

C LEVEL HIKING GROUP - MONDAYS

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

January 7 - Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track (White Tank Mountains). Rating C. This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 700 ft. This is the old orientation hike. This is a one-way competitive bike trail with plenty of ups and downs through washes plus one climb near the midpoint of the hike. On top of the hill is a good place to stop for a snack. Along the second half of the hike is a Crested Saguaro. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. There is a \$7.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop>

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Competitive-Loop>

January 14 - Sunrise Trail (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C+. This is a 7 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1400 ft in South Eastern Scottsdale. You start at the Lost Dog Wash trailhead. The first 2.75 miles of the trail go up gradually but very steadily about 800 ft to a saddle through typical desert flora. There is an optional peak that goes up .25 and another 100+ feet. If your timing is right, you get great views of the Fountain Hills fountain from the saddle and top. You get 360 degree views from the top including Camelback Mountain to the West, and Four Peaks and Weavers Needle to the East. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Trail condition - overall an average hiking trail, but steady uphill going and downhill coming back. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is 102 miles RT. [SCG=6.0/2000/3.8].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Sunrise-Trail>

January 21 - Goldfield Mountains #7 - IQ Arch & Helmet Rock Loop (Goldfield Mountains). Rating C+. This is a 7 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1240 ft. The hike goes over a ridge with views of IQ Arch and Helmet Rock. It then goes around Helmet rock through a very colorful golden canyon. Trail condition - average hiking trail. This is a very scenic trail. There are no restrooms at the trailhead. No Park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/IQ-Arch-and-Helmet-Rock-Loop>

January 28 - Ford Canyon to the dam (White Tank Mountains).

Rating C+. 7 mi out & back on the same trail with an elevation gain of about 1100 ft. Rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam in the wash. Trail continues but is not maintained beyond our stop point. Some may want to venture further during the snack break/turnaround point. About half the hike is an average trail with the middle part being steep and rocky to the dam. There are restrooms at trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. [SCG=6.7/1300/3.6].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>