Lower Burro Creek, Wilderness Inventorying, Northwestern Arizona

March 12 - 15, 2015 (Thursday - Sunday)

Difficulty: 4/5 spoons <u>read more</u> Camping: 1 night car camping

2 night dispersed camping

2:00 pm Sunday

End

Mileage: 14 + miles Total Mileage Time: Start 10:30 am Thursday

Day 2: 5.0+ miles Off-Trail Backpack Day 3: 6 + miles Off-Trail Backpack Day 4: 2.5+ miles Off-trail Backpack

About Kingman Field Office

Burro Creek lies in the Kingman Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Kingman Field Office encompasses a vast area that is the convergence of the Sonoran, Mohave, and Great Basin Deserts. In the summer months much of this area is unbearable due to extreme heat. However, in the fall, winter and spring it is a backpacker's paradise. A wide variety of birds and wildlife depend upon riparian corridors such as Burro Creek. Beyond the narrow riparian corridors, much of this area is dominated by desert vegetation, such as Creosote bush and Saguaro cactus. March is a time when the desert flowers are in bloom, and we hopefully will be able to see many of these



Upper Burro Creek Photo Brian Andersen

delightful spectacles. We also hope to see a diversity of birds and other wildlife that use waterways to migrate through the Upper Sonoran Desert. This is a great place for birding, photography and experiencing solitude.

Trip Description

The Arizona Wilderness Coalition is inventorying lands with Wilderness character within the Kingman Resource area. We have been inventorying this area since January, and have identified several areas in which these characteristics exist. This trip will be an exploration of one of the areas, the lower burro creek area. Throughout the trip we will have reflection and journaling time to produce personal narratives that will support recommendations to the BLM to preserve the wilderness values of the area.

This trip will consist of meeting the morning of the 12th in Wikieup AZ, and carpooling out to a staging area. That day we will car camp and get briefed for the upcoming backpacking trip. The history of the Arizona



Wilderness Coalition is rooted in citizen Wilderness inventory, and has been used successfully in the protection of Arizona's 90 Wilderness areas. This will be an opportunity for training on Wilderness Characteristic inventorying and the work that we will be doing in the upcoming days. This will be an opportunity to meet the individuals who have conducted the Wilderness inventory and learn a new skill.

In the morning, we will depart for a three day backpacking trip. This will be through rough country with no trails, so be prepared to bush whack. This trip is for the experienced hiker, there will be interesting movement that is required to navigate the terrain. Fitness and good health are pre requisites for this trip. It will be required that you confirm that you have no medical conditions that might put you or others at risk in this remote area.

Throughout the trip we will be writing personal narratives that will help document the wilderness values we seek to preserve in the Kingman Resource area. These personalized accounts are very important in justifying the opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation in this dynamic landscape.



For Lower Burro Creek, March 12th - 15th Questions? Brian Andersen (406) 545-8149

Itinerary

| Thursday, March 12 | 2th Wilderness inventory training |
|-----------------------|--|
| 10:30 am | Rendezvous in Wikieup, AZ see directions below |
| 10:45 am | Drive staging area for Wilderness Inventorying training |
| 11:00 am | Arrive at staging area |
| 11:15 am | Trip Briefing & Safety Talk We will cover logistics for the trip and the overview of what we will be doing |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch |
| 12:00 pm - 5:30 pm | Wilderness Inventory training Facilitated by Joe Trudeau and Amber Fields |
| 6:30 pm | Dinner provided by AWC (vegetarian) |

Friday, March 13th 5.0+ miles backpacking to Hell's ½ Acre - off-trail



7:30 am Breakfast & break down camp

8:00 am Backpack and inventorying

12:00 pm Lunch along the trail

4:30 pm or Arrive at Hell's Half Acre

earlier .

After 4:30 Camp logistic Opportunities for exploration will be present in this area

Saturday, March 14th 6+ miles backpacking - off-trail

7:30 am Breakfast & break down camp

Optional Walk to Lower Burro Creek (4 mi - off-trail)

12:00 pm Lunch on the trail

4:30 pm Arrive at Kaiser Spring optional exploration opportunities will be available in this area

Sunday, March 15th 2.5+ miles backpacking from Kaiser spring to the vehicle off-trail

7:30 am Breakfast & break down camp

8:00 am Backpack along back to the vehicles (~2.5 miles, off-trail)

12:00 pm Lunch along the trail

2:00 pm Wrap up Trip Thanks for participating

Gear List

- Overnight backpack to carry all camping gear, food, and water
- Day Pack to carry supplies on day hike (water, food, camera, etc.)
- Water 2-3 liters/day. Water can be refilled as available at the creek. Purification required
- Food Breakfast, lunch, snacks, dinner. AWC will provide dinner Thursday night.
- Sturdy, closed-toe shoes- Sandals are ok in camp
- Appropriate clothing. Warm layers for the evening. See weather link below to plan appropriately.
- Sun protection (sun screen, sunglasses, hat, etc.)
- Camping equipment: sleeping bag, sleeping pad, tent/shelter, flashlight (batteries), plate/bowl, utensils, toiletries/toothbrush, stove, first aid kit, other?
- Writing Utensils AWC will be providing a journal for Wilderness inventory

Optional items

• Camera/Binoculars



- Hiking pole(s) or sticks We will be traveling through rough, uneven terrain
- Swimsuit

Weather

As the event gets closer, please check the weather to ensure you are properly prepared. Check <u>Lower Burro</u> <u>Creek, March 12–16, 2015</u> for more up to date information.

Driving Directions

From Phoenix

- 1. Take Highway 60 West for approximately 28 miles towards Wickenburg
- 2. Continue on Highway 93 for 73.2 miles

In Wikieup, AZ we will meet in the dirt parking lot near the Shell Station on the S side of town

From Prescott

- 1. Follow 89 South for 42.3 miles which be demarcated by Congress AZ
- 2. 89 South becomes AZ 71 South, continue on this road for 6.6 miles
- 3. Turn Right to merge into US 93 N for 57.7 Miles

In Wikieup, AZ we will meet in the dirt parking lot near the Shell Station



For Lower Burro Creek, March 12th – 15th

Questions? (406) 545 - 8149

Trip Leader: Brian Andersen (406) 545 - 8149 (cell)

