

**C LEVEL HIKING GROUP - FRIDAYS**

**Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 7:15 am, depart at 7:30.**

**December 1 - Jim Thompson/Wilson Canyon trails (Sedona). Rating C.** This is a 7 miles hike with an elevation gain of about 800 ft. This is a very scenic hike that goes by Steamboat Rock and along Wilson Canyon, a small but lush canyon with views of Midgely bridge. Lots of views of Sedona's red rock formations. Trail condition – average hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee with Golden Age pass. Driving distance is 256 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Jim-Thompson-Trail>

**December 8 - Hackberry Springs Loop from Needle Vista Trailhead (Superstitions). Rating C.** This is a 8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. We will start at the Needle Vista Trailhead and do a lollipop loop. We work our way up to the top of a ridge, giving us great views of the mesa where Hackberry Spring originates. We'll go down to Hackberry Springs and then go to an arch where we will have our break. We then follow the trail back to the trailhead. There are lots of views of great rock formations for which the Superstitions are well known. Trail condition – mostly a good hiking trail with some rough spots. There are no restrooms at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance to the trailhead is 120 mi RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Hackberry-Spring-Loop>

**December 15 - Verrado Deadhead Pass + SOB Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 7.5 mile loop hike with about 1100 ft of elevation gain. This hike follows trails heading northwest from the trailhead. In the Spring, there is a large area of poppies towards the far end of the loop. Lots of rock formations with the chance of assorted wildflowers in the Spring. Trail condition – Good hiking trail. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**December 22 - Saddle Mountain – West Trail (Tonopah - Exit 94). Rating C.** This is an interesting 5.5 mile hike with 700 ft. of elevation gain on the northwest side of Saddle Mountain. It provides impressive views of a

different part of the mountain. It goes through a wash and up to a saddle area with very interesting rocks. Trail condition - it is roughly half old road and half bushwhack (nothing very rugged) with a steep section at the far end. No restrooms at the trailhead. No Park Fee. Driving distance is 95 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-10/Saddle-Mountain-Tonapah/Saddle-Mountain-NW-Side/B-Exploratory-Hike-2LynnW2015/>

**December 29 - Spur Cross Loop, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek).**

**Rating C.** This is a 7.3 mile hike with an elevation gain of about 1000ft. There were 2 dozen different wildflowers in April 2008. You cross a stream 3-4 times and there are great views of the cave creek area and Elephant Mountain. Trail condition - half is an average hiking trail and half is somewhat rough. Porta-johns are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$3.00 per person. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT. [SCG=7.0/1100/3.3].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Spur-Cross-Loop>