

**C LEVEL HIKING GROUP - SATURDAYS**

**Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 6:30 am, depart at 6:45.**

**September 29 - \*\*\* NEW HIKE \*\*\* Lost Creek/Old Road/Tortuga Trails (Verrado). Rating C.** This is a 6.5 mile in & out hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The hike goes through typical desert washes. It then goes halfway around the mountain before returning to the trailhead. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Javelina-Summit-Loop>

**October 6 - \*\*\* NEW HIKE \*\*\* Estrella Foothills Park Elliott TH Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile figure eight loop hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. The hike starts at a parking lot off Elliott Drive on an old road. It then follows several trails, making loops along the way. There are nice views of the Estrella Mountain community. The hike is in typical desert terrain. Trail condition - mostly a good hiking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 24 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills/C-Exploratory-Hike-5-14-18Elliot-Rd-MappingLynnW2017-2018/>

**October 13 - Turnbuckle/Granite Falls/Chuckwalla Lollipop Loop (Skyline Regional Park - Buckeye). Rating C.** This is about a 5.8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 900 ft. in the western part of Buckeye's New Skyline Regional Park including parts of the Granite Falls Trail and Chuckwalla Trail that are accessed from Turnbuckle Trail on the west side of the park. The trails meander through several areas with minimal elevation gain. This is one of the trails in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/Skyline-Regional-Park/>

**October 20 - Dog Bone Batman Rock (Buckeye). Rating C.** This is an in and out hike of about 9 miles with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The Dog Bone trail system is a sister bike trail system to FINS. This hike combines several trails on the far eastern side of the Dog Bone biking area on the west side of Buckeye. While the overall hike is through typical desert terrain, there are several interesting rock formations as well as views of the surrounding mountains. Our goal for this hike is to see a rock formation that looks like Batman's head. Near the beginning of the hike, there are 3 Saguaros that look like old versions of our club logo – a subtle reminder that we ourselves are no longer young. Trail condition – while this is a biking area, the surface is somewhat rough in places. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 50 miles RT.

**October 27 - Library to Waterfall Trail (White Tanks). Rating C.** This is a 7.3 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 550 ft. We head north from the White Tanks library with expansive views of the west valley, before turning on the Black Rock trail that connects to the Waterfall Trail. This could be a great hike after winter or monsoon rains. For those interested in seeing some of the desert wildlife in a controlled environment, there is a small nature center with several rattlesnakes, a Gila Monster, a tarantula, and some scorpions at the nature center in the library. Trail condition - an excellent hiking surface. Restrooms are in the library. Park Fee is \$2.00 per hiker (county park pass is good for 5 hikers). Driving distance is 24 miles RT.