have good views of the White Tank Mountains on a good hiking trail. You arrive at the Mule Trail-Ramada 4 in the White Tanks. You will pass a radio-controlled aircraft club and may be able to observe R/C planes dogfighting—pretty interesting. No park fee. No restrooms. Driving distance is 32 miles RT.

Driving directions

Go west on Indian School Road.

Hwy 303 North for 9.3 miles to Bell Rd West, Exit 116.

Continue on W. Bell Rd for 3.1 miles; it becomes West Sun Lakes Pkwy.

Continue on West Sun Lakes Pkwy for 0.6 mile.

Watch for a sign about a mile past the developed area for Maricopa Trail.

U-turn at North Crozier Rd; parking will be on the right.

Wednesday, April 20, 2022, -- Sedona -- Hangover Trail. -- Rating B. Kris Racziewicz will lead. This is an 8.5 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1300 ft. The trail starts from the Huckaby Trailhead. There are lots of great views as you hike around Mitten Ridge. Trail Condition - overall the trail is very good, but there are some sections where you cross or go up bare red rock. And there is a long section that could be called “ledgy”. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee with a Golden Age Pass. Driving distance is 254 miles RT.

Directions to Sedona - Huckaby Trailhead

Turn right on Pebble Creek Pkwy to Indian School.

Turn left on Indian School

Turn right on Loop 303.

Loop 303 ends at I-17.

Turn left (North) on I-17.

Travel north on I-17, and take exit 298 (RTE 179).

Take RTE. 179 north about 14 miles to Schnebly Hill Road.

Go about mile along the road and just before the pavement ends, turn left into the TH.

The parking fee is \$5.00 per car or free with a Golden Age Pass.

Wednesday, April 27, 2022, -- Black Canyon Trail – Doe Springs Segment/Table Top Mesa Trailhead (I-17 Exit 236). -- **Rating B.** Kris Raczkiewicz or Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This is a 10-12 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. It covers the segment just north of the Boy Scout Loop of the Black Canyon Trail. It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Black Canyon City and the hills around it. There are two nice saguaro forests along the trail - the one at the 5-mile point is excellent and has shade for a break. Trail condition - the trail itself is a national bike trail - very good surface and no steep ups or downs. No rest rooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

Directions to Black Canyon Trail – Table Mesa Trailhead

Take Loop 303 north to I-17.

Turn left onto I-17 (north) toward Flagstaff.

Take exit 236 (Table Mesa Road).

Turn left crossing over I-17, then immediately turn right.

(Pavement ends within a mile; 2.5 miles of unpaved road to the parking area)

Keep **right** at the first Y (1.2 mi. from I-17--road going left goes into a quarry).

Keep **left** at the next Y (1.6 mi. from I-17).

Go another 1.9 mi. to a side road on the right (3.5 mi. from I-17).

Turn right on the road and the trailhead parking is immediately on the left.

Wednesday, May 4, 2022 –Tonto Natl Forest -- Roosevelt Lake, Vineyard Trail #131—

Rating B. -- Eileen Lords Mosse will lead. This 12 mile hike is an out & back trail with a 1510 elev. gain. This trail is a segment of the AZT that connects Roosevelt Lake with mountains in the Four Peaks Wilderness. It has expansive views overlooking two major reservoirs, the Superstitions, and the Four Peaks. In the first 1.5 miles, you ascend 1100 ft. The remainder of the hike is over rolling hills as it winds towards the Four Peaks and overhead views of the dam. As you hike, you pass Camp O'Rourke, where dam workers lived in the 1900's. To your left the Salt River flows through Alchey Canyon, named after an Apache Chief who allegedly convinced Geronimo to surrender. The closest restrooms are located at Roosevelt Lake Marina. There are no park fees. Driving distance varies between 200-250 miles RT, depending on route taken. AZ 88 is about 200 miles RT while AZ 87 is 250 miles RT.

Directions to Roosevelt Lake – Vineyard Trail, Mills Ridge Trailhead (AZ88)

** This hike can be accessed via AZ88 or AZ87**

Take I-10 East from N. Pebble Creek Parkway.

Follow I-10 East towards Phoenix for about 19 miles

Take exit 147 for AZ 202 Loop E and continue for about 23 miles

Take exit 26 for E. Brown Road

At the traffic circles, stay on E Brown Rd for 4miles

E Brown Rd will become Lost Dutchman Blvd; follow for 3.4 miles

Turn left onto AZ88/Apache Trail; follow for 44 miles until it ends at Roosevelt Lake Bridge

Turn left onto AZ188 to cross the bridge

Look for a parking pullout on the side of the road.