



**Saturday  
February 4, 2017**

**McDowell Sonoran Preserve-Brown's Ranch Trails**

Approximately 34 Miles and 1 Hours from Central Phoenix "stack".

Type: DH	Max Rating/Points: 3 / 1	Elev. Change: 200	Length: 6-8.5 miles
Start Time: 8am	Duration: 3-4 hours	Max No. of Part: N/A	Last Scouted: 2/13/16

Check all that apply  
(give details in Desc.)

- Major Hike:
- Cross-country:
- Exploratory:
- Individual Effort:
- Options :
- Pass/Fees Rqd:

**Contact Information**

	Coordinator	Alternate
Name	Tom Isham	
Work Ph		
Station		
Home Ph	mobile 602-943-6104	
Email	t_hiker@cox.net	tsishams@cox.net

**Required Equipment:** Hiking boots, 1-2 quarts of water, snacks, first aid kit, layered clothing, hat and sunscreen.

**Recommended Equipment:** camera, trekking poles, hat and rain gear if a chance for rain. A radio tuned to channel 6.

**Cautions and Special Preparations:** There are restrooms and water at the trailhead.

**Description:** This trailhead features interpretive exhibits about the human history of the Preserve and serves as the major access point to the vast network of trails in the area. It provides access to such unique destinations as Granite Mountain, Cholla Mountain, Brown's Mountain, Balanced Rock and Cathedral Rock. This area was used for ranching from the later 1800s until the mid-1950s. Currently a site for field experiments to determine how best to restore a grazed area, you can find an excellent show of wildflowers in the spring. You can see more by looking for Brown's Ranch Trailhead on Google. There does not appear to be much elevation gain on this series of trails. The trails were in excellent condition when the Club did the hike last.

**Driving Directions:** The Brown's Ranch Trailhead is located in the northern region of the City of Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve, approximately 1¼ miles north of the intersection of Alma School Parkway and Dynamite Boulevard. From Loop 101 in Scottsdale, take the Scottsdale Rd exit and head north on Scottsdale Rd to Dynamite Road. Turn right (east) and go to Alma School Pkwy, turn left (north) and drive approximately one mile to the trailhead.