

D LEVEL HIKING GROUP - TUESDAY

Meet at the Eagles Nest Clubhouse at 6:30 AM, depart at 6:45 AM.

April 3 - Mule Deer/South Trail/Goat Camp Loop (White Tanks).

Rating D. This is a 4 mile loop hike that goes from the library with an elevation gain of about 350 ft. The hike meanders through typical Sonoran desert vegetation. Restrooms can be found in the library. Trail condition - average hiking trail. There is a \$7 park fee per car, which can be paid in a self pay box near the junction with the Mule Deer Trail. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

April 10 - Brethren North – SR/JL/BL/GS/UT Loop (Estrella Foothills Park).

Rating D. This is a 4.8 mile Lollipop loop considered somewhat of a desert ramble with minimal elevation gain. Nice pleasant hike to get some of the holiday cheer off the waistline. Trail condition - good hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance 13 miles

April 17 - 136th Express/Barb's/Dove Valley/Canyon/Soapberry Lollipop Loop (Dowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating D +.

This is a 6.3 mile hike with an elevation gain of 350 ft. The highlights of this hike include a double Crested Saguaro, Michelin Man II Saguaro, many rock formations, and distant views of Four Peaks, the Superstitions and other mountains. Trail condition - a very good hiking trail. No restrooms at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Northwest-Loop-Trails>

April 24 - Petroglyphs/South of Border (SOB) Loop (Verrado).

Rating D+. This is a 5.3 mile loop hike with elevation change of 550ft. Turn left .1 miles past the trailhead sign. Then turn right just before a rocky wash, following the road about 1.3 miles to see a large rock with petroglyphs. Just past the petroglyphs turn left and go up to the saddle. Turn right at the intersection at the saddle and follow the SOB trail for 2.8 miles. The trail will intersect the old road at this point. Turn right and go .4 miles back to the trailhead. There are nice rock formations as well a short hike through a steep sided wash. Trail condition - A very good hiking surface. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

May 1 - Marcus Landslide/Rock Knob Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating D. The D version is an in-and-out hike to the Marcus Landslide area of 4 miles with an elevation gain of 300 ft. There are lots of great views to the east and north including the Superstitions and Four Peaks areas. Plus there are views of great granite boulders. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 108 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Marcus-LandslideRock-Knob-Loop>

For those interested the Tuesday and Thursday will continue throughout the summer with a monthly summary and week schedule continuing.