



Saturday March 06, 2021

Mesquite Canyon-Willow Srings Loop (White Tanks)

Approximately 30 Miles and 1 Hours from Central Phoenix "stack".

Type: DH	Max Rating/Points: 3 / 1	Elev. Change: 1700	Length: 8.8
Start Time: 7:30	Duration: 5hrs	Max No. of Part: N/A	Last Scouted: April 2017

Check all that apply
(give details in Desc.)

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

Contact Information

	Coordinator	Alternate
Name	Mike Nelson	
Work Ph	retired	
Station		
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Required Equipment: Sturdy footwear, enough water for all day, snacks and or lunch.

Recommended Equipment: Lunch, trekking poles, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, first aid kit, rain gear and 2-way radio tuned to channel 6.0 please.

Cautions and Special Preparations: Bring plenty of water. Some people drink more than others and some less so bring accordingly. This is a good start for hiking the canyon.

Description: This is a loop hike through beautiful desert terrain. The hike will begin at the Mesquite Canyon Trail From Area 7 Parking Lot. The Mesquite Canyon Trail goes in a westerly direction. At 1.8 miles the Willow Canyon Trail goes off to the right (we will be returning from this trail). Continue (to the left) on the Mesquite Canyon Trail up Mesquite Canyon for 2.4 miles to the Ford Canyon Trail junction. We will follow the Ford Canyon Trail north for .9 miles to the junction with the Willow Canyon Trail (This is the other end of the Willow Canyon Trail that you passed). Take the Willow Canyon Trail for about 1 mile to Willow Springs (a good place for lunch or even just a break). Willow Springs Trail continues for another one mile back to the junction with the Mesquite Canyon Trail. Take the Mesquite Canyon Trail back to the Area 7 parking lot to finish the hike.

The parking lot is approximately 1500 ft. and the high point on the Ford Trail is approximately 2800ft. There is a bit of up and down so the estimated gain/loss is approximately 1700ft.

WHITE TANK MOUNTIAN REGIONAL PARK-The trail description in the "Parks Trails Information" for both the Mesquite Canyon Trail and the Ford Trail is stated as "strenuous, steep, long, and rocky."

The Park has a variety of wildlife including mammals, birds and reptiles. There are some of the most beautiful cacti north of Saguaro National Park in Tucson.

The Entrance Fee per car is \$7.00.

Driving Directions: As always carpooling is encouraged.

From anywhere in the Valley, go to Dunlap/Olive Avenue. Proceed west to the end of Olive Ave. at the entrance to White Tank Mountain Regional Park Drive on the main park road and then turn left at the Waterfall Trail sign. Continue beyond the Waterfall Trail parking lot and take the next left to Area 7.

Note: If taking the 303, there isn't an Exit for Olive anymore. You must exit the one before Olive Ave. and travel the side roads to get to Olive. Bad planning on ADOT for getting to a Regional Park.