



**Saturday
October 14-15, 2017**

Reavis Ranch, Superstition Mountains

Approximately 60 Miles and 2.5 Hours from Central Phoenix "stack".

Type: DH BP	Max Rating/Points: See Desc	Elev. Change: 1000 ft	Length: 12.5 miles
Start Time: 9am	Duration: TBD	Max No. of Part: N/A	Last Scouted: Nov, 2013

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	602-943-6104	
Email	t_hiker@cox.net	

Required Equipment: This will be done as a day hike or as an overnight backpack. Sturdy hiking boots, sunscreen, hat, rain gear (if rain in the forecast), 2-4 quarts water, water filter/purification tablets (I will verify with the Rangers if water is available at Reavis Ranch), lunch for 2 days, dinner and breakfast for one day/snacks, tent, sleeping bag, ground pad, change of socks, camp stove, warm clothes for possible below freezing temperatures at night and early morning, bag and rope for hanging food to keep away from varmints and headlamp or flashlight with extra batteries. And bring whatever else you can carry to make your camping experience enjoyable. Any questions, call me.

Recommended Equipment: See backpack list: <http://kactuskickers.org/leaderhikerresources/backpackinglist.pdf>

Cautions and Special Preparations: The trail is open, so expect a lot of sun.

Description: Depending on what everyone wants to do, we can do this as a day hike or as a backpack. I am up for either one though I recommend we do it as a group as this is an exploratory hike. We can discuss this prior to the hike. This is an exploratory hike for me as I have only gone to Reavis Ranch from the south once in 2013. It is approximately 6.2 miles one way. I led this as a backpack twice from the north. Reavis Ranch is located in the east end of the Superstition Wilderness Area. The ranch is named after Elisha Reavis who is known for his eccentric ways, a homesteader that gardened to sell vegetables to the local miners in and around the area in the late 1800's. In the late 1890's, he was found dead and is buried along the trail.

For those that may want a more detailed history of the area, see the book "Hikers Guide to the Superstition Wilderness". We will be camping just south of the burned out former ranch house. More than likely there will be water available in Reavis Creek, but it will need purification. It will be too late in the season for apples. There should be quite a few good places to camp and there is a chance that we will see others in this area.

The hike starts at around 3,800 ft. with some up and down and we will camp at approx. 4,800 ft. The trail is part of the Arizona Trail. From Rogers Trough trailhead, take the Reavis Ranch trail north into Rogers Canyon. This will be downhill and at approx. 1.5 miles, it intersects with the Rogers Canyon Trail. At the Rogers Canyon Trail, intersection, bear right or northwest and begin the long uphill climb to Reavis Saddle. The top of the saddle is approximately 2 miles from the Rogers Canyon Trail intersection. This is a good place to stop and rest and enjoy the views. From here you begin a gradual descent down through the floor of Reavis Canyon all the way to the ranch. This is where the hike really gets interesting as you enter the shady forest of Ponderosa pines and open grassy meadows. At 5.5 miles total, you will cross the flowing creek and at approximately 6.2 miles you will be in the area of where we will camp. Expect some erosion on the trail with some rocky stretches. The views are amazing. I will have a map available for those doing the hike. There are many hike reports for this hike on the internet for those who would like to more information.

Driving Directions: I will be calling in advance of the hike to ascertain the status of the road. Take US 60 east out of Apache Junction. A couple of miles past Florence Junction turn north onto Queen Valley Road and follow 1.7 miles. Turn right onto FS 357 (Hewlett Station Road) and follow about 2.8 miles to FS 172. Turn left onto FS 172 and follow this for 8.7 miles to FS 172A. Turn right onto FS 172A and follow for 3.7 miles to the Rogers Trough trailhead. The last mile of FS 172A definitely requires a **high profile vehicle. This road gets rough the closer to the trailhead you get.** I drove it to the trailhead on October 20 and made it with a little difficult in my Toyota RAV4. Carpooling is recommended if you don't have a high clearance vehicle. I will be driving. If it rains between now and then, the hike is off because this road will require a 4x4 and high clearance which I don't have.